



## Cabinet Member Report for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning

Northampton Borough Council

7<sup>th</sup> March, 2016

### PLANNING

#### **Local Plan Cabinet Advisory Group**

The establishment of a Cabinet Advisory Group (CAG) to advise and liaise with officers during the preparation of the Local Plan was approved by Cabinet on 9 September 2015. The Group has now been established two meetings have taken place. The Group is Chaired by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise and comprises Councillors Oldham, Nunn, Stone and McCutcheon. The Group will consider the main issues relating to the Local Plan throughout the plan preparation process, informed by officers and key evidence. The Group will inform and advise Cabinet in reaching any decisions in relation to preparing the Local Plan.

The first stage in the process will be the public consultation on the issues to be considered, and this will start in March.

#### **Recent Applications**

N/2016/0015 - Outline application (all matters reserved) for removal, levelling and remodelling of the earth mound and development of the site for B1 (business), B2 (general industrial) & B8 (storage & distribution) for Site 7C, Edgar Mobbs Way within the Enterprise Zone has been received. Further planning applications in relation to the details of the development will be submitted in due course.

N/2015/1239 – Change of use of highway for siting of tables and benches to serve the Royal and Deragate Theatre bar on Guildhall Road was approved at the end of January.

#### **Spring Boroughs Neighbourhood Plan**

The Neighbourhood Plan Referendum date has now been set and the Referendum will be held on Thursday 10 March 2016.

#### **Northampton Northern Orbital Route**

Northamptonshire County Council will be launching a consultation on options for the route of the Northampton Northern Orbital on 12 February 2016 and the consultation will run until 28 March 2016. The consultation will be on four possible route options. Further information about the scheme including environmental constraints plans and projected traffic flows used to inform the development of the four possible routes will be published by the County Council as part of the consultation.

#### **Billing Brook**

The Council is engaged in project group with partners to resolve Billing Brook water flow issues.

## **REGENERATION**

**Greyfriars** – 3 bidders have been taken into stage 2. The successful parties know they have moved into this stage with final bids being submitted by end of March 2016.

**Sixfields** – Work is continuing on surveying the land for development; predominantly surrounding the level of remediation required to bring forward development.

**St Giles St** – Work started on Phase 1, between Hazelwood Road and Castilian Street on 22nd February, and is scheduled to finish in April. The Business liaison group meets fortnightly to address any issues that come to light, and officers are in daily contact with affected businesses

**St James Mill Rd** – Agreement with NCC agreed for a potential start on site early next year with completion the following year. This will be preceded by a planning application.

### **Business Incentive Scheme**

There has been significant interest in the block improvements on Gold St.

### **Empty Homes Programme**

The HCA has approved a grant of £220,000 for a scheme on Spencer Parade which will create 12 units

### **Upton Country Park**

A Masterplan refresh for phase 2 has been commissioned with Halcrow.

### **Delapre Abbey**

External works to parkland for Statutory Undertakers are currently ongoing (new electrical main & gas connections).

Steelwork progressing to new kitchen space.

Re-fitted pipework in Billiard Room now restored and placed below glass viewing panel

Work has started on the internal decorations and conservator works to the southern range rooms.

## **CAR PARKS**

Work has started on the installation of the new surface car park pay machines and it will be complete by the end of the month. The new machines will improve customer service and in certain key car parks offer credit / debit card payment option.

The lift refurbishment works in the Grosvenor car park are continuing and should be complete by April.

The free parking Saturdays & two hour free has attracted over 1 million vehicles so far this calendar year and continues to grow year on year.

Councillor Tim Hadland

**Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning**