

District Council report for 20th November 2024

Cllr Penny Rainbow

The Cabinet members met on 4th of the month and considered agenda items;

National Food Hygiene Rating System.

The report recommended that the council recover any cost for re-inspection under the national hygiene rating scheme.

The food hygiene rating scheme was developed by the food standards agency to enable consumers to compare the hygiene standards within different food outlets. A rating of 5 indicates a high standard, zero indicates that urgent improvement is needed.

The food standards agency has expressed an intention to extend mandatory display of the scoring system to be displayed on all food serving premises.

Both Scotland and Wales already have this mandatory system and the scheme enables a charge to be made for re-rating inspections whereas, until recently no provision was made in the English voluntary scheme for such charging.

Any business having received a rating of less than 5 can request a follow up re-rating inspection.

It was agreed that a flat fee charge of £176 for re-rating inspection visits on a full- cost recovery basis, to come into effect from 1st April 2025.

Music Development-Heritage, Cultural and the Arts

In 2023 a new portfolio position was created for Heritage, Culture and the Arts, for the new deputy leader. A greater emphasis was placed on music as a way of showcasing music in the district with an aim to support wellbeing and pride.

In May 2024 a session 'Alive with Music' event was programmed and a second event in October followed at the Palace Theatre . The purpose was to bring together some music professionals, community musicians and music groups with the aim of making plans for the future development of the music agenda.

Cabinet agreed, with one vote against, to recruit a temporary freelance music network co-ordinator to drive forward at an operational level, this scheme,for the next 6 months. It is hoped this will result in the creation of a Newark and Sherwood Music Forum which will sit along side groups such as the Tourism Action Group.

The cost to the Council for the initial 6 month period of this post will be £21.000.

A further cost to the Council of £2,410 was agreed for 2x classical programmes, piano hire.....

Cllr Penny Rainbow
Southwell Ward Member