

Cllr Vanessa Smith Report for meeting 24/10/2023

GENERAL POINTS:

SKDC Website: SKDC has been working on a new website. This is due for full rollout later this month, 30th October. In the meantime, you can visit the new site by following a link from the current webpage. SKDC would value feedback on the new site.

SKDC Full Council have recently approved to increase Housing Development investment by £1m to be able to purchase properties to increase Council's Housing Stock

SKDC Full Council have last month approved funding for a new waste depot in Grantham

SKDC will be upgrading all its street lights to LEDS

SK Funding workshops: There was a workshop held in Stamford in September. Information was provided to community groups on the various pots of money available, such as UK Shared Prosperity Fund, SK Community fund, LotterySK and how to apply. Further sessions will be held: 18 Jan- Grantham, 21 Mar - Bourne.

Recycling: Purple lidded bins are due for delivery in the next month or so with collections starting in the new year. Further correspondence is expected from the Council before the end of the month.

Meet the Cabinet sessions: An opportunity to meet the Councillors who form the SKDC Cabinet. 30th October will be in Grantham and November in Bourne. Sessions are drop in, no appointment necessary from 1-2pm

SPECIFIC TO LANGTOFT:

Toilet facilities for Bin Collection staff: After this was raised at the PC last month I have discussed this with the waste team at SKDC. I have been told that waste collection rounds are from around 7am to 3pm and staff are given scheduled breaks. They are also given lists on where public conveniences are located. Looking at the lists provided these are often services stations. A staff survey was conducted earlier in the year and no members of staff raised access to toilet facilities as a point of concern. However, staff were not directly asked about this and the Council have agreed to do another staff survey specifically asking the question. It may be that there are particular rounds where toilet facilities may be a problem for staff and should that be the case the council may look to approaching a local business or village hall for access to a toilet if required. Staff have been reminded to use public facilities.

Ward Walk: On 29th September Cllr Trollope-Bellew and I carried out a ward walk with Cllr Cleaver (Leader of the Council) around Casewick Ward. We visited various sites in the village, including the Playing Field and Pavillion. As Cllr Cleaver is also a County Councillor we highlighted the issues that the village face with highways, especially the A15 crossroads.

Fence 45 Manor Close: I have been chasing this up with the planning team. The Planning Officer does not feel that she currently has any legitimate grounds for refusal of recent planning application for fence and change of land use. Details passed on to Parish Council.

Seat on swing West End Park in playing area: I believe that this has been fixed but have not had confirmation.

Other issues that I have been chasing up with the council: Fence on Ryefield, Bollards on verge at East End, Tree on Trusedale, a few people have approached me wanting to offer support to the new Ukrainian families in the village.