



Bridgwater Town Council

Portfolio:	Property
Portfolio Holder Name:	Clr Tim Mander
Full Council Meeting Date:	14 th March 2024
Agenda Item:	TC2024/22

REPORT:

This is my sixth report as Property Portfolio Holder and gives me an opportunity to update Full Council on progress on a number of important projects since the last Council meeting as follows:

- **Town Hall** – I am pleased to say following the grant of planning consent further progress has been made as regards seeking and obtaining tenders for both the conversion of the former Labour Rooms to a 2-bedroom flat and the refurbishment of the Town Hall changing rooms. The date for tender returns has been set for 25th March 2024 and 28th March 2024 with an anticipated start dated of 22nd April 2024 which is excellent news. The other exciting project is the proposed installation of solar panels it is hoped that scaffolding will start to be erected in early summer shortly to facilitate the installation of the panels together with the redecoration of the external facade.
- **The Docks** – I have chased up the Somerset Council's Project Management Team responsible for the dock's Project. An update report is on its way which I will share with members.
- **Bridgwater Arts Centre** – As reported to the last meeting both the full and listed building application have been registered, unfortunately due to a change of allocated planning officer and additional questions from Heritage England the decision date has been put back. Geoff has worked hard with the Arts Centre administrator to help him re-plan the programme due to the delayed start date. As regards the change of management, along with the Leader of Council I attended the recent AGM in order to outline how things will look once the day-to-day management has been transferred to the Town Council.
- **Solar Panels** – PV quotes have been obtained for Re-creation building and are waited for Trinity Hall. Once Rollercoaster is transferred, we will of course assess the PV opportunities.
- Finally with the transfer of assets there will be a huge change to the Town Council's structure which is really needed to fully manage the increasing number of assets coming over from Rollercoaster to the former Icehouse in Blake Gardens.

Recommendations: (if you are expecting Council to make a decision from your report)

None



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