

# ***Report to the Council***

**Subject: Asset Management and Economic Development Portfolio**

**Portfolio Holder: Councillor A Grigg**

**Date: 22 April 2014**

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## **Recommending:**

**That the report of the Asset Management and Economic Development Portfolio Holder be noted.**

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## **North Weald Airfield**

In my last report I made mention of the consultant's report on the main runway at North Weald Airfield. I had hoped to be able to inform Members of the outcome at this meeting, but delays in officers being able to meet the consultants at the Airfield has prevented me from doing so. That meeting is scheduled for later this week, and I would anticipate the final report being published soon thereafter.

In the meantime some emergency works had to be undertaken to the runway, where, because of the recent adverse weather, water ingress caused the surface of the runway to deteriorate. In order to maintain the safe operation at the Airfield, emergency works were agreed and implemented.

Members will of course be aware of the recent tragic event arising from the loss of an aircraft which was based at North Weald Airfield. Whilst it is not possible to make any comment on the circumstances of the accident, I am sure Members will wish to join me in offering the Council's condolences to the families of the pilot and passenger who lost their lives.

## **Estates & Valuation**

The Section 106 Agreement for the redevelopment of the Sir Winston Churchill Public House was signed on 28 March 2013 and the planning permission then issued. The development agreement was also signed at the same time and the Council is now awaiting a project programme from the developer.

## **Economic Development**

Chris Pasterfield has been appointed as a temporary Assistant Director in charge of Asset Management and Economic Development from 1 April 2014 for 12 months and will be preparing an Economic Development Strategy based upon previous work and proposals being developed as part of the new Local Plan. The plan will set the strategy for the Council but then work will commence on a number of Economic Development Strategies to tackle particular issues which will be identified to members on an individual basis.