

17 July 2018

Dalton Bridge Progress

The new Dalton Bridge opened to traffic on 25 June 2018; further works to remove the old bridge are ongoing with an anticipated finish in August when an official opening will take place.

The Dalton Bridge project has demonstrated this Council's ability to successfully deliver significant projects, working in partnership with local businesses and other organisations. The impact to the Hambleton economy was seen immediately when local contractors were successfully awarded sub-contracts for materials and services to the projects. The positive effect of the bridge is now being seen through significant investment by businesses into the Dalton Bridge Industrial Estate.

Treadmills progress

The Central Northallerton Development Company Limited have brought forward plans for the Treadmills site and held a public exhibition to explain proposals which include a digital hub, shops, restaurants, a cinema, heritage centre and a quadrangle for public events. Comments from this consultation will be considered before a detailed planning application is made.

The digital hub, C4Di (Centre for Digital Innovation), is a key component of the new Treadmills site and a grant of £1.8M has recently been secured to assist with its implementation. C4Di will build a partnership between the traditional Hambleton businesses and emerging digital innovators to ensure Hambleton remains a place to grow and do business in the future. In May, the Council facilitated a well-attended event at Neue Schule in Stokesley to introduce businesses to the C4Di concept.

The second phase of archaeology on the site, focussed on the Northern area and close to the listed buildings, has now been completed. This culminated in another open day for members of the public to view the new dig area and part of the remaining female wing, which once again saw high numbers of attendance.

2018/19 Capital Outturn and Annual Treasury Management Review

The capital programme outturn for 2017/18 was £5,319,469 which achieved 87% of the expenditure scheduled. The construction of Dalton Bridge was a key project which finalised and was open to the public for use on the 24 June 2018. This scheme was slightly delayed due to bad weather and therefore excluding this project the Capital programme would have a 96% achievement. The other capital scheme of note was the development of Northallerton Leisure Centre at £2.6m which was on time and on budget. It was open to the public for use in January 2018.

2017/18 Revenue Outturn and Position on Reserves

The revenue outturn position of the Council was £6.7m, a positive result for the Council which enabled £0.972m to be transferred to reserves. This was due to increased business rates being received of £289k and an underspend on the revenue budget of £680k. The underspend was occurred due to more planning fees than expected being received, along with increased workspace income, increased leisure centre income, reduced recycling costs and a reduction in fuel and energy prices.

Revenues and Benefits

The collection of Council Tax and Business Rates during the first three months of 2018/19 has reached the target of 98%. In addition, continued assistance is provided to both the Dalton Bridget Business Improvement District and the Northallerton Business Improvement district where they recently thanked the Revenues and Benefits and Finance sections for their ongoing support.

Councillor Peter Wilkinson
Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Finance