

## **Report from District Councillor, Peter Terrington, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2013**

Cabinet Decisions attached separately.

### **Wells Matters:**

**Litter on Quay:** I understand that a meeting has been arranged at The Wells Community Hospital, on 4<sup>th</sup> July to discuss the litter and bin issues in Wells. This has been arranged due to the problems regarding the large wheelie bins, as well as other litter topics that are related to this.

**Market Lane Development, Wells:** It is the view of the Corporate Director: "That Wells Town Council and local people clearly understand that the District Council, in considering the planning application gave detailed consideration to the representations and objections received in respect of highways access and foul and surface water drainage and with specific regards the highway issues heard directly from a professional engineer employed by the County Council before resolving to approve the planning application." However, it remains my view that opportunities were missed to seek contributions, from the developer, to improve local infrastructure relating to both access and sewage provision. I understand that the Alderman Peel High school is seeking a Transport Regulation Order (TRO) to improve road safety in Market Lane.

**Proposed Co-op Retail Store, Polka Rd, Wells:** In respect of the Wells Coop S278 Agreement, the Council is still awaiting details from County Highways.

**Proposed Fuel, Polka Rd, Wells:** The final conditions are awaiting comment from the developer. Nothing further to report on recommendation to provide alternative lorry/coach parking spaces in the town

**Car parking provision in Wells:** There has been much debate regarding the inadequacy of car parking provision in Wells. The two bank holidays placed enormous strain on resources, resulting in grid lock along the Quay and approach roads. I understand from Holkham Estate that the approved new Freeman Street car park could be completed by Spring Bank Holiday, 2014. However, the new car park will not provide sufficient spaces to cope with peak volumes. There is a possibility of making the Field Study Centre and health Centre car parks available for public use at weekends, in the short term.

**Wells Harbour dredging operation:** I understand that the investigation, being carried out by the MMO, into the position and height of the berms has still not been completed. Consultation on The latest application licence ends on the 13<sup>th</sup> June. It is hoped that a decision can be reached which balances the sometimes conflicting needs of the wind energy vessels, fishing boats and recreational craft, whilst recognising the value of the Heritage Coast and the importance of Wells as a tourist destination. I apologise for a typographical error in my May report. I stated "The most recent licence expired on 9<sup>th</sup> May." It should, of course, read 9th April.

**Enforcement Board Update:** Since its inception in December 2012 the board has been meeting fortnightly and good progress has been made across the full ranges of cases under consideration. In addition to Clarence House, the board is keeping a watching brief on a number of other empty properties in Wells.

**Asset Register:** How is progress with registering Wells' assets progressing? I have received some suggestions on items to include from members of the public.

### **Matters in Adjoining Parishes:**

**River Stiffkey Regeneration Project:** Following the latest workshop held at Wighton Village hall on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May, Sarah Taigel is collating all ideas from the public and is feeding them into her final report. There are proposals to "naturalise" the Wighton to Warham section of the River. Further details can be obtained form: [norfolkrivertrust@gmail.com](mailto:norfolkrivertrust@gmail.com).

**Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG):** I understand that funding issues are delaying the Cefas investigation into the causes of sand accretion on the Blakeney mussel beds.

### **OTHER NEWS:**

#### **North Norfolk Renewables Partnership/B1105 Renewable Energy Development**

**Corridor:** A website for the Partnership has been created in order to attract inward investment into North Norfolk. <http://www.northnorfolkrenewables.org/>

**North Norfolk, European Maritime Site:** The NN, EMS, Advisory Group (NNEMSAG) next meets in the Maltings, at Wells, on 13<sup>th</sup> June. The meetings of the AG are open to representatives from local authorities, statutory bodies and other interested parties. There are issues of local importance on the agenda, relating to Wells and the NN coastline.

**Coastal Issues Forum:** The next meeting is scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> July, at the Cromer offices of NNDC. Discussion of Coastal Tourism was deferred form the February meeting.

**East of England Marine Plan:** Public consultation on the draft plans will run for 12 weeks and is anticipated to begin in June. The consultation is expected to include a series of drop-in sessions in various locations along the East coast where the draft plans will be exhibited. No further updates on dates have been provided as yet.

**National Planning policy Frame work (NPPF):** Members received a briefing on the NPPF and it is apparent that there is a presumption that, in future, planning applications will gain approval, unless significant negative impact can be established. In addition the list of Permitted Developments (PDs) has been dramatically increased, although notification to the planning authority is required in some cases.