



Cabinet Member Report for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 10th July 2017

Members will recall that at June's meeting we ran out of time before my presentation, and so I thought I would run it again to give an opportunity for questions.

The Mayor didn't tell me whether or not I could carry my unused 3 minutes forward, but I will manage without them

Previously in Regen, Enterprise and Planning.....

Planning

Development and Building Control

Planning permission for application N/2015/1454 (development of site for 235 dwellings and restoration of clock tower) at St Crispin was issued on the 8th of May, following finalisation of the S106 agreement.

Planning and Listed Building Consent applications N/2016/1428 and N/2016/1388 for the development of a creative industrial hub at Vulcan Works 34-38 Guildhall Road have been granted permission following approval by the Planning Committee in April 2017.

Planning application N/2016/1425 (new four storey building to provide shared office space and creative new small medium sized enterprises) at Linnells Motors, Fetter Street was approved by the Planning Committee in April 2017.

Planning permission for application N/2016/1091 (development of 80 specialised supported living apartments) at United Trades Club, Balmoral Road issued on 28th April 2017, following finalisation of the S106 agreement.

Planning application N/2016/1050 (construction of a Lidl Store at 9-15 Gambrel Road) was approved in principle, subject to a legal agreement, by the Planning Committee on 9th of May 2017.

Building Control is now registered with the Planning Portal therefore Building Regulation applications can now be submitted electronically via the Portal.

The following Full plan applications have been received this month:

- FP/2017/409 Alterations to existing retail unit to provide new retail, storage and staff administration areas at Unit A2B , 6 - 7 Fairground Way.
- FP/2017/597 Erection of 44 apartments with associated parking and landscaping at Victoria Business Park, St James Park Road
- FP/2017/566 Proposed 2no. 1 bedroom apartments at Land Rear of 122 St Georges Avenue, Northampton.

- FP/2017/543 - Redevelopment of land to provide 45no. 1 bedroom flats for the elderly with associated facilities, demolition of 10no existing garages to the north of site to create overall 31no car parking bays (inc3 acc. bays).
Creation of new access into Shap Green at Lakeview House Old Persons Home, 88 Churchill Avenue.

Planning Policy

Local Plan Part 2

The planning policy team is making good progress in assessing housing and employment sites for inclusion in the Sites Consultation, which will take place later in the summer

Enterprise

Business Incentive Scheme

In the 2016-2017 financial year, the Business Incentive Scheme supported 33 businesses, creating 269 jobs and leveraging over £1.3m in private sector investment. 2017-2018 funds have already seen 9 applications committed to funding with several in the pipeline over the coming months.

Networking events

The second Wellingborough Road business breakfast was held on 5th May at Dapper Sandwich. More new business faces were present with the Police and Retail Crime Initiative on the agenda.

A second Enterprise Zone Breakfast meeting took place on 25th May at Longthorne Gunmakers, aiming to encourage collaboration and sense of identity amongst the businesses. Attendance was excellent.

Regeneration

Upton County Park

Work is starting to take shape to deliver Phase 2 of Upton County Park to provide better access linking new paths to existing, provide new signage and interpretations and encouraging education around biodiversity in the area. Surveys will start taking place in the coming weeks.

Street lights

Work continues on NBC Street lighting ensuring all are registered and maintained. Options will be considered later in the year.

Castle Project

The expanded Virtual reality app will be completed by end of June. The survey work on the Castle area using Ground penetrating radar has been completed and the results are awaited.

Town Centre Signage

The designs have been completed and work will begin shortly

Assets

Recent work has included:-

- Installation of a new insulated roof to the kitchen at Semilong Community Centre.
- New LED lighting and controls to the Mayorhold MSCP.
- Commissioned feasibility report concerning the plant room at the Guildhall.
- Repairs to the Royal Theatre roof.
- Investigations into path edge slippage into the main Abington Park Lake.
- Preparatory work for concrete repairs at the Grosvenor MSCP during June and July.

In this month's Episode.....

Planning

Development and Building Control

Planning Applications received and decided include:-

- Planning application N/20170127 for the erection of 40no. dwellings with car parking and ancillary retail space at the former Sofa King, Towcester Road was approved in principle by the Planning Committee on 13th of June, subject to a S106 agreement to secure 35% affordable housing and off-site open space provision.
- Planning application N/2017/1138 for the erection of 60no. residential units at the former St Giles Clinic, St Giles Street was approved in principle by the Planning Committee on 13th of June, subject to a S106 agreement to secure town centre improvements.
- Reserved matters application N/2017/0318 for the erection of a Class B8 distribution unit for 43,469 sq. m. at Prologis Pineham Phase 2 at Upton Valley Way North was approved on the 9th of June.
- Planning application N/2017/0669 for the demolition of the existing building and erection of a 18,210 sq. m. storage and distribution warehouse at the Sovereign House site, Rhosili Road has been submitted to the Council on 31st May .

Planning Policy

Members of the Semilong and Trinity local communities would like to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. Before the opportunities offered by Neighbourhood Planning can be taken up, there must be a designated Neighbourhood Forum and Neighbourhood Area. These applications have been received and comments are invited for a period of 6 weeks from 13th June to 25th July 2017. All representations received will be considered and it is anticipated that Cabinet will consider the applications in September 2017.

Cabinet decided on Wednesday 21st June to permanently remove permitted development rights for change of use from C3 Dwellinghouses to C4 Houses in Multiple Occupation in parts of Far Cotton and Delapre (Immediate Article 4

direction). The public consultation received four responses, none of which was an objection to the making of the Order.

A further Article 4 Direction covering parts of Far Cotton, Delapre and Cliftonville continues to progress with consultation taking place during the summer. If confirmed by Cabinet later this year, the same permitted development rights will also be removed in this area.

Enterprise

WE have held meetings with companies wishing to consider investing in Northampton

The Business Incentive Scheme continues to support local business, with recent grants covering Empty Units, extending trading space, and shopfront improvements.

13 Businesses have been supported this financial year to date These businesses are creating 35 jobs and will be investing over £800k

Assets

Recent work includes:-

Various repairs to community centres (roofing, guttering etc)

Grosvenor concrete repairs commenced 12.06.17

Repairs to Delapre fencing

Investigations and testing to Delapre Abbey lifts and electrical installation
Upgrading works to Delapre Cottages

Billing Brook Lakes. Presentation by consultants on 15.06.17 outlining history and proposed options for water management.

Regeneration

Vulcan Works

The invitation for quotations to demolish Amalgamated Tyres as part of an enabling package has been sent out

Early demolition will enable Archaeological investigation to be carried out ahead of schedule on this site

RIBA Stage 4 design works are ongoing

A pack of pre-commencement planning conditions is to be submitted to planning for discharge before the end of the month

The review of main contract tender submissions is ongoing with external quantity surveyors.

Councillor Tim Hadland
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning