

**REPORT FROM:** Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager

**TO:** West Craven Committee

**DATE:** 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021

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## **West Craven Town Centre Re-opening**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To report to the committee on the RHSSF (Re-opening the High Streets Safely Fund) grant funding for Re-opening of Barnoldswick and Earby town centres.
2. To seek approval for additional spending on mesh barriers
3. To seek approval for the mechanism for completing the West Craven portion of the project.

### **Recommendations**

1. To update the committee on the spending for re-opening of west Craven's high streets
2. To approve spending on mesh barriers for West Craven's town centres
3. To delegate the remaining spend on other West Craven projects to the Planning, Economic Development & Regulatory Services (PEDRS) Manager in consultation with the Chairman of this Committee

### **Reasons for recommendations**

1. In order that the Committee remains apprised of developments concerning the spending on the Re-opening of West Craven's town centres
2. To approve the progression of this project
3. In order to allow further spend to complete the project as there are no further Committees for two months which will not allow time for items to be brought back to Committee in time for the spend to be completed by the deadline for the scheme to end.

## Update on spending

### 1. ERDF Funding

RHSSF Grant Funding Allocated to West Craven town centres: £11,320.

Item	Actual Spend	Planned Spend	Total	Remainder
<b>West Craven</b>				
Barlick - 8 x Hand Sanitisers		£1,592		
Anti-bac liquid for the Sanitisers in Barlick (Est 3 months)		£1,680		
Earby - 4 x Hand Sanitisers		£796		
Anti-bac liquid for the Sanitisers in Earby (Est 3 months)		£840		
Safety Message Posters for Barlick		£100		
Safety Message Posters for Earby		£50		
Facemasks		£1,279		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£6,337</b>	<b>£6,337</b>	<b>£4,983</b>

Progress on the projects above:

- Cllr Tom Whipp has agreed with 6 of Barnoldswick town's businesses to look after the sanitisers
- A PEDRS Officer is agreeing with another two businesses
- Cllr Mike Goulthorpe/Cllr Colin Carter are looking into whether four businesses in Earby will look after the sanitisers
- A PEDRS Officer will purchase 8,000 facemasks for distribution in the town centres at a cost of approximately £1,279
- Safety posters are being printed and will be distributed by Environmental Health staff

**Decision for spending:** The Chair of the Committee, Cllr Whipp, has asked for approval for the spending of some of the remaining grant monies on 20 x mesh screens to cover the current construction site in the Square in Barnoldswick. The estimated cost of these screen is around £1,260. Subject to approval at this meeting these will be purchased and these will carry safety messages in order to comply with the grant's eligibility criteria

### 2. Council Funding (Non-ERDF)

<b>PBC Funding</b>	<b>£6,480</b>
<b>PBC Funding Spend</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Non Grant Funding Remaining</b>	<b>£6,480.00</b>

As approved at the last Committee meeting Cllr Tom Whipp investigated the costs of some tables and chairs so that businesses have the ability, where appropriate, to safely use the outdoor areas outside their premises. 30 tables and 120 chairs have now been purchased by the Clerk of Barnoldswick Town Council (BTC) for approx. £3,068. BTC will be re-imbursed from this PBC funding. The remainder on this PBC funding is therefore £3,412.

## IMPLICATIONS

**Policy:** None arising directly from this report

**Financial:** Total allocation for helping West Craven's town centre businesses is £17,800 in total. This is made up of £11,320 which is ERDF grant funded from the RHSS fund, and £6,480 is Pendle Council/Area Committee funded. The ERDF proportion is to be claimed back once expenditure is defrayed and the grant will only be paid in respect of Eligible Expenditure.

**Legal:** None arising directly from this report

**Risk Management:**. None arising directly from this report

**Health and Safety:** None arising directly from this report

**Sustainability:** None arising directly from this report

**Community Safety:** None arising directly from this report

**Equality and Diversity:** None arising directly from this report

**APPENDICES** None

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS** None