

**CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO  
COUNCIL**

**24 February 2021**

**COUNCILLOR - CABINET MEMBER FOR**

For the period December 2020 to February 2021

**1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

**Development Management Performance**

Our latest figures for speed of decision stand up to month end July in as:

- Two-year average Majors to end of January stand at 77.78%, down approximately 5% since reporting at the end of October. National indicators require decisions should exceed 60%.
- Two-year average Non-major applications to end of October stand at 89.97% up by 0.07% since reporting at the end of October, (National indicators require decisions to be a minimum of 70%).

The figures are the first provided since our new Software system (UNIFORM) was introduced in November and December. It was expected that the system shutdown would elongate determination time periods. The team anticipate that the fall in performance on major applications will be picked up quickly in performance in the coming months.

Our latest figures for quality of decision (end of October); as measured by appeal success stand as:

- Majors no appeal decisions have overturned Council decisions for the 2 year reporting period.
- Non-major developments 0.97%. for that same 2-year period.

The national standard for performance on this matter is 10% of appeals being approved in the 2-year cycle. The Council have an excellent record in relation to the quality of decisions being made.

No fees were refunded as a result of requests made following failure to determine the cases in 26 weeks.

## **Planning Policy & Neighbourhood planning**

### Local Plan Review

The Planning Policy and Built Heritage Working Party (PPBH) continue to work to the targets of the local plan production timeline. Overall, the team are making good progress towards production of a final version of the Plan for consultation in the first half of 2022.

At the February meeting PPBH considered:

- Housing Targets under draft policy HOU1
- Approaches to Housing Standards (Space standards, accessibility, Water efficiency, and Sustainable construction)
- Approaches to Sustainable development (Pollution, transport, parking provision, EV charging safeguarding land for sustainable transport)

At the January meeting PPBH considered

- Local Plan Draft Settlement Boundaries for Small Growth Villages
- Designations for Open land at Wells next the Sea

At the 1<sup>st</sup> February meeting of Cabinet revised recommendations for R19 consultation on allocations at Blakeney and Mundesley were approved, along with the recreation Avoidance Mitigation Strategy (RAMS), and our new landscape and character assessment for the district.

### **Major projects with Conservation, Design & Landscape**

Positive negotiations are proceeding on the S106 agreement for the Outline planning application for up to 950 dwellings (Use Class C3), employment development (Use Classes B1/B2/B8), a primary school and children's nursery (Use Class D1), a hotel (Use Class C1), local retail (Use Classes A1/A3/A4/A5) at north of Rudham Stile Lane & east of Water Moor Lane, Fakenham, Norfolk, NR21 9QU, for The Master Fellows & Scholars of Trinity College Cambridge. 900 homes at Fakenham. Our expectations are for conclusion within the next reporting period.

An application has been approved to enable Sands Agricultural Machinery to relocate to a purpose built new site at Catfield.

An innovative exceptions application for 16 affordable rent and 2 open market low carbon homes, at Ostend Road, Walcott is under consideration with the team currently.

Positive progress is being made with community initiative for Local Listing of the WW2 Mundesley Gun Emplacement

### **Building Control**

Applications remain at around 80% submissions of last year's levels; a technical trainee will join the team in March. Our manager is working on short term (part time) secondment with GYBC to assist with a review of the and development of the Council's BC service.

### **Software Introduction**

I am pleased to update that at the time of compiling that the new software system project has now been formally signed off as complete. Upgrades will

be forthcoming in late spring; I will give precise details as to any service / availability impacts once those are clarified for me.

### **Enforcement**

Arcady, Cley: demolition of dwelling – successful mediation appeal hearing deferred until may, pending submission of application to support revisions to heights, articulation and landscape strategy.

High Kelling; Archery / air rifle: written representation appeal confirmed, inspectors visit date to be confirmed.

The Muster Itteringham – public inquiry appeal to be heard on 8 March. Creation of dwelling from annex.

The Shannoeks Hotel, Sheringham: Compulsory Purchase Order; Public Inquiry date deferred, final stage negotiation regarding voluntary agreement with owners (timetable of works) to negate need for public inquiry.

### **Staffing**

Major Projects – James Mann has stated in post as Team leader (January), Russell Stock and Katherine Rawlins will join the team as Senior Officers have joined the team this month.

Planning Policy – A senior officer has tendered resignation, a recruitment campaign has commenced.

## **2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

Planning Policy & Build Heritage Working Party – 22nd March 2021

Development Committee – 11th March 2021

Development committee site inspection - none planned

### **3 Meetings attended**

Planning Policy & Build Heritage Working party – 6th Dec 2020  
18th Jan 2021  
22nd Feb 2021

Development Committee – 10th Dec 2020  
14th Jan 2021  
28th Jan 2021  
11th Feb 2021

Working with SME companies for development. 19th Jan 2021

Norfolk strategic planning (duty to co operate. 25th Jan 2021

In phase briefing. 27th Jan 2021

Cabinet and business planning 1st Feb 2021

Police and Crime Panel. 2nd Feb 2021

Introduction to the new national model design code. 4th Feb 2021

Overview and scrutiny and dealing with empty shops. 10th Feb 2021

Housing Delivery. 19th Feb 2021

Plus Parish councils, portfolio and individual casework meetings.