

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr Peter Murphy, Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder	Council	18 January 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 Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) next year. There are still two pending shop front signage grants to administer and these will commence shortly.

**Cleveleys**

- 2.2** In December a festive 'Christmas Cleveleys' event took place in the town centre. There was a variety of festive street foods and a community carol. It was organised in partnership with the Cleveleys Rotary and the Dream Team Singers.

**3. Hillhouse Enterprise Zone (EZ)**

- 3.1** Consultants Mott Macdonald are continuing work on the Hillhouse Masterplan and a six week public consultation will start in early 2018, with formal approval and adoption of the masterplan by the Council in the spring.
- 3.2** As I stated at the last meeting Wyre Power Ltd (part of the NPL Group), signed a collaboration agreement at the House of Commons with China Machinery Engineering Corporation to progress proposals for a 900MW gas fired power station at the heart of the EZ. This project has been registered with the Planning Inspectorate as a major infrastructure project and pre submission work, including consultation with stakeholders including the Council, will take place in the first half of 2018.

## **4. Business support**

- 4.1** Following the success of the 4th Wyre Business Awards the award winners were showcased in local media publications including the Blackpool Gazette and the Lancashire Evening Post. The twitter news feed on the night of the awards reached an all-time high with streams of social media messages flowing in for days after, meaning that this year's event received more media coverage than ever before.
- 4.2** Small Business Saturday took place on 2 December. Free parking was available on all council car parks to encourage footfall into the town centres. Many businesses across Wyre took part by staying open late and promoting special offers. Independent Garstang Traders offered double points for their Love Garstang Loyalty Shopping scheme, which proved a great success.

## **5. Planning policy**

### **Local Plan**

- 5.1** Following the six week consultation on the 'Publication' draft Wyre Local Plan valid representations have been received from 254 separate individuals/organisations. Each individual matter has been registered as a separate representation and as a result 1,145 representations have been registered and summarised. In addition, 'late' representations were received from 7 individuals/organisations and these have not been accepted as 'duly made' representations and will not be sent to the Inspector.
- 5.2** Owing to the number of issues raised, the Local Plan will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate by 31 January.
- 5.3** Following submission, the Inspector will go through the material and may have preliminary questions for the council. The Inspector will then decide what matters need to be further debated at a set of hearings which will be organised by the appointed programme officer. It is expected that the hearing sessions will take place after Easter in April.

## **6. Comments and questions**

- 6.1** 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.