

## EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019

### 1. Acklam Hall – Avenue of Trees

The installation of new ornate gates has been completed at Acklam Hall Avenue of Trees. The new installation was opened by Marilyn Wood from Acklam 2020 on 8 January 2019.

The feature has been made possible due to a generous donation bequeathed by Acklam resident and former Acklam Grammar School pupil, the late Alan Hunter.

The original gates were removed as part of the Second World War effort and replaced by low-lying gates and reduced size pillars. The project will see the stone gate pillars raised to their original height and new gates installed, based on designs from an old photograph uncovered by Acklam 2020.

A plaque commemorating the memory of Mr Hunter, who enabled the restoration of the piece of Teesside history, has now been produced by one of Middlesbrough's oldest businesses, William Lane Foundry

### 2. Draft Stainsby Masterplan

The final consultation event for the Draft Stainsby Masterplan took place on the 29th November 2018. A further two week window was available for the public to make final comments on draft masterplan via a questionnaire. The questionnaire outlined the process taken and the proposed next step, then asked *"taking the above into account, do you think the masterplan shows a well-balanced neighbourhood that will add value to Middlesbrough's housing market and place making agenda?"*

52 individual responses were received. Although some local residents are still opposed to any development on the green space at Stainsby North, many others felt that the events were extremely useful and that the Council has listened to public concern and amended the vision for Stainsby accordingly. Many now feel that the Council is presenting a positive scheme that not only provides housing to meet need and demand, but will create a much improved and larger publically accessible space, that will be of benefit to all.

The Draft Masterplan and feedback provided through the consultation process will be presented to Executive on 22 January.

### 3. Transport Strategy and Nunthorpe Park and Rail

Middlesbrough Council's Integrated Transport Strategy was given Executive endorsement on 18 December 2018. The plan seeks to create a balance between different forms of transport including private car usage, public transport such as bus and rail, and cycling and walking, and will do this through the steps set out in the plan.

Some proposals include the provision of cycling equipment, ensuring housing development is well served by pedestrian, cycling and bus routes, "superstops" for buses at key locations across Middlesbrough, and a Nunthorpe Park and Rail. On the latter

proposal, as the location sits within the Redcar and Cleveland boundary Middlesbrough Council will be supporting, rather than leading on the proposal.

#### **4. Future High Street Fund**

A new £675 million Future High Streets Fund has been announced. It will serve two purposes: support local areas to prepare long-term strategies for their high streets and town centres, including funding a new High Streets Taskforce to provide expertise and hands-on support to local areas. It will also then co-fund with local areas projects including:

- investment in physical infrastructure, including improving public and other transport access, improving flow and circulation within a town / city centre, congestion-relieving infrastructure, other investment in physical infrastructure needed to support new housing and workspace development and existing local communities, and the regeneration of heritage high streets;
- investment in land assembly, including to support the densification of residential and workspace around high streets in place of under-used retail units.

##### *How the fund will work:*

Local areas will be asked to provide proposals setting out the overall vision that they wish to achieve for their high street and town or city centre and specific improvements that would contribute to that overall vision. There will be a competition for funding. Places will be expected to partner with the private sector in developing their proposals.

The Council will be working with partners to develop proposals for submission, early in January 2019.

#### **5. National Brake Road Safety Week**

Local Authority Road Safety Officers came together for a full week, allowing the delivery of a wider range of partnership interventions across the four unitary authority areas.

By the end of the week, the team had delivered 20 virtual reality sessions, 12 multi-agency Learn and Live presentations and two extrication displays to approximately 1600 students aged 16 years to 19 years – a key target audience in our delivery plan, covering a range of risk subjects.

The multi-partnership event included:

- Local Authority Road Safety Team – Lynn Hepworth and Justin Gault, Middlesbrough Council; Roy Morris, Redcar and Cleveland Council and Peter Fleming, Stockton on Tees Council.
- Cleveland and Durham Police Specialist Operations – PC Rob Turner, PC Andy Pickering and PC Gary Ward.
- Cleveland Fire Brigade – Green Watch Redcar and Green Watch Stockton.

#### **6. Ormesby Table Tennis Club**

The Council are working with Ormesby Table Tennis Club to support their aspirations around an expansion of their offer from the existing 15 table facility on Cargo Fleet Lane. The club are looking to raise funding for a new facility that would enable broader participation in the sport, work more closely with local communities, increase their provision for over 50s, people with disabilities and people living with Dementia, and also to provide a more sustainable future for the club by hosting National and International competitions.