

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr. Lynne Bowen, Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder	Council	19 July 2018	7(f)

Executive Report: Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1** To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Environmental Health

- 2.1** The Council has a duty to enforce Health and Safety legislation within many small businesses operating in the area. When accidents are reported we review the accident and decide whether further investigation is needed. During 2017/18, 61 work related accidents were reported resulting in 16 investigations. Three of these cases developed into detailed investigations.
- 2.2** One of these investigations revealed serious health and safety breaches which led to an employee requiring significant surgery after a small explosion at his place of work. In this case we found it necessary to prosecute the employer who later admitted the Health and Safety breaches at Court. This resulted in the firm being fined £36,000.
- 2.3** Whilst Health and Safety legislation is often maligned, it is important to note that good health and safety controls protect employees and I would like to encourage all employers to consider the risks that their business might pose to staff and take suitable steps in the control of risks.

Noise App Launched

- 2.4** We have launched the use of a Noise App – a faster, easier way to submit noise evidence. We receive many complaints from residents complaining about noise from neighbours but to take any action we must be able to satisfy ourselves that the noise being complained about would represent a statutory nuisance which is defined in law. In order to assist in this investigation we have invested in the purchase and use of a noise app, which can be downloaded from the Apple and Google Play Stores onto a smart phone. The App can then be used to make recordings of the problem noise for submission as evidence. I would encourage

anyone experiencing problematic noise to download the app. It is hoped that the app will be beneficial for both victims of noise pollution and ourselves and that, along with our mediation service, this will assist in the early resolution of complaints.

3. Arts, Events and Volunteering

SpareParts, Tram Sunday and The Fish Project

- 3.1** Last weekend Fleetwood hosted another successful Tram Sunday Festival. The transport related arts festival, SpareParts, is now an established part of the day and this year welcomed some new exciting and interactive art installations, including a row of virtual reality swings and action art cars. With its strategic funding from the Arts Council, SpareParts is now a high profile North West event.
- 3.2** Artist in residence at Fleetwood Market Linda Copeland has created fish sculptures constructed from recycled plastic. The project which highlighted the plight of ocean creatures and their struggles against waste plastic, took place every Thursday and Friday leading up to Tram Sunday and the SpareParts festival. The fish formed part of the community arts parade.

Bumper Number of Events

- 3.3** Events in Wyre are booming. With the glorious weather scores of successful events have taken place across the District. New events for this season have been the Trawlerman Triathlon in Fleetwood for young sportsmen and women, a showcase of Shakespeare from local schools at Wyre Estuary Country Park, and #JamesFest at Cleveleys. Our established events continue to grow in scale and attendance with numbers attending the Cleveleys Classic Car Show estimated to be as high as 30,000 people.
- 3.4** We are putting together a “summer stuff” online brochure that will highlight all the events that the council is running over the summer, and that will showcase our attractions such as at Rossall Point, the coastline and our parks. This will be available to view on our website, the Discover Wyre website and on all our social media accounts.

4. Sports Development

Love My Beach Active Coast

- 4.1** On 11 June, to celebrate the launch of the LOVEmyBEACH Active Coast Programme (created to showcase the variety of activities that can be enjoyed at the beach and along our coastline), we showcased activities in Fleetwood. This included kayaking, lifesaving skills and water walkers, supported by Fylde Coast YMCA, at The Boating Lake with health walks and cycling for people with disabilities along the promenade. Follow www.facebook.com/LmBActiveCoast for more information. Pupils from Charles Saer Community Primary School joined us on the day and had a great time trying out new water based activities for the first time.

Community Health and Wellbeing Projects

4.2 A number of projects are now being delivered following Fleetwood Town Football Club Community Trusts' successful application to the Walney Extension Community Fund which we supported. These projects include:

4.2.1 Menactive - a men's health and lifestyle management programme which aims to raise awareness and tackle heart disease, low physical activity levels, cancer prevention and mental health and wellbeing. To date 32 men have been engaged on the programme resulting in 151 visits to 12 sessions.

4.2.2 Employability and Skills Development Training – a series of twelve week traineeship programmes are being delivered for 16-18 year olds who need support to get back into education, training or employment together with short adult courses for anyone aged 19+ who is unemployed. 41 young people aged 16-23 have benefitted from the programme so far with some really positive outcomes in moving forward and personal development:

- 34 have completed qualifications in employability and personal development including Maths and English at a higher level
- 35 have gained work experience and references
- 19 have gone into part-time or full-time employment
- three have moved into Further Education
- All have reported an improvement in mental health, confidence and motivation.

4.2.3 Family Wellness Programme - Working with local schools, twelve weeks of health sessions are being delivered for seven families whose children attend Flakefleet and Shakespeare Primary Schools.

5. Marine Hall and Thornton Little Theatre

5.1 The first wedding of this year was held at Marine Hall on Saturday 23 June. Over 400 guests from around the world attended this fabulous African/American/British wedding celebration. Photos from the day can be seen on our Facebook page for Marine Hall and Thornton Little Theatre, which is attracting a growing number of followers. There are three more weddings booked into Marine Hall in August this year. Our first wedding ceremony at the Mount Pavilion will also take place.

5.2 On Monday 25 June, BBC Radio Lancashire broadcast live from Marine Hall as part of the John Gilmore show. We were able to promote future events taking place at both venues throughout the summer - as well as mentioning the ongoing development of our venues for weddings.

5.3 A number of children's performances have taken place at Thornton Little Theatre this June and July, produced by local arts and community organisations and involving local children.

5.4

Supporting The Fleetwood Festival of Transport Marine Hall opened up the Wyre Lounge and provided free entertainment between 5pm and 10pm.

5.5

In September, the Wyre Lounge will be used as a fringe venue for The Fleetwood Folk and Blues Festival over the festival weekend. This will be a free event for all, including many bands across the weekend. We are very happy to welcome the Festival back to the venue after a break of many years.

5.6

The new programme for the Theatres is out now, featuring a diverse list of shows and performances taking place throughout this year and into next.

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.