

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr Peter Murphy, Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder	Council	12 April 2018	8(d)

Executive Report: Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1** To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Planning and Economic Development Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Coastal Community Teams (Fleetwood and Cleveleys)

Fleetwood

- 2.1** A final Annual Review will be submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) later this year. One shop front signage grant was administered this quarter, leaving one remaining.

Cleveleys

- 2.2** After a successful partnership with HMP Kirkham the painting of the bollards has been completed. Once the weather improves a second phase of improvements will commence, which will include the repainting of some benches and lampposts.
- 2.3** Blackpool and Fylde College art students have been appointed on a voluntary basis to design an interactive map of Cleveleys Town Centre. Once completed it is envisaged that the map will be installed at the bus station shelter. A new notice board has also been donated to the team.
- 2.4** Future project plans include speciality markets in the town, and exploring options for a weekly market.

3. Hillhouse Enterprise Zone (EZ)

- 3.1** Consultants Mott Macdonald are continuing work on the Hillhouse Masterplan. A final draft of the full document was circulated in late March with public and statutory Consultation planned for April. There will be a Consultation Open Day on 4 May at Thornton FC 10am-6pm.

- 3.2** Marketing for the site is underway. Marketing Lancashire are aiming for the Enterprise Zone websites to go 'live' at the end of April and we are continuing to work with them to ensure all the content is correct.

4. Business support

- 4.1** Wyred Up took place at Poolfoot Farm on 6 February. The theme was 'Linking Community and Local Skills With Businesses'. We had Fleetwood Town FC Community Trust presenting and Network Rail. North and Western Lancashire Chamber of Trade, Boost Lancashire, Lancashire Economic Partnership (LEP) Employment Hub, Northern Rail, Blackpool and the Fylde College and Winning Pitch all led a table each and businesses had the chance to ask questions and hear about what support they could offer businesses. The event was a success, with over 40 people in attendance. We also received positive feedback regarding the format and the inclusion of 'speed dating' rather than just general networking.
- 4.2** Preparations are underway to organise the next Wyred Up event on 25 April. The event will take place at the recently opened Fleetwood Museum to showcase this asset to businesses. The workshop will be on The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) a popular topic with the businesses and will also include a tour of the museum.

5. Planning policy

Local Plan

- 5.1** The draft Local Plan was formally submitted to the Planning Inspectorate with all the accompanying evidence base documents on 23 January 2018. The examination of the plan began officially on this date. The Inspector has confirmed that the hearings will take place at the Civic Centre during the weeks commencing 14 May, and 21 May, with a review session on 5 June.
- 5.2** The Inspector has so far submitted a number of written preliminary views on matters and has set out issues for the examination including some initial questions and comments, and responses to these have been sent.

6. Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs)

Preesall Underground Gas Storage Facility – Halite

- 6.1** The Development Consent Order (DCO) was granted for this project on 17 July 2015. The DCO set out a number of formal Requirements (similar to conditions on a planning permission) which the council is responsible for discharging and monitoring. Many of these requirements relate to matters that must be discharged/approved by the local planning authority before any works can commence on any stage of the development. Halite have now begun to submit applications for the discharge of a number of these requirements with a view to formally commencing work on the ground soon. The first stage will comprise the construction of the temporary access road from Hall Gate Lane to Monks Lane, Preesall.

A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool Improvement Scheme

- 6.2** This scheme has been registered with the Planning Inspectorate and is expected to be formally submitted in the third quarter of 2018. Preliminary pre-application work is progressing with the publication of the Statement of Community Consultation which identifies how the proposal is being publicised for comment and sets out the dates/times/location of public consultation events, the first of which was held on 23 March, followed by a further consultation exhibition on 10 April at the Civic Centre.

Hillhouse Enterprise Zone Power Station – Wyre Power

- 6.3** This scheme has also been registered with the Planning Inspectorate although the timetable for formal submission of the application is not yet known. Preliminary investigative work on the environmental impact of the development is ongoing.

7. Comments and questions

- 7.1** 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.