



REPORT FROM: Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager

TO: West Craven Committee

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West Craven Town Centres Re-opening – WBF Update

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update the committee on the Welcome Back Fund (WBF) grant spending for Re-opening of Barnoldswick and Earby Town Centres.

Recommendations

1. To update the committee on the spending for re-opening of Barnoldswick and Earby high streets

Reasons for recommendations

1. In order that the Committee remains apprised of developments concerning the WBF spending on the Re-opening of Barnoldswick and Earby Town Centres

Update on spending

1. WBF Grant Funding for West Craven

The table below indicates the funding available to West Craven and a Spending Plan which was agreed at the Area Committee meeting on 3rd August with an update on spending.

Town	RHSSF	WBF	Total
Barnoldswick	£228.67	£10,285	£10,513.67
Earby	£114.33	£5,142	£5,256.33
			£15,770.00
Possible spend (Estimates)	Estimated	Actual Spend	
Website (Joint or separate)		Barlick	Earby
Basic website (no help)	£2,000		
Basic website with staff help	£4,000	£5,296	£0
Content managed website (no help)	£10,000		
Content managed website with help	£13,000		
Apps - like Experience Blackburn App	£3,500		
Public Realm			
Planters for Barlick (Amberol)	£5,000	£501	
poles and base plates (T&F Steel Designs)		£2,230	
Install in Barlick (LCC or other - estimate)		£2,400	
Repaint Planters for Earby	£4,500		£3,995
Earby Light columns painting			£825
	£9,500		
Existing safety measures			
Sanitiser fluid	£1,000		£130
	£1,000		
Publicity to promote both towns			
Print (Flyers etc)/ Soc Media	£1,000		£300
	£1,000		
Total		£10,427	£5,250
Remainder		£86.47	£6.33

At the time of this report the following progress on these projects is as follows:

- **Earby Planters** - George Boococks have now re-painted the planters in Earby. Cost £3,995.
- **The town centre website for Barnoldswick** is well under way. Businesses have been contacted and the response has been quite good for this type of project. At the time of writing this report we have had the information and pictures back from 24 businesses. Initially all businesses were given a letter on foot by our PBC colleague from the Environmental Health Dept.

This has been followed up by research and follow up calls to 100 businesses. Some receiving several calls. There will be a final follow up to glean their information where we have had no response. Alongside the main business thrust of the site there will be information on community facilities and tourism messages. Although this is a big piece of

work we would hope to be able to have an “in construction” website to show to members before Christmas.

Answers to member’s queries from the November meeting:

- **Lighting columns** - No response has been received from LCC asking them to re-paint the base of the lighting columns. Our PBC colleagues in the Engineering section are looking to escalate the request if they receive no further response.
- **Earby Public Realm** - Earby Town Council has been contacted to ask them about the maintenance of street furniture that are their assets. The new town clerk for ETC, Darren Taylor, will be conducting an audit of their assets, which will include an assessment of their condition and need for repairs or maintenance.
- **Increase in Barnoldswick Website costs** – the original ideas for WBF spending included **estimates** of cost for various items, including the website. The original estimate was for £4k. Once a proper procurement procedure was put in place the actual quotes came back as follows:

Company	Quote
1	£17,940
2	£44,000
3	£30,730
4	£26,700
5	£50,725

What should be noted is:

- a) The cost is for ALL towns including Barnoldswick, Brierfield and Nelson and the cost is split between all
- b) The cheapest quote was chosen
- c) Quality was a consideration. We have dealt with this company before. They are very reliable, highly respected, and extremely professional. The site will also be a Content Managed site which we can manage ourselves
- d) Included in the cost (which is not necessarily true of other companies that quoted) was quite a decent work element of chasing up businesses for the information required for a good site
- e) Although Barnoldswick will get its own website for £5,385 there is a common shared platform which needed to be built for this site which is shared by two other town centre centres – so in effect **Barnoldswick is only paying 30% of the total cost of £17,940**

Non-grant Area Committee funding

After the Committee confirmed that it wished the budget for this be carried over the remaining monies are £3,251. It was agreed that this money would be used for a small stage, to benefit both Barnoldswick and Earby, and indeed events throughout West Craven.

Progress – the stage has now been purchased and it will be reverted to Barnoldswick Town Council to use for events.

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: Beyond their initial use, items such as the website (1 year) need consideration given to their longer term sustainability.

Community Safety: None arising directly from this report.

Equality and Diversity: None arising directly from this report.

APPENDICES

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS None