

Cabinet Member Report for Regeneration and Enterprise

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 10th December 2018

Town Centre Operations

The two-hour free parking figures for April – October show 551,842 visitors taking advantage of the free parking in our multi-storey car parks.

Saturday parking figures in MSCP's for the same period show 180,186 visitors and on Sunday's visitor numbers were 81,059.

The overall parking figures up to the end of October was 1,485,835.

The footfall figures for April – October 2018 period show 8,906,694 visitors, workers and shoppers in Abington Street and Market Square, the figures are 13.1% below the 2017 figures in part due to the closure of BHS and M&S as one camera is located on the M&S building.

Regeneration

Business Incentive Scheme

14 Businesses have been supported this financial year to date, leveraging nearly £266,000 private sector investment and creating 46 jobs

Vulcan Works

The tender documents have been reviewed, and a Report will go to the January 2019 Cabinet Meeting with a view to a start on site in March 2019

Eleanor Cross

The various specialist reports have now been published.

In line with their recommendation, work will start in April 2019 so that the work can be carried out in the climatic conditions required for the use of lime mortar.

Four Waterside

Proposals for this site, with a mixed use development centred on a new office building are progressing, and a Planning Application is expected early in the New Year.

Rail Station multi-storey Car Park

The constructive meetings with Network Rail and the franchisee are continuing, aiming to bring this important facility forward as soon as possible.

Central Museum Contract

This contract is progressing well.

Capital and repair works

- Installation of temporary security measures to the vacant section of the Guildhall Road block.
- Repairs/upgrades to the racecourse changing room heating and water services.
- Start of repairs to street lighting following condition surveys.
- Replacement pool pumps to Lings Leisure Centre.
- Ongoing works to flood areas.

Councillor Tim Hadland
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning



Deputy Cabinet Member Report for Planning Northampton Borough Council Monday 10th December 2018

Planning

It continues to be a busy and productive time in planning with several major planning applications approved in October & November.

Full planning application N/2017/1653 for the development of 17 dwellings and 400 sqm retail units at the former Tanners Public House site Farmfield Court was approved by the Planning Committee on 23rd of October 2018.

Outline planning application N/2014/1429 for the development of up to 3,000 dwellings including affordable housing, employment, local centre, primary and secondary schools and extension to North West Bypass was approved in principle, subject to a S106 agreement, by the Planning Committee on 31st October 2018.

Planning permission N/2017/1479 for the refurbishment and extension of 71-77B Abington Street to provide 48 dwellings was granted following finalisation of a S106 agreement on 14th November 2018.

Planning application N/2018/0277 for the development of distribution centre (Use Class B8) with associated works at Milton Ham Farm was approved in principle by the Planning Committee, subject to a S106 agreement, on 20th November 2018.

Development Management has continued to maintain its 100% performance standard in terms of major, minor and other applications in October 2018.

The council have recruited a full-time post in Building Control. On 29th October 2018 a new officer was recruited as Principal Building Control Surveyor.

Building Control has conditionally approved the plans for two of our exciting projects:

- The Museum extension project (FP/2018/79) 4 Guildhall Road
- The Vulcan Project (FP/2017/685) 34-38 Guildhall Road.

Land Charges have a standard Key Performance Indicator (KPI) that they are not required to report on to return local searches within 10 working days, which they have met, returning the searches in 2-3 working days.

Daily updates are made to the LLPG Property Gazetteer and this is reported on monthly, with a current rating of Bronze, which is a significant improvement since the April 2018 rating of Below National Standard (BNS).

Local Plan Part 2

Important work continues on the production of the Local Plan Part 2. Proposed site allocations are being worked up and development management policies are being drafted.

Heritage

Conservation Area Appraisals have been drafted for Barack Road Conservation Area and the Derngate Conservation Area.

Councillor James Hill Deputy Cabinet Member for Planning