

Agenda Item No:	7	
Committee:	CABINET	
Date:	30 January 2023	
Report Title:	Wisbech High Street update	

1. Purpose / Summary

To provide Cabinet with a monthly update regarding ongoing work related to 11 – 12 and 24 High Street, Wisbech.

2. Ongoing work to secure a future for 11- 12 High Street, Wisbech

2.1 As Cabinet has been made aware previously two options are under consideration for the site.

2.2 Option 1

- **Development of a façade on the High Street**

A façade would ensure that the High Street is brought back to look how the community and visitors expect, albeit with no building behind. Please note that any façade would match the look of the front of the building as designed in the approved planning application.

If it could be shown that this was the only practical approach to securing the High Street's appearance, then it is anticipated that National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) would be sympathetic to supporting this approach and fund 65% of any costs.

2.3 Option 2

Development of 11 -12 to the agreed design by a 3rd sector organisation operating in the housing sector

Officers continue to hold discussions with a 3rd sector organisation with a view to the development of the site to the agreed design to facilitate more affordable housing in Wisbech.

2.4 Partners are currently working on further assessments following the receipt of recently revised cashflow and borrowing cost information for Option 2.

A report to Cabinet with further details regarding each option will follow in February.

3 Progress to develop 24 High Street

3.1 The project to redevelop 24 High Street continues following Cabinet's recommendation and Council's decision to enter into a contract with a preferred bidder to develop the site. A pre contract services agreement is in place with the contractor assessing engineering issues at the site as well as working up a detailed construction phase plan.

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 That Cabinet notes the current position in relation to these two significant projects in Wisbech High Street.

Wards Affected	Medworth Ward	
Forward Plan Reference	KEY21APR22/01	
Portfolio Holders	Cllr Chris Seaton Cllr Ian Benney Cllr Chris Boden	Portfolio Holder for Social Mobility and Heritage Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance
Report Originator	Phil Hughes	Head of Service
Contact Officers	Paul Medd Peter Catchpole Amy Brown	Chief Executive Corporate Director and S151 Officer Assistant Director and Deputy monitoring Officer