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Dear Councillor

The next meeting of the **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** Committee will be held at **6.30 pm** on **THURSDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2022** in the **Council Chamber, 13 Church Street, Clitheroe, BB7 2DD**.

I do hope you can be there.

Yours sincerely

M. H. Scott

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 3 - 6)
3. **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY, OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON REGISTRABLE INTERESTS**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interest in respect of matters contained in the agenda.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

ITEMS FOR DECISION

None.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5. **REVENUE OUTTURN 2021/22** (Pages 7 - 12)
Report of Director of Resources enclosed.
6. **REVENUE MONITORING 2022/23** (Pages 13 - 16)
Report of Director of Resources enclosed.

7. **CAPITAL MONITORING 2022/23** (Pages 17 - 22)
Report of Director of Resources enclosed.
8. **FOOD FESTIVAL 2022** (Pages 23 - 24)
Report of Director of Community Services enclosed.
9. **WELCOME BACK FUND - UPDATE** (Pages 25 - 26)
Report of Director of Economic Development and Planning enclosed.
10. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**
None.
11. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**
None.

Electronic agendas sent to members of Economic Development – Councillor Louise Edge (Chair), Councillor David Berryman, Councillor David Birtwhistle, Councillor Robert (Bob) Buller, Councillor Judith Clark, Councillor Rosemary (Rosie) Elms, Councillor Steve Farmer (Vice-Chair), Councillor Stewart Fletcher, Councillor Jonathan Hill, Councillor Mark Hindle, Councillor Simon Hore, Councillor Ged Mirfin, Councillor Robert Thompson and Councillor Robin Walsh.

Contact: Democratic Services on 01200 414408 or committee.services@ribblevalley.gov.uk

Agenda Item 2

Minutes of Economic Development

Meeting Date: Thursday, 16 June 2022, starting at 6.30 pm
Present: Councillor L Edge (Chair)

Councillors:

D Berryman	S Fletcher
S Bibby	J Hill
D Birtwhistle	M Hindle
B Buller	S Hore
J Clark	G Mirfin
R Elms	R Thompson
S Farmer	R Walsh

In attendance: Director of Economic Development and Planning, Head of Regeneration and Housing and Senior Accountant

101 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

102 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

103 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY, OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

Councillor L Edge declared a non registrable interest in Agenda Item 9 – Land at A59.

104 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

105 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2021/22

The Director of Resources submitted a report seeking member approval for the slippage of a capital scheme budget from the 2021/22 financial year to the 2022/23 financial year.

Actual expenditure on this Committee's capital programme was £7,950, which was 15.9% of the revised estimate budget.

One of the two schemes in the revised capital programme were completed in-year.

Slippage of £3000 was requested to fund expenditure on that scheme in 2022/23.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

Approve the slippage of £3,000 budget into the 2022/23 capital programme for the Economic Development Initiatives scheme.

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report to inform Committee of general progress on tourism activity, including measures taken to support the visitor economy following the pandemic, and the priorities as we continue through to recovery.

The report explained that Officers had worked closely with the Ribble Valley Tourism Association to launch a 'Response and Recovery Plan', following the suspension of the previously reported 'Destination Management Plan' due to the pandemic.

The 'Response and Recovery Plan' aimed to support tourism, through effective communication and forward-thinking marketing initiatives.

The report included predictions, campaigns, events, and areas of focus set out in the plan. It was noted that The Tourism Gathering had been successful and had attracted more than one hundred participants from local tourism and hospitality businesses.

Committee were asked to note that the main issue was the way in which the Council continued to respond to the pandemic and other economic and environmental influences. The Council's strategy was evolving with the changing circumstances and was reflected in the 'Response and Recovery Plan', noting that in the near future a more comprehensive tourism strategy would be developed.

Members agreed that they would welcome further detail on The Council's Tourism Strategy in support of this topic.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from representatives on outside bodies.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the next item of business being exempt information under Paragraph 1 Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

LAND AT A59

Councillor S Farmer took over the remit of Chair for this item.
Councillor Edge took no part in the debate or vote.

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report updating Committee on the Development Appraisal work for the land along the A59 in Clitheroe.

Members were reminded that, following an approach from Taylor Weaver Ltd with an offer to the Council to purchase land along the A59, in March 2021 Committee resolved to:

1. Agree to the appointment of consultants to undertake a Development Appraisal of the land;
2. Agree a total budget of up to £20,000 for the Development Appraisal to be sourced from the Economic Development Initiatives budget.

In September 2021, Committee agreed to increase the budget to £30,000 due to the challenge in procuring consultants to undertake the work within the previously agreed budget.

The report included the intended considerations of the Appraisal and the requirements of The Council as the client.

It was noted that there were high infrastructure costs due to various constraints on the site including access and physical characteristics. The report explained that two options had therefore been considered in respect of the site development, and a viability appraisal of both options had been undertaken.

The resulting Land Appraisal was contained within the report and Officers updated Committee of their considerations in respect of the Appraisal, recommending that the Council not pursue with the consideration of purchasing the land.

Officers answered a number of questions from Members, who discussed the appraisal and noted that it would be a useful source of information going forward when considering other land.

Members requested some further data behind the high-level numbers that supported the appraisal to gain further understanding.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

Agree that Officers inform Taylor Weaver Ltd that the Council will not be pursuing with the consideration of purchasing this land.

The meeting closed at 7.13 pm

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact the committee clerk, Olwen Heap 01200 414408 olwen.heap@ribblevalley.gov.uk.

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RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

meeting date: 8 SEPTEMBER 2022
 title: REVENUE OUTTURN 2021/22
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: HELEN SEEDALL

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To report on the outturn for the financial year 2021/22 in respect of the Revenue Budget for this Committee.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – none identified
- Corporate Priorities – to continue to be a well-managed Council, providing efficient services based on identified customer need and meets the objective within this priority to maintain critical financial management controls, ensuring the authority provides council tax payers with value for money.
- Other Considerations – none identified

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Our full Statement of Accounts were signed off for audit by the Director of Resources on 29 July 2022 and are now subject to audit.

2.2 The Statement of Accounts are expected to be submitted for approval to Accounts and Audit Committee at their meeting on 28 September 2022.

3 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

3.1 Shown below, by cost centre, is a comparison with the revised estimate. You will see an overall underspend of -£4,597 on the net cost of services. After transfers to and from earmarked reserves overall there is an underspend of -£21,123. This has been added to General Fund Balances.

3.2 The table below provides a summary of actual spend against the revised estimate budget and the associated variance.

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Revised Estimate 2021/22 £	Actual 2021/22 £	Variation £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
ALBNM	Albion Mill	-520	-3,546	-3,026	0	-3,026
INDDV	Economic Development	175,200	175,471	271	-16,523	-16,252
RHSSF	Reopening High Streets Safely Fund	0	-1,410	-1,410	0	-1,410
TURSM	Tourism & Events	119,040	118,608	-432	-3	-435
NET COST OF SERVICES		293,720	289,123	-4,597	-16,526	-21,123

4 EARMARKED RESERVES

4.1 Reserves are important to local authorities as, unlike central government, we cannot borrow money over the medium term, other than for investment in assets, and we are required to balance our budgets on an annual basis.

4.2 Reserves can be held for three main purposes:

- A working balance to help cushion the impact of uneven cash flows and avoid unnecessary temporary borrowing;
- A contingency to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies. This also forms part of general reserves;
- A means of building up funds or accounting for funds we are committed to spend (i.e. grants received), this is done through our earmarked reserves to meet known or predicted requirements; our earmarked reserves are accounted for separately but remain legally part of the General Fund.

4.3 The table below provides details of the Revised Estimate, our actual outturn and the impact in both cases on the movement in earmarked reserves. Full details are provided below of the earmarked reserves that have been impacted and the reasons for the movements.

	Revised Estimate 2021/22 £	Outturn £	Variance £	Reason for Movement on Earmarked Reserve
Committee Net Cost of Services	293,720	289,123	-4,597	
CPBAL/H330 Capital Reserve The capital reserve is a reserve where resources are set aside to fund future capital programme spend. Income from the sale of assets of a value less than £10,000 is credited to the revenue account and then transferred to this earmarked reserve.	0	-16,528	-16,528	To fund appraisal work carried out by consultants regarding the possible purchase of a piece of land along the A59 that was originally part of a capital project. However, as the purchase has not proceeded the consultancy work has been charged to the revenue account in line with accounting rules.
EDBAL/H386 Restoring Your Railways Reserve Balance of grant income received to fund the preparation of a business case for the reopening of the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers.	-7,490	-7,485	5	To use funding that was set aside to fund consultants to produce the final report for a strategic outline business case for restoring the Clitheroe to Hellifield rail line.

	Revised Estimate 2021/22 £	Outturn £	Variance £	Reason for Movement on Earmarked Reserve
EDBAL/H276 Promotions Activities Reserve This reserve has been setup to carry forward unspent budget funding for Tourism Publicity which has been delayed in 2020/21 due to unforeseen circumstances.	-5,330	-5,333	-3	To release funding set aside for expenditure on Tourism Publicity in 21/22 which was delayed in 20/21 due to the changing restrictions to tackle Covid-19.
Committee Net Cost of Services after Movements on Earmarked Reserves	280,900	259,777	-21,123	

5 KEY MOVEMENTS FROM REVISED ESTIMATE TO OUTTURN

- 5.1 The main variations have been extracted and are shown with the Budget Holder's comments at Annex 1. However, a summary of the major variations is set out in the table below.

Service Area	Description of Variance	Amount £
Economic Development: Consultants	Expenditure incurred in respect of consultants engaged to appraise the possible purchase of a piece of land along the A59 that was originally a capital project. However, as the purchase has not proceeded, the consultancy work has been charged to the revenue account in line with accounting rules. The expenditure is being funded by use of a reserve set aside for the capital project.	£16,523

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 There have been a number of variations in both income and expenditure during the year, and this has given rise to an overall underspend of -£4,597 on the net cost of services. After transfers to and from earmarked reserves there is an overall underspend of -£21,123.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

ED4-22/HS/AC
19 August 2022

BACKGROUND PAPERS

*Revised Estimates approved by Committee on 20 January 2022
Closedown Working Papers*

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – REVENUE OUTTURN 2021/22 VARIANCES

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Variance in Capital Costs £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
<u>ALBNM: Albion Mill</u>							
A saving was achieved in legal fees due to there being no changes in tenants during the year.	-£1,910				-£1,910		-£1,910
A saving was achieved as the allowance for repairs and maintenance costs was not required during the year.	-£1,100				-£1,100		-£1,100
Total Albion Mill	-£3,010				-£3,010		-£3,010
<u>INDDV: Economic Development</u>							
Lower requirement for use of the subscriptions budget in 21/22.	-£6,431				-£6,431		-£6,431
Expenditure incurred in respect of consultants engaged to appraise the possible purchase of a piece of land along the A59 that was originally a capital project. However, as the purchase has not proceeded, the consultancy work has been charged to the revenue account in line with accounting rules. The expenditure is being funded by use of a reserve set aside for the capital project.	£16,523				£16,523	-£16,523	£0

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Variance in Capital Costs £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
There has been a lower than estimated requirement for expenditure on promotional activities during the year.	-£3,970				-£3,970		-£3,970
The recharge of the Economic Development and Planning Department costs were lower than estimated due to decreased salary costs as a result of vacancy savings and reduced support service costs.			-£5,622		-£5,622		-£5,622
Total Economic Development	£6,122		-£5,622		£500	-£16,523	-£16,023
<u>RHSSF: Reopening High Streets Safely Fund</u>							
Total claim to the Reopening High Streets Safely Fund was higher than forecast due to additional expenditure being eligible for claiming that is recorded in other cost centres.		-£1,410			-£1,410		-£1,410
Total Reopening High Streets Safely Fund		-£1,410			-£1,410		-£1,410
<u>TURSM: Tourism & Events</u>							
Reduction in expenditure on postage due to increased use of the internet to communicate publicity material.	-£1,894				-£1,894		-£1,894
Lower than estimated funding received from the Kickstart scheme due to the job holder leaving the scheme early. The Kickstart Scheme provided funding for 6 months to create new jobs for 16 to 24 year olds who were receiving Universal Credit and at risk of experiencing long term unemployment.		£2,373			£2,373		£2,373

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Variance in Capital Costs £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
Saving on the recharge of the support service costs due to reduced expenditure within those service areas.			-£1,178		-£1,178		-£1,178
Total Tourism & Events	-£1,894	£2,373	-£1,178		-£699		-£699
	£1,218	£963	-£6,800	£0	-£4,619	-£16,523	-£21,142
					£22	-£3	£19
Total Variances for Economic Development Committee (Net Cost of Services)					-£4,597	-£16,526	-£21,123

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

meeting date: 8 SEPTEMBER 2022
 title: REVENUE MONITORING 2022/23
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: HELEN SEEDALL

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To let you know the position for the period April to July 2022 of this year's revenue budget as far as this committee is concerned.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

Community Objectives – none identified

Corporate Priorities - to continue to be a well managed Council providing efficient services based on identified customer need. To meet the objective within this priority, of maintaining critical financial management controls, ensuring the authority provides council tax payers with value for money.

Other Considerations – none identified.

2 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2.1 Shown below, by cost centre, is a comparison between actual expenditure and the revised estimate for the period to the end of July. You will see an overall overspend of £4,941 on the net cost of services. Please note that underspends are denoted by figures with a minus symbol.

	Cost Centre Name	Net Budget for the full year	Net Budget to the end of the period	Actual including commitments to the end of the period	Variance	
ALBNM	Albion Mill	790	12,717	12,085	-632	G
INDDV	Economic Development	239,570	0	199	199	G
RHSSF	Reopening High Streets Safely Fund	0	0	256	256	G
TURSM	Tourism and Events	117,530	7,587	12,705	5,118	R
	Sum:	357,890	20,304	25,245	4,941	

2.2 The variations between budget and actuals have been split into groups of red, amber and green variance. The red variances highlight specific areas of high concern, for which budget holders are required to have an action plan. Amber variances are potential areas of high concern and green variances are areas, which currently do not present any significant concern.

Key to Variance shading	
Variance of more than £5,000 (Red)	R
Variance between £2,000 and £4,999 (Amber)	A
Variance less than £2,000 (Green)	G

2.3 For this committee there are no variations which fall within the red variance category in the period April to July 2022.

2.4 There is one variation in the amber variance category which is shown with the budget holder's comment at Annex 1.

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 The comparison between actual and budgeted expenditure shows an overspend of £4,941 for the first four months of the financial year 2022/23.

3.2 One amber variation has been flagged for reporting with all other variations being of low value. Assurances can be given that there are no areas of spend that present any significant concern.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

ED5-22/HS/AC
19 August 2022

Economic Development Committee Budget Monitoring – Amber Variances

Ledger Code	Ledger Code Name	Budget for the Full Year	Budget to the end of the period	Actual including commitments to the end of the period	Variance	Reason for Variance
TURSM/3263	Tourism and Events/Publicity	21,200	7,072	9,911	2,839	Greater demand for use of the publicity budget in the period to July 2022 including the production of Walks with Taste leaflets however, there are contributions expected to offset the cost of these.

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RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

meeting date: 8 SEPTEMBER 2022
 title: CAPITAL MONITORING 2022/23
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: ANDREW COOK

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To report the progress on this Committee's 2022/23 capital programme for the period to the end of July 2022.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – none identified.
- Corporate Priorities – to continue to be a well-managed council, providing efficient services based on identified customer need.
- Other considerations – none identified.

2 2022/23 CAPITAL PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

2.1 One capital scheme for this Committee's original estimate budget, totalling £51,750, was approved by the Policy and Finance Committee and Full Council at their meetings in February 2022 and March 2022 respectively. This related to part of a capital scheme budget that had been moved from the 2021/22 capital programme to the 2022/23 capital programme.

2.2 £3,000 of budget on the part of the capital scheme budget that had been left in the 2021/22 capital programme was unspent at 31 March 2022. This is known as slippage and has been moved into the 2022/23 capital programme budget, after approval by this Committee in June 2022.

2.3 As a result of the above, the total approved budget for this Committee's capital programme of one scheme is £54,750.

3 CAPITAL MONITORING 2022/23

3.1 The table below summarises the progress on this Committee's one capital scheme, as at the end of July 2022. Annex 1 shows financial information and budget holder comments to date for the scheme.

Cost Centre	Scheme	Original Estimate 2022/23 £	Budget Moved from 2021/22 £	Slippage from 2021/22 £	Total Approved Budget 2022/23 £	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2022 £	Remaining Budget as at end of July 2022 £
ECDVI	Economic Development Initiatives	0	51,750	3,000	54,750	0	54,750
Economic Development Committee Total		0	51,750	3,000	54,750	0	54,750

3.2 At the end of July 2022 there had been no spend on the **Economic Development Initiatives** capital scheme. This is because there were no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress at the end of July 2022 that were likely to be funded from this economic development capital budget. At this stage, it is unclear if the scheme budget will be spent by financial year-end.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 At the end of July 2022, there had been no spend on this Committee's one capital scheme. It is unclear if the scheme budget will be spent by financial year-end.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

ED6-22/AC/AC
30 August 2022

For further background information please ask for Andrew Cook.

BACKGROUND PAPERS – None

Economic Development Committee – Capital Programme 2022/23

Economic Development Initiatives

Service Area: Regeneration and Housing

Submitted by: Colin Hirst

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The project is to establish a general source of pump-priming and pre-investment funding to support the delivery of the Council's economic priorities. The bid particularly seeks to support our high growth sectors in the provision of land and premises or tourism infrastructure where applicable. The Council needs to be able to develop and respond to initiatives that will support delivery of business growth. In order to develop schemes, funding needs to be available to undertake works in areas such as valuation and feasibility assessments, due-diligence, initial planning and design work. As projects progress funding needs to be available to support acquisition, marketing and development. Specific funding for land or premises would be the subject of separate bids as required.

Projects include identifying options to deliver employment land, schemes to support high growth business opportunities and necessary infrastructure to support our rural business base including tourism.

Revenue Implications:

Unspecified – general revenue costs would be anticipated to be contained within existing budgets.

Timescale for Completion:

Key milestones will depend upon the individual projects developed.

Capital Cost:

	£	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2022 £	Remaining Budget as at end of July 2022 £
Original Estimate 2022/23	0		
Budget Moved from 2021/22	51,750		
Slippage from 2021/22	3,000		
Total Approved Budget 2022/23	54,750	0	54,750
ANTICIPATED TOTAL SCHEME COST	54,750		

Progress - Budget Holder Comments

July 2022: There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital budget.

March 2022: Appraisal work on a piece of land along the A59 with a budget of £30,000 was the one scheme identified as appropriate for funding from this capital budget in 2021/22. The total estimated cost of the A59 land appraisal work at financial year-end was £27,000, with £16,528 related to work completed in 2021/22. Based on the work undertaken by the external consultants up to financial year-end, there was no certainty at that stage that the A59 land appraisal expenditure would result in the development of a capital asset.

Economic Development Committee – Capital Programme 2022/23

Given this, the A59 land appraisal estimated costs of £27,000 and associated funding from earmarked reserves are to be accounted for through the Council's revenue accounts rather than the capital programme, because at 31/3/2022 there was no certainty that the A59 land appraisal expenditure would result in the development of a capital asset. Therefore, the £16,528 actual expenditure on A59 land appraisal work in 2021/22 was charged to the Economic Development revenue cost centre and the expenditure on this capital scheme was nil.

Slippage of the remaining £3,000 Economic Development Initiatives capital budget into 2022/23 is requested to add to the £51,750 budget already moved to 2022/23 to fund any appropriate economic development opportunities that arise in 2022/23. *Note – Members will make the final decision on whether to further consider the land potential along the A59, based on the external consultants' final report presented elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.*

December 2021: Consultants have now been engaged to undertake the land appraisal work on the piece of land along the A59 and it is expected that their work will be reported to officers by the last week of March 2022. At this stage, there are no other development opportunities being considered that are likely to lead to further spend on this capital budget in 2021/22. Given this, it is proposed that the 2021/22 revised estimate for this scheme is reduced to £30,000 and that £51,750 of the scheme budget is moved to 2022/23.

September 2021: There is no spend to date but the Council are continually seeking to identify economic development schemes which this budget is set aside for. Members will recall that a proportion of the budget was set aside to assess a piece of land along the A59 and work is on-going with this.

July 2021: There is no spend to date in-year but the Council are continually seeking to identify economic development schemes which this budget is set aside for. Members will recall that a proportion of the budget was set aside to assess a piece of land along the A59 which is subject to a separate report on this agenda.

March 2021: One appropriate scheme for funding from this capital budget, re improving employment land site access at Salthill, was identified as possibly taking place in early 2021. However, the scheme did not take place in 2020/21 because there was no further progress by the landowner before year-end. Slippage of £15,000 into 2021/22 is requested to add to the £66,750 budget already moved to 2021/22 to fund any economic development schemes that would be appropriate to fund from this capital budget in 2021/22.

December 2020: There is currently just one development initiative scheme being considered that, if given the go ahead, would incur expenditure in 2020/21. That scheme is a joint-funded site investigation and development modelling scheme for improving employment land site access at Salthill. If that scheme is approved to go ahead the Council's expenditure is estimated to be no more than £15,000 in 2020/21. Therefore, it is recommended that the 2020/21 revised estimate for the overall scheme is reduced to £15,000 and £66,750 of the overall scheme budget is moved to the 2021/22 financial year.

September 2020: There are no current schemes in progress which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot. Therefore, at this stage there is the possibility that not all of the budget will be committed by year-end. Officers will consider whether any of the scheme budget will be moved to 2021/22 when the revised estimate capital programme is presented for approval in January 2021.

December 2019: There are currently no development opportunities earmarked to draw on the funds from the Economic Development Initiatives scheme budget at this stage in the year. Therefore, it is recommended that the 2019/20 revised estimate for this scheme is reduced to nil and the £81,750 scheme budget is moved to the 2020/21 financial year.

September 2019: No change - There are no current schemes in progress which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot. Therefore, at this stage there is the possibility that not all of the budget is committed by year-end. However, a number of site opportunities are being explored and will be the subject of future reports.

Economic Development Committee – Capital Programme 2022/23

July 2019: There are no current schemes in progress which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot. A number of site opportunities are being explored and will be the subject of future reports.

March 2019: There was no expenditure on this Committee's capital scheme in 2018/19, because no appropriate development opportunities have arisen in-year which have required funding from this capital scheme.

December 2018: A number of site opportunities are being explored in more detail, as per the report elsewhere on this agenda. At this stage, no specific scheme costs are being charged to this Economic Development Initiatives capital budget, but there is always the possibility that a valuation or assessment in-year may require expenditure in relation to acquisition at short notice.

September/October 2018: A number of site opportunities are under preliminary investigation and will be reported to this Committee in due course. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report.

August 2018: Development opportunities to bring forward land for employment will be reported to this Committee in due course. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report.

December 2017: There has been no spend on the scheme in-year, with costs for support work being charged to revenue budgets rather than capital. Development opportunities to bring forward land for employment are being reviewed and will be reported to this Committee in due course. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report. It is recommended that the 2017/18 revised estimate is reduced to nil and the £100,000 budget is moved to 2018/19.

July 2017: Development opportunities to bring forward land for employment are being reviewed and will be reported to this Committee. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report.

December 2016: There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot before the year-end. It is recommended that the revised estimate is reduced to nil and the £100,000 budget is moved to 2017/18.

September/October 2016: No change from July 2016 comments - There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot.

July 2016: There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot.

May/June 2016: The one site acquisition proposal being seriously considered will not now go ahead, as resolved by Policy and Finance Committee. There are no other appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot.

March 2016: One site acquisition investment was being considered in 2015/16, but no confirmation was in place for the acquisition to go ahead at year-end. Slippage of the 2015/16 underspend is requested to fund both the pump prime costs associated with the site acquisition being considered and any further economic development opportunities that may arise.

January 2016: The site acquisition approved by this Committee in October 2015 is the one economic development opportunity in progress currently that will require investment support funding from the Economic Development Initiatives budget. At this stage, the actual timing of the site acquisition and any support costs to be funded from this budget is not confirmed. Any unused budget from 2015/16 will be moved into 2016/17 as slippage.

Economic Development Committee – Capital Programme 2022/23

September 2015: The District Valuer has secured initial agreement with land owners on values and details are being progressed to acquire a site. Expenditure has been drawn from other revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works so far.

July 2015: The Council has instructed the District Valuer to negotiate the purchase of some land on one scheme and we are currently awaiting the outcome of this. Expenditure has been drawn from other revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works so far.

September 2014: The Council continues to seek land for potential economic development. Expenditure has been drawn from revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works to date.

July 2014: The Council continues to seek land for potential economic development.

March 2014: Projects have not reached a stage where capital is required. Expenditure has been drawn from other revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works.

September 2013: Work on the scheme has been undertaken, however expenditure has been revenue based rather than capital.

July 2013: An area of land has been identified and measures are being taken to secure the land for industrial development.

March 2013: The Council is continuing pursuing the acquisition of land for employment purposes.

September 2012: No further progress since June 2012.

June 2012: Initial discussions have been held with relevant landowners. The District Valuer has been instructed to prepare valuation advice on potential sites. This advice has been received and is being given further consideration. The Asset Management Group has considered site options. An options report will be prepared once options are determined. Expenditure will be required on feasibility reports once an option is agreed and on pre-acquisition and due diligence processes.

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL INFORMATION
REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

meeting date: 8 SEPTEMBER 2022
title: CLITHEROE FOOD FESTIVAL
submitted by: JOHN HEAP – DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
principal author: MARK BEVERIDGE – HEAD OF CULTURAL AND LEISURE SERVICES

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide an update on the event staged in July 2022.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Corporate Objectives – To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley.
- Community Objectives - Provide an opportunity for local businesses to develop their market share with exposure to new consumers.

2 BACKGROUND

1.3 The food festival was staged on Saturday, 30 July 2022, and around 100 businesses and organisations attended. In size it was as large as the 2019 event, with even more entertainment this year.

1.4 Although the weather on the day was generally wet, large crowds visited the event and stall holders reported brisk business, many sold out of their products and at least one town centre business told the Council it had been their busiest ever trading day.

1.5 This was the first event staged follow a break of two years following the pandemic, but the absence appeared not to have diminished the demand by residents and visitors alike for the mixture of food, drink, and entertainment on offer.

1.6 The event is organised and managed by Ribble Valley Borough staff and together with volunteers on the day from Rotary and the Lions. Because it is a free to attend event it is not intended to cover its costs, it is staged to attract people to the Borough as well as providing a day out for residents to attend.

1.7 The Council has a high reputation for delivering an excellent event according to the feedback from stall holders and many attendees. That is based on the professional approach taken to the planning and delivery of previous food festivals, The Tour of Britain Cycle Race and The Freedom of the Borough March. Many stall holders regard the event as the best organised of the ones they attend, which is testament to the planning and work of Council staff that goes into staging the event.

3 ISSUES

1.8 The event this year proved to especially difficult to organise because of the problems in getting suppliers for the services used to stage the event, such as buses and first aid for example. In addition, the costs associated with all these services and supplies was significantly higher in some cases than in 2019.

1.9 Park and ride was due to be staged solely from the Auction Mart site, however a sale was planned for the same day after the event had been planned so parking was split

between that site and Hanson's Cement who kindly let the Council use their staff car park on the day.

- 1.10 With less than a week to go before the event was planned to be staged, the marquee company which had been booked earlier in the year, informed the Council that it could not fulfil the order. The Council had to find a replacement at the very last minute, which in turn caused issues with Clitheroe Market traders on the Thursday before the event, because the replacement marquee company needed to set up earlier in the day. This meant the Market car park was unavailable for the whole day instead of from 2pm.
- 1.11 Although the weather was damp the crowds attending were higher than would have been predicted in advance. The issue of safety was not a concern this year, but that will be a consideration in future years especially if the event is held during fine weather. Because it is free to attend no tickets are sold and therefore predictions of crowd density cannot be made in advance, although provision for crowd safety must be made.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The staging of the 2022 was a success for the Council and the Borough as a whole. A review of the event will be carried out by officers as is the norm for such events, to learn from what worked and what did not this year.
- 4.2 The options for the event being staged over two days or on a Sunday to extend the trading week for the town, will form part of that review.
- 4.3 The outturn costs for the event will be available for the October cycle of meetings, when it will be taken to the Economic Development Committee, because the event in future will move from the remit of Community Services Directorate to Economic Development and Planning.

MARK BEVERIDGE
HEAD OF CULTURAL & LEISURE SERVICES

JOHN HEAP
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS – CFF File

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

meeting date: THURSDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2022
title: WELCOME BACK FUND- RETAIL CENTRE REPORT
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
principal author: NICOLA HOPKINS – DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To update Members on the next steps in respect of our retail centres following the production of the retail centre report, which was funded by the Welcome Back Fund (<https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/welcome-back-fund-1/welcome-back-fund>)

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Ambitions-
 - To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley
 - To help make people's lives safer and healthier
- Corporate Objectives –
 - To work with our partners to ensure that the infrastructure in the Ribble Valley is improved
 - To promote stronger, more confident, and more active communities throughout the borough

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 In March 2022 Members of this Committee were updated on the Welcome Back Fund and the actions undertaken as part of the fund. One of the actions was the appointment of Ark Consultancy to develop actions plans for the main three retail areas. The report is available to view online and was provided to Members of this Committee at the meeting in March.

2.2 Members will note that the report includes an Action Plan with numerous suggestions for our retail areas with some of the identified actions already being undertaken including:

- 2.2.1 Two pop-up market events to promote our existing markets undertaken
- 2.2.2 New bins purchased
- 2.2.3 Promotional films commissioned to showcase our retail areas

3 WAY FORWARD

3.1 The intention is for the suggestions identified within the Action Plans to feed into the Service Centre Action Plans which will be developed by the Economic Development Team for our three main retail areas. Work has already commenced on the Plan for Longridge.

3.2 Additionally, the Action Plans will feed into the review of the Council's Economic Plan, the first workshop event as part of that review has been arranged in October.

3.3 Members will also be aware of UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Once DLHUC confirms whether our investment plan is acceptable, Members of Policy and Finance Committee

will decide on how they wish to utilise this funding over the life of the fund. Work already undertaken, such as the retail centre Action Plans, may feed into projects which Members wish to support.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources**- the Council's Economic Development Team have progressed work on the Service Centre Action Plans, a review of the Economic Plan and will be involved in delivering projects identified by members for the UKSPF
- Technical, Environmental and Legal**- None
- Political**- None
- Reputation**- developing plans for the medium to long term impact of COVID19 on our local economies is a benefit to the Borough as a whole. Work to progress the actions identified in ongoing.
- Equality & Diversity** – None.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

5.1 Note the work being undertaken by the Economic Development team in respect of the Plans produced.



NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING