

Report of:	Meeting	Date	Item No.
Councillor Peter Gibson, Leader of the Council and Garry Payne, Chief Executive	Cabinet	16 January, 2013	6

**Shaping Your Neighbourhood –
Locality Plan for Thornton**

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To agree the Locality Plan for Thornton.
- 1.2 To determine the award of Performance Reward Grant (PRG) funding to support community bids delivering priorities identified in the Locality Plan.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 Issues and priorities identified and actioned at a neighbourhood level.
- 2.2 Delivery of projects that are identified as a key priority within the locality plan, demonstrate community support and buy in, benefit the community and the council and are sustainable in the long term without reliance on the council.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Locality Plan for Thornton be agreed.
- 3.2 That the award of Performance Reward Grant funding be agreed as listed at Appendix 2.

4. Background

4.1 The Shaping Your Neighbourhood project was approved by Council in April 2012. The purpose of the project was for communities to be involved in shaping future service delivery so that it better meets their needs.

4.2 Wyre has been split into six neighbourhood areas:-

- Fleetwood

- Thornton
- Cleveleys
- Poulton
- Rural West
- Rural East

4.3 The project is being championed by six Neighbourhood Leads who have been working with Ward councillors, Parish and Town Councils, Community groups, etc. to identify local issues and priorities that matter most to their communities. The information identified is being used to develop a locality plan for each neighbourhood area. Each plan identifies the key issues and priorities and the actions proposed.

5. Key Issues and Proposals

5.1 The Locality Plan for Thornton is set out at Appendix 1. This plan was initially led by, Councillor Julia Anderson, and more recently by Councillor Don MacNaughton who has now taken up the role as Lead Member for the Thornton area.

5.2 Thornton is located towards the west of the River Wyre and is urban in character. It includes the wards of Bourne, Norcross and Staina. The key issues faced in Thornton include flooding; housing and neighbourhood development; transport and road issues; leisure provision and anti-social behaviour. The plan sets out a number of actions that can be delivered by the Council on its own or in partnership with others to help address some of these issues. In addition there are projects proposed for which funding is being sought. The Lead Member will be responsible for reporting progress against the plan every six months to Council.

5.3 A list of the community projects can be seen at Appendix 2. All projects have been evaluated using the funding criteria, as set out in the Shaping Your Neighbourhood Initiative document:-

- Benefits one or more of our neighbourhood areas
- Is a key priority in the Locality Plan
- Has support and buy in from the local community
- Delivers a benefit to the community and or the Council
- Is sustainable in the long term without reliance on the Council

5.4 The projects have been prioritised by the Neighbourhood Lead Member, assessed by the Transformation Team and scored accordingly. The Lead Member has considered a number of different projects but only those projects that meet all the funding criteria have been included in the schedule at Appendix 2. The Council response column provides a recommendation as to whether the community project should be fully funded, partially funded or not at all.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	Within the Performance Reward Initiatives Reserve there is £154,737 unallocated from Performance Reward Grant funding. This takes into account existing commitments and projects agreed by Cabinet at their meetings on 24 th October and 5 th December.
Legal	Each project will need to be evaluated to determine if there are any legal implications.
Community Safety	A number of the proposed actions / projects address community safety issues such as crime and anti-social behaviour.
Equality and Diversity	Our approach will address the need and priorities of all sections of our communities.
Sustainability	One of the key funding criteria is to ensure that projects are sustainable in the long term without reliance on the council.
Health and Safety	Each project will need to be evaluated to determine if there are any health and safety implications.
Risk Management	We need to effectively engage with our communities to ensure that we provide the best value for money services and to ensure that we build a positive reputation for Wyre Council.
Asset Management	Each project will need to be evaluated to determine if there are any Asset Management implications.
Climate Change	One of the actions to tackle fuel poverty is around the development of a community energy campaign.

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List of Background Papers:		
Name of Document	Date	Where available for inspection
Neighbourhood engagement in Wyre – Cabinet report	7 December 2011	http://www.wyre.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/143/cabinet
Shaping Your Neighbourhood – Council report	26 April 2012	http://www.wyre.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/129/full_council

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix One – Thornton Locality Plan

Appendix Two – Thornton Locality Plan - Community Projects requesting PRG funding

Thornton Locality Plan

Key Issue / Priorities	Brief Description	Lead Person and / or Ward Councillor	Action Proposed	Timescales
Surface water issues /flooding	A number of the areas in Thornton are subject to flooding, particularly during heavy rainfall.	Carl Green, Head of Engineering Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore potential projects for alternative storage of water e.g. in ponds, and within parks. • Work closely with the Flood Forum to address issues. • Continue to revise and review generic and specific emergency plans, building on lessons learned from flood situations and planning exercises. 	All ongoing actions
Housing & neighbourhood development	Development of affordable housing, & retail outlets needed particularly to complement the development of the Hillhouse site to support the future increase in jobs and businesses in the area.	David Thow, – Head of Planning Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional affordable homes are prioritised for development/delivery in Thornton 	Ongoing
Contaminated land	Closure of the former ICI site has left a large area of contaminated land.	Neil Greenwood, Head of Environmental Services and Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with developers to ensure that developments are safe and suitable for the purpose intended. 	Ongoing

Key Issue / Priorities	Brief Description	Lead Person and / or Ward Councillor	Action Proposed	Timescales
Cycling pathways	Improvement and development of pathways required in Thornton	David Thow, Head of Planning Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the Thornton Cycle Route: Norcross to Blackpool Promenade, with Lancashire Highway Services 	Completion expected by end of December 2012
Transport & roads	<p>Traffic around the multi-way junction at Sacred Heart school of concern. No controlled crossing points in place.</p> <p>Rail link between Poulton and Thornton/Burn Naze. Some preparatory work already done with the community in Thornton.</p>	Carl Green, Head of Engineering & David Thow, Head of Planning Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise with LCC through the third tier forum Work with Network Rail to investigate the feasibility for re-instatement of the Poulton to Fleetwood Rail Link (through pursuing the GRIP 2 study). Wyre and LCC have jointly agreed the funding. 	<p>Unknown</p> <p>Unknown expected in 2013.</p>
Leisure provision	<p>Need for better local provision and quality of all weather pitches.</p> <p>Reports of lots of young people hanging out with no outdoor places to go.</p> <p>Provision of play facilities to the east of the former railway and west of Fleetwood Road identified as a need.</p>	Ian Munro, Head of Culture, Leisure and Tourism Services	<p>The leisure review will seek to meet the aspirations of local people. The consultation includes an urban sports option directed at young people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considered under the Core Strategy Project proposal: Under 6 year olds play facilities at Stanah Country Park 	<p>Consultation concludes November 2012</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

Key Issue / Priorities	Brief Description	Lead Person and / or Ward Councillor	Action Proposed	Timescales
	Lack of provision for allotments	Maria Blundy, Head of Built Environment/ Julie Paton, LCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist interested groups and discuss possibilities with LCC under their allotment project. 	Ongoing
Community	Distinct lack of support services and meeting places for the older community.	Neil Greenwood, Head of Environmental Services and Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with Wyre Together to assess community links. 	Ongoing
ASB	<p>Youth related anti-social behaviour is identified as an issue. A particular hot spot identified is in precinct around the Coop.</p> <p>Also issues with young folk engaging in urban sports on the streets e.g. free running, skateboarding.</p> <p>Criminal damage in the staina ward has increased over the past year as a result.</p>	Neil Greenwood, Head of Environmental Services and Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This has been picked up in the leisure review which will seek to meet the aspirations of local people. The consultation includes an urban sports option. 	Consultation concludes end of November 2012

Key Issue / Priorities	Brief Description	Lead Person and / or Ward Councillor	Action Proposed	Timescales
Parking	Crabtree Road is identified as in need of resurfacing with a request that the yellow lines be extended from the junction with Heys Street up to and possibly beyond houses to prevent parking on the bend. A lot of children use this road due to the play barn that is situated on the bend.	Carl Green, Head of Engineering Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further investigation required. Issue will be raised through the LCC three tier forum. 	11 March 2013
Open space/ greenbelt	Development of housing will reduce the green space and highlight the lack of available green space for new householders to enjoy.	David Thow, Head of Planning Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with planning to ascertain layout for new development and areas of green space. Consider green space with new development as part of the Core Strategy. • Project Proposed: Thornton Community Corridor 	Ongoing

Thornton Locality Plan – Community Projects requesting PRG funding

Project and Brief Description	Which Priority it relates to	Project Owner	Total Funding Requested	Further Information	Priority	Score (out of 10)	Council Response	Funding Recommended
<p>Play Facilities at Stanah Country Park -Under 6 year olds</p> <p>To expand the current play facilities, which are designed for older children to include an area for families with babies and young children.</p>	Leisure Provision	Cllr Julia Anderson	£76,608	The quote encompasses equipment and decorative structures that are in keeping with the materials and aesthetics of the current facility	1	7	It is recommended that £62,000 be granted. This will fund installation, the main items of play equipment, and some seating. Other items of furniture eg decorative posts, boulders and picnic benches can be considered by Parks and Open Spaces if identified as needed once the facility is in place.	£62,000
<p>Thornton Community Corridor</p> <p>Development and improvement of a pathway between Thornton Library car park and the rear of Ashdell nursery, extending to the area behind the Church Road surgery and linking Council owned land with existing pathways.</p>	Open Space	Jenifer Phillips on behalf of Thornton Action Group (TAG)	£70,000	<p>The cost is deemed flexible i.e. depending on the area of land made available.</p> <p>TAG believe that there is a right of way with protected status trees along the 'proposed path'. The Council are currently running a Title Check on this land.</p>	2	6	No provision has been made for lighting within this scheme. The group hope that lighting can be sought at a later time through funds from the private developer. Part of the land is also under review and therefore until the plans are known it is not recommended for funding.	£0
Total Funding in Thornton			£146,608					£62,000