

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr David Henderson, Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder	Council	20 July 2017	8(c)

Executive Report: Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Street scene

- 2.1 The Parks, Street Cleansing and Area Officer Teams are busy preparing for and supporting the various community events and galas taking place at this time of year, including North West in Bloom, which is taking place this week.
- 2.2 Wyre officers continue to support the development of a joint Fly Tipping Strategy for Lancashire, this will be adopted by the Lancashire Waste Partnership (LWP) next week and partner agencies and Lancashire Local Authorities will continue to work together in an attempt to address this problem. The Lancashire Waste Partnership has become an ambassador of the national Right Waste Right Place campaign – an information campaign to help small businesses and establishments meet their Duty of Care obligations as practically as possible.
- 2.3 We are currently looking at the possibility of Authorised Officers having access to Body Worn Video Cameras (BWV). The BWV would be overt and only functional when required. This could assist officers in a number of ways including gaining evidence to support an enforcement operation but also assisting with officers' safety and mitigating potential aggression. Training would be undertaken prior to their use to ensure operating procedures are followed. The use of BWV has become good practice by many other Local Authorities and enforcement agencies.

4 Parks and open spaces

- 4.1 Initial meetings for the Mount Grounds project were held in June with the design team (Ryder Landscape Consultants) and the consultants assisting with consultation (Tricolor) and activity planning (The Hamilton Project).

A summer programme of pilot activities commenced earlier this month with 'Discovery Club' sessions for local schools that focus on local heritage. Consultation with residents and community groups will take place until December as the proposals for the restoration work and activity programme are developed in more detail.

- 4.2** I am pleased to be able to report that proposals to transform King George's Playing Fields and the land north of Royles Brook in Thornton were well received at an event attended by 77 residents on the 3 June. Applications seeking grant support for a first phase of work are being prepared with a view to that work commencing on site during 2018.
- 4.3** Initial consultation with stakeholders, volunteers and visitors at Wyre Estuary Country Park began last month. The findings will help guide how we might improve facilities in order to maximise the economic significance and tourism potential of the estuary section of the Wyre Way route.
- 4.4** We are currently in the middle of Love Parks Week, which is a national campaign led by Keep Britain Tidy to promote and support the value of parks. This year, for the week we have hosted a theatrical performance of James and the Giant Peach, a community litter pick and on Friday there will be a bat and moth night event in Memorial Park, Fleetwood. Last Sunday, Vicarage Park in Poulton hosted the now annual Big Gig music festival, which grows from strength to strength.

5. Comments and questions

- 5.1** In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with procedure rule 11.5.