



## **Cabinet Member Report for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning**

**Northampton Borough Council**

**Monday 18 September 2017**

### **Town Centre Operations**

The visitor parking numbers across the council's public car parks have been positive in the period April – July 2017 with usage increasing. For the period April to July 2017 in the council's multi-storey car parks the Saturday free parking figures show 149,751 customers taking advantage of the offer and for the two hour free parking offer the figures show 337,404 customers taking advantage with the Mayorhold and Grosvenor being the two most popular car parks. Overall parking figures for the period April – July 2017 show 904,209 visitors using the council's multi-storey and surface car parks.

The footfall figures for July show 1,468,323 visitors, workers and shoppers in Abington Street and Market Square which is a 6.7% fall in comparison with the same period in 2016.

### **Development Control**

The Outline planning application (N/2016/1439) for the erection of 14 no. dwellings at the former Silver Cornet Public House site in Kings Heath was approved by the Planning Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> July.

The Planning application (N/2017/0757) for the development of additional car parking and lighting at Delapre Abbey was approved by the Planning Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> July.

The Planning application (N/2017/1097) for the development of 83 no. dwellings at the former Emmanuel Middle School site, Birds Hill Road, has recently been received.

The Planning appeal for application (N/2016/1073) for the development of up to 30 dwellings was dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate on 9<sup>th</sup> August, following refusal by the Planning Committee in August 2016.

The Application for the discharge of planning conditions in relation to the Masterplan and Design Code, Ecological Construction Method Statement and Landscape and Ecological Management Plan for the outline planning permission (N/2013/103)5 for the development of up to 1,000 dwellings at Northampton South SUE has recently been received.

The Planning application (N/2017/1029) for the demolition of existing dwellings and erection of 21 no. new affordable dwellings at Toms Close has been received at the beginning of August.

## **Planning Policy**

### **Northampton Local Plan Part 2**

The site assessment consultation will be considered by Cabinet on 13<sup>th</sup> September prior to the consultation commencing at the beginning of October

### **Property Assets**

The negotiation of a number of new leases and assignments of existing leases have been completed.

The listing of Asset valuation information has been concluded

We have successfully completed the marketing of all the Council's vacant commercial units, which yielded good quality interest in all units. Heads of Terms are to be finalised prior to instructing solicitors.

Cabinet approved for the transfer of land at Bellinge to Billing Parish Council

### **Business Incentive Scheme**

Grants to 16 new business have been approved this year to date leveraging over £800,000 in private sector investment and creating 52 jobs. This includes MOOCH on St. Giles Street, an independent gift shop, that won Muddy Stilettoe's Gift Shop of the Year Award only a few weeks after opening.

### **Upton**

Phase 2 is now underway. The land transfer has been completed and topographical surveys commenced on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017, to establish if current designs for pathways are appropriate. Tree surveys will follow on from this work.

### **Street Lighting**

Lighting columns to be transferred back to NBC from NCC have been identified and will be reported to Cabinet on 13<sup>th</sup> October ahead of formal handover.

### **Northampton Castle area implementation**

Castles in the air

This project is in its second year. 8 bird boxes with a castle theme were made by members of the Friends of Northampton Castle and painted by school children at a Northampton museum workshop event. They have been installed. I understand that the only resident of last year's boxes chose to build its nest on the roof of a 'castle'!  
The virtual reality app project is proceeding, and will be underway and will be completed in the next few weeks.

### **Enterprise Zone**

Successful Enterprise Zone tour carried out for the new lead at BEIS last week to show the progress made on our EZ and developments underway.

The Planning application has been submitted for the development for 4 new industrial units on site 7C Edgar Mobbs Ways with expected end users identified- Expected decision early September

### **Other Enterprise**

A Planning application has been submitted for the demolition of the former Howard Smith Paper site on Brackmills with the view to develop a state of the art 200,000 sqft industrial unit.

8 investment enquires received this month for new businesses to move into Northampton.

### **Delapre Abbey**

3 Weddings have now taken place at Delapre Abbey Woodhead, the main contractors, have completed snagging. Planning approval received for the car park development Planners have recommended the approval for CCTV cameras which are being taken to the September 5<sup>th</sup> committee

### **Abington Park Museum Refurbishment**

The works completed on time and within budget.

### **St Crispin's Community Centre**

The Tenancy at will signed between NBC and Community Spaces Northampton was completed in August.

The Licence between Community Spaces Northampton and Northampton Town football club to for 60 students to commence sports management studies first week in September, is now in place.

**I will not be at the meeting. I return to Northampton on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September and I will be happy to answer questions by email either prior to or immediately after my return**

**Councillor Tim Hadland  
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning**