

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**September 2021**

### **COUNCILLOR V GAY - CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & WELLBEING**

Leisure, Culture and Well Being

#### **Progress on Portfolio Matters (Leisure Element)**

##### **Leisure Centres**

After the lifting of Government's restrictions, the participation at our Council's sports and leisure facilities has remained stable. Each month has seen 85% of the visits that we experienced pre-Covid. The dual use sports centres at Cromer, Stalham and North Walsham will not reopen until October but booking at these facilities is promising.

##### **Pier Pavilion Theatre**

Since the easing of restrictions in July, the Pier show has had just over 15,000 visits. This is 50% of the overall 2019 figure. The Summer Show will end on Saturday 2 October; Concert and Xmas Show bookings are starting to build well.

##### **Beaches**

It has been a very busy summer with large numbers of visitors at our resorts. Early indications are that the number of beach users in 2021 is slightly lower than in the summer of 2020. This is perhaps because the weather this summer has been more changeable than that of last summer. Our RNLI Lifeguards finished their patrols on Sunday 12 September without major incident.

##### **Countryside**

The summer has been a very busy period for the Countryside sites, especially Holt Country Park. The Green Flag judging this year is being undertaken via mystery visits, and the results for our three applications will be announced in October. Part of the Green Flag criteria is the requirement to work in partnership with a voluntary group, and our 'Muddy Boots' groups that we set up are going well with excellent attendance figures.

Events returned for the summer with a mix of self-led trails and ranger led events. In total we provided nine different events which attracted 788 visits, 379 adults and 409 children. We have this year based more events at Pretty Corner Wood. These events have been very successful, allowing us to attract other members of the community

There are large trails planned for the October and Christmas school holidays, with the Christmas event support the tree-planting project. We will also be returning to some adult only events, with wreath making workshops planned for December.

### **Markets**

Both Sheringham and Cromer markets have had a good season since the easing of Covid restrictions. Sheringham is especially buoyant regularly attracting over 30 traders.

### **Forthcoming Activities & Developments**

Work has resumed on preparations for the District Council's Mammoth Marathon which is now scheduled for May 2022.

### **Meetings attended**

In addition to my regularly scheduled meetings I have attended a meeting of the Sheringham Leisure Centre project board on 08/09/21, a briefing on the Mammoth Marathon on 16/08/21 and a visit to The Reef on 07/09/21