

REPORT FROM: Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager

TO: Colne and District Committee

DATE: 9th September 2021

Report Author: Michael Williams

Tel. No: 01282 661963

E-mail: michael.williams@pendle.gov.uk

Colne 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 Colne Town Centre.
2. To report to the Committee on the Welcome Back Fund (WBF)

Recommendations

1. To update the committee on the RHSSF spending for re-opening of Colne high street
2. To suggest spending for the Welcome Back Fund

Reasons for recommendations

1. In order that the Committee remains apprised of developments concerning the spending on the Re-opening of Colne Town Centre
2. In order that the Committee decides on further spending on its allocation from the Welcome Back Fund

1. Current Position

Remaining funding from RHSSF for Colne is £4,370

In addition the new WBF Allocation of £20,299

TOTAL Amount is £24,669 for Colne to spend

Approximately £3,000 to £4000 is needed to be used to pay for the installation of the totems.

2. Spending Decisions

A discussion with a small Steering Group (Cllr Sarah Cockburn-Price, Cllr Ash Sutcliffe and Colne BID Officer, Aneesa McGladdery) was organised. At this meeting a framework for WBF Grant Spending was presented by the Tourism/Economic Development Officer that would need to be followed in order to obtain the grant for town centre activities (please see Appendix 1 below). It was suggested that the WBF grant be spent on events which would help the town centre recover. Namely:

- i) Activities in the lead up to Christmas
- ii) An event just after Christmas in January or February

It was agreed that the Colne BID Officer would come back to the Tourism/Economic Development Officer with details of spending activities that need funding and estimates of cost for them. As per the framework these would need to be properly procured. Namely:

Correct Procurement for WBF Grant – We need to meet the procurement rules provided by the grant body, ie any procurement has to be co-ordinated across Pendle so that the appropriate number of quotes are obtained beyond the £2500 threshold **for the whole of Pendle**. This is especially important as other towns want to purchase similar things, so may add up to over the £2500 threshold. We cannot split quotes into different ones for each town or with the same company. **Failure to comply means we will not receive the grant.**

3. Recommendation It is recommended that members approve the spending plan for Colne as laid out in this report

4. Reason for recommendation so that spending is taken forward in a co-ordinated manner

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None arising directly from this report

Financial: As detailed in this report

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 APPENDIX 1 (Below/attached)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS None

APPENDIX 1

Framework for Welcome Back Fund – Colne

Parameters:

- 1) Budget 20k (maybe + 1k)
- 2) Event organiser – not PBC. Who? Colne BID/CTC/ Professional Event organiser (Preferred)
- 3) PBC is the Funding Authority – Grant is to PBC – everything through PBC
- 4) Event details – grant money has to be spent by Late Feb/Early March
- 5) Potential Events :
- 6) Light Up Nov
- 7) Xmas
- 8) Soapbox
- 9) Early 2022 event
- 10) All events must comply with Covid safety protocols and registered with ESAG/J Mousdale
- 11) Decision made early for events ASAP (Decision needs to be confirmed by Colne Area Committee ASAP)
- 12) Events are the most risky. Covid regs could change at any time. Events could be cancelled. Will need to know whether any committed grant expenditure is not going to come to us even if agreed on our grant contract (Mike to confirm)
- 13) Correct Procurement for WBF Grant – We need to meet the procurement rules provided by the grant body, ie any procurement has to be co-ordinated across Pendle so that the appropriate number of quotes are obtained beyond the £2500 threshold **for the whole of Pendle**. This is especially important as other towns want to purchase similar things, so may add up to over the £2500 threshold. We cannot split quotes into different ones for each town or with the same company. **Failure to comply means we will not receive the grant.**