



Cabinet Member Report for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning

Northampton Borough Council

4th June 2018

Town Centre Operations

The two-hour free parking figures for April are 75,465 which is a small increase on the 2017 figures.

The April total parking numbers across all council car parks were 190,868.

The footfall figures for April 2018 show 944,550 visitors, workers and shoppers in Abington Street and Market Square, these figures are below the 2017 figures mainly due to the poor weather conditions we had throughout the majority of April.

Enterprise

Business Incentive Scheme 2018-19

We have supported 3 Businesses to date this year. This has secured £59,500 of private sector investment and created 4 jobs.

Vulcan Works

The full application for ESIF funding has been submitted and initial feedback has been positive.

The design team is in place and active, and procurement documentation is being prepared for OJEU process.

St James Mill Link Road

Design work has been completed. The formal LC7 consent has been obtained from Network Rail confirming disposal of the rail line. We are waiting a build cost from NCC Framework Contractor.

Northampton Station and Multi Storey Car Park

Officers have had meetings with Network Rail and West Midlands Trains (Train operating company).

The previous modelling work now being reviewed in the light of the new franchisee's proposals for the station including provision of 110 new car parking spaces.

Further work is to be undertaken to establish partnership approach in delivering the MSCP.

Preparation of a Local Heritage List for Northampton

The preparation of a Local Heritage List for Northampton was considered and approved at the meeting of Cabinet on 9th May. Cabinet also approved the commencement of public consultation for nominations for inclusion in the Local List, along with selection criteria for nominations and the establishment of a Local Heritage Selection Panel.

Asset maintenance and restoration

Repairs and upgrades include:-

Investigation and repair of extensive failures to the Elgar Centre plant and mechanical installations.

Installation of new benches to Victoria Street coach shelters

Carriageway repairs to Walter Tull Way unadopted highway

Evaluation of lift maintenance tenders

Dilapidations inspections to depots occupied by EMS

Refurbishment of Dallington Green plaque

Removal of asbestos to 20a Sheep Street

Ongoing concrete repairs to the Mayorhold MSCP

Ongoing Water regs upgrades to various allotments

Ongoing consultation and design of the Billing Brook lakes project

Ongoing repairs to Guildhall roof

Queen Eleanor Cross

Heritage England has approved a grant of 50% of the repair cost. Detailed procurement work is proceeding with an aim of carrying out the works this summer.

Tree Preservation Order

The confirmation of a Tree Preservation Order at Quinton Road, Wootton is to be considered at the meeting of General purposes Committee on 15th May.

Councillor Tim Hadland

Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning

PLANNING

Major Planning Applications

Since our last Full Council meeting the Council have granted several key planning applications which include:

- Planning application N/2018/0264 for the construction of the St James Mill Road linked which was approved in principle by the Planning Committee on 10th April, subject to a bat survey to be carried out and agreement of a financial contribution towards CCTV provision.

- Outline planning permission N/2017/0836 for the development of up to 50 dwellings at land to the rear of Hunsbury Park Primary School, Dayrell Road which was granted, following finalisation of a Section 106 agreement.
- Full planning permission N/2017/1097 for the development of 81 dwellings at the former Emmanuel Church Middle School site, Birds Hill Walk was granted, following finalisation of a Section 106 agreement.

I am also delighted to report that Development Management has maintained 100% performance standard in terms of major, minor and other applications in both March and April 2018. I would like to congratulate the department for their continued high standards.

Local Plan Part 2

Work continues on the evidence base to support the production of the Local Plan Part 2. The evidence base and responses to previous consultations, including the Sites Consultation, are being used in the development of Local Plan policies.

Councillor James Hill
Deputy Cabinet Member for Planning