

Full Council Meeting – 15 December 2020

Report of Councillor Marcus Kravis – Asset Management and Economic Development

Major and Special Projects

Coal Orchard

Work continues on the project, with significant progress made on all of the buildings. Work will start on the riverside steps, a vital part of the public realm and flood mitigation measures, in the New Year. The revised programme is now to complete all three blocks and the public realm for May 2021.

Seaward Way light industrial build

The main build is all but finished with some minor highway works being pushed back due to the ground conditions. Snazaroo have started their tenant fit out, with fixtures fittings and signage now being installed.

The design of the residential build is being progressed by the Housing team and is being debated at Full Council on 1st December 2020.

Firepool

GWR building / cycle path

The GWR refurbishment work has now commenced, aiming to secure and return the building to active use as a site office by Q1 2021. Plans for the cycle path are being adapted to allow for the build programme and construction footprint of the Innovation Centre which overlaps with the original temporary route. Access will be made available from Trenchard Way to Canal Road for pedestrians and cyclists in Spring 21 as planned.

Digital Innovation Centre

SWT are continuing to work in collaboration with SCC on delivery of a 3000m² Digital Innovation centre on the Firepool site. The project teams are working up the detailed infrastructure and services plans, and aligning respective build programmes to allow delivery of the Innovation Centre alongside the key infrastructure work.

Special Purpose Vehicle

SWT have been exploring the most efficient delivery route for large projects such as Firepool and a dedicated development arm which will be solely focussed on delivery of key regeneration projects was approved a Full Council on 3rd November. The detailed work to progress this key component is now underway, with a view to formation of the new company in the next quarter.

Infrastructure, Utilities and Flood work

Work continues on the detailed design and specification work to address the many civil and engineering issues on the main Firepool site has been continuing, and work will start in earnest in Q1 2021.

Bus Station

The planning application to convert the Bus Station to a temporary car park will be submitted before the end of calendar year.

Heritage

The Heritage team have been particularly busy throughout the quarter, working alongside owners, funding bodies and consultees on projects across the district.

Tonedale Mill

The S48 Repairs notice has been served and discussions continue with the owners on their response to the notice and the emergency works required on site.

Assets

Dulverton Weir

SWT continues to work with the Dulverton Weir and Leat Conservation Trust and other stakeholders to investigate future options for the repair and long term future of the site.

Norton Hillfort

Work continues to secure the transfer of the site to the South West Heritage Trust for long term guardianship.