



Report of the Leader of the Council

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 14 December, 2015

Northampton Town Football Club

The new Executive Chairman Kelvin Thomas has received a warm welcome at Sixfields. After many months of negotiation I am delighted the club can now move forward.

A special Cabinet meeting was held on Tuesday 24th November to agree in principle a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the new owner. NBC attended the High Court on 27th November to request an adjournment to the Administration petition on NTFC to allow the legal documents to be completed. The judge commended NBC for taking this action. NBC will return to court on 11th December and in the meantime the necessary legal paperwork to give legal force to the Memorandum is being prepared.

I have initiated three separate investigations into the NTFC loan

- Formal complaint and evidence presented to Northampton police to investigate the missing £10.25m
- External auditor will conduct an investigation into the loan agreement and review the contract and agreement set up by NBC. This report will be made public and any recommendations will be implemented.
- The Audit committee to investigate and prepare a report, and any recommendations, as decided at Council.

Budget

The Council is currently completing new budgets for 2015/2016 taking into account details from the Chancellor’s Autumn Statement.

Town Centre

We are pleased to announce Free Parking will now be available from 3pm daily. This is in addition to the 3 hour free parking and the free parking all day Saturday and Sunday.

The German market is back by popular demand and will continue to attract footfall to Abington Street.

Small Business Saturday

Members of the Cabinet visited 40 small local businesses on Saturday 5th December. These are vital to our economy and we continue to advise and support small businesses many of whom have benefited from the Business Incentive Scheme.

St Giles Street

It is official “St Giles Street” really is the Jewel in the Crown and I would like to congratulate all involved.

Northampton Partnership Homes

I was delighted to attend the first AGM of NPH and see how established it has become in its first year. I look forward to attending their first anniversary event on 5th January.

Councillor Mary Markham
Leader of the Council