



Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Simon Bridge, Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder	Council	2 December 2021

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. Parks and open spaces

- 2.1** This autumn The Bay a Blueprint for Recovery project was launched. The project is designed to fight the isolation and loneliness caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. There is growing evidence showing that more time in nature helps improve mental health, with people referred to the project spending time surrounded by the natural beauty of Morecambe Bay.

Funded by a variety of organisations there are three teams based around the bay with one being located within Wyre. Council officers have been working with them to develop opportunities for wellbeing activities to take place in Wyre's parks and open spaces. The project provides an opportunity to connect with the natural world, learn new skills and connect with like-minded people.

These sessions are now being offered weekly from Towers Wood, Rossall Point Tower and beach and Wyre Estuary Country Park. The partnership with Wyre will enable the project leaders to support people to undertake small scale positive environmental tasks on these sites and for the customers of the project to become connected to their local green and blue spaces.

- 2.2** The Wyre Great Outdoors winter programme continues with a range of activities on offer as well as the weekly health walks, rides and beach cleans. During half term Xplorer and craft activities took place at Wyre Estuary Country Park.

The Friends of Memorial Park with the support of the Activity Officer held a well-attended pumpkin carving event and recipe ideas were shared to minimise food waste.

- 2.3** The activities at the Mount and surrounding areas with the scientist in residence continue to engage local children with support from the wider community. Recent sessions were focused on the different nautical vessels used in the Fleetwood area and investigations into the type of marine life found in the bay. Over the festive period the Mount will be transformed into magical experience for children visiting Father Christmas.

3. Waste and recycling

- 3.1** The feedback on forthcoming changes to the Waste and resources Sector that will have significant implications for Wyre has been further delayed. DEFRA officials are suggesting it may be early new year when decisions are made and communicated with Local Authorities and the wider industry on the expectations and funding mechanisms.

4. Street Scene

- 4.1** The Wyre in Bloom Awards were held on 24 November and a verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

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.