

<b>Subject:</b>	Corporate Projects Update	<b>Status:</b>	For Publication
<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	<b>Date:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> June 2012
<b>Report of:</b>	Chief Executive	<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Leader of the Council
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	General Exception <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Community Impact Assessment:</b>	Required: No	Attached:	No
<b>Biodiversity Impact Assessment</b>	Required: No	Attached:	No
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1.	<b>RECOMMENDATION(S)</b>
1.1	That the contents of this report be noted.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To update Members on the progress of the Council's Corporate Projects.

## 3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:

- **A clean and green Rossendale** – creating a better environment for all.
- **A healthy and successful Rossendale** – supporting vibrant communities and a strong economy.
- **Responsive and value for money local services** – responding to and meeting the different needs of customers and improving the cost effectiveness of services.

## 4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

## 5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

### Valley Centre

- 5.1 The demolition of the structure was completed in April and the site formally handed back to the Council.
- 5.2 The Council's environment team are now on site undertaking the landscaping scheme which should be completed by late August 2012.
- 5.3 The bid for £16,700 funding for the Historia project from the Your Heritage Lottery Fund was successful and the commissions for the projects have been tendered and let.
- 5.4 The Historia project will be delivered in two phases. Phase one will focus on a series of interlinked workshops and activities the theme of which is to celebrate people's memories of the recently demolished Astoria Dance Hall. These will include work with young people in schools and with volunteers from community groups to facilitate them recording oral histories of the Astoria Dance Hall, compiling a collection of old photographs of the Astoria Dance Hall and new local photographs of various forms of dance and the creation of a digital record of the collected oral histories of the Astoria Dance Hall which will then be lodged at the North

West Sound Archive and local Library/Museum. Phase two will fund the installation of a mosaic on site reflecting the oral histories collected in phase one.

### **Promoting the Borough (Signage)**

- 5.5 As part of the wider efforts to support the promotion of the borough, the Council has been working with colleagues in Lancashire County Council to agree a project to renew and repair signage across the borough.
- 5.6 The project will incorporate directional signage to the Valley's key attractions and parking areas and also provides the opportunity to de-clutter the current signage.
- 5.7 A copy of the proposed scheme, which is in line with the requirements of Lancashire County Council, is attached as Appendix 1. A contract for the works has been let and once the signs are manufactured the roll out of the scheme is anticipated to start in October 2012.
- 5.8 The Highways Agency are responsible for the main M66 and A56 roads leading to Rossendale and they have been approached to agree improved 'welcoming' signage into the borough. If they are in agreement with this proposal it will be included in the roll out programme for the borough.

### **Vocational Training Centre**

- 5.9 The application for planning consent for the site was approved by Development Control Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2012.
- 5.10 Works have now started on site and are due to be completed in June 2012 in time for the first intake of students in September.

### **Bacup Trail Head Centre**

- 5.11 The opportunity to develop a trail head centre on sites at futures park was widely advertised in April 2012.
- 5.12 Following evaluation it has been agreed to proceed with the submission from Ride On, a local company currently based in Rawtenstall.
- 5.13 It is anticipated that the legal agreement will be in place by September 2012 and an application for Planning consent made towards the end of 2012. The outcome of the negotiations concerning the legal agreement and land transfer will be the subject of a further report to Cabinet which will consider the proposal in more detail.

### **Marl Pits**

- 5.14 Following the completion of all the pre-start utility requirements, the main contractor commenced on site 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012, with a 38 week construction programme.
- 5.15 The construction programme is in three section phases: Car Park Extension (completion due 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2012), New Building/Pitches (completion due 25<sup>th</sup> September 2012) and final Car Park/Handover (due 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012). At the time of writing the first stage is expected to be completed 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012 ahead of schedule.

**COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:**

**6. SECTION 151 OFFICER**

6.1 Any financial implications arising from the report will be contained within previously identified budget resources.

**7. MONITORING OFFICER**

7.1 Any legal implications are commented on in the body of the report.

**8. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)**

8.1 Any human resource implications will be met from existing resources.

**9. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT**

9.1 Each project has various consultees as part of its development.

**10. CONCLUSION**

10.1 Significant progress continues to be made on delivering the Council key priority projects.