

# **INFORMATION ITEM**

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO			
HEAD OF PROJECTS AND REGENERATION PLANNING COMMITTEE		8 MARCH 2023	11			
KIRKHAM FUTURES PROGRAMME UPDATE						

#### **PUBLIC ITEM**

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

## **SUMMARY OF INFORMATION**

This report provides an update with regards to progress on the Kirkham Futures Programme and shares the minutes of the Kirkham Futures Steering Group meetings.

Members are reminded that the Kirkham Futures Programme is funded through the High Street Heritage Action Zone Funding (HAZ), FHSF and Lancashire County Council funding and runs from April 2020 to March 2024. The programme is in the final two years of delivery and spend and progress to date on the individual projects is included within the main body of the report.

## **SOURCE OF INFORMATION**

The Head of Projects and Regeneration and Kirkham Futures Programme Manager have produced the information based on programme progress.

## **LINK TO INFORMATION**

Appendix 1: Kirkham Futures Steering Group meeting notes

# WHY IS THIS INFORMATION BEING GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE?

To provide an update with regards to progress on the Kirkham Futures Programme.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

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#### Kirkham Heritage & Eco Skills Resource Centre, Hillside, 48 Preston Street Kirkham

- 1. On 1 December 2021, the Council approved the acquisition of the property known as Hillside, 48, Preston Street, Kirkham.
- 2. Subsequently in March 2022, the Council acquired the Grade II Listed former Hillside restaurant at 48 Preston Street. The acquisition was funded from the Future High Street Fund grant award and is enabling repair and conversion works funded through both HAZ, FHSF and LCC to secure a sustainable future use for the building.
- 3. It was recognised prior to acquisition that Hillside was in a poor state of repair and the building was at risk. HAZ funding is in place to carry out repairs to the external fabric of the building. JubbClews, chartered surveyors based in Lancashire, have been appointed to specify and oversee the external works with contractors Heritage Property Repairs Northwest engaged to carry out the programme of works required to secure the building and restore original lost or damaged historical features and prevent further damage to the building.
- 4. Works to the external façade of the building funded by Historic England are now well underway at Hillside and a timetable for conclusion of these works is included below:

He	ritage Property Repairs Draft Program	mme: Hillsid	de, Kirkham	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	SHUTDOWN	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Line	Phase 1 Task	Duration	Preparation		Delay			, 1	Xmas			2 /		ev - 1	V2 3				
1	Prestart Meeting / Letter of Intent		Completed																
2	Scaffold Design		Completed																
3	Site Survey & Photo Log		Completed				, ,			Ü									
4	Site Setup, Cabin, Temporary Fencing	1d	Completed													1			
5	Scaffolding and Access Works	3w	Completed	1			-	- 3						9				1	
6	Inspections	1w	Completed							8									
7	Asbestos Sampling	1d	Completed				. 8	- 3											
8	Drainage Survey	1d	Completed				62	, :		Ģ.									
9	Railings Survey	1d	Completed																
10	Chimney Take Down	1w	Completed																
11	Chimney Rebuild	3w	Ongoing																
12	Accessible Gutter Clearance	2d	Completed								ì								
13	Remove Gable Render	2w	Ongoing											4				1	
14	Re-render Gable	3w	Ongoing							Š									
15	2nr Sashes Fabrication & Installation	2w	Ongoing				. 2	3		6									
16	Arched Window Fabrication	8w	Completed								. ,								
17	Arched Window Installation	1w	Ongoing																
18	Scaffold Removal	Sd	Ongoing							1									
19	Overhaul Lead Lined Gutter	5w	Ongoing																
20	Rerouting Rainwater	3d	Ongoing				×												
	Phase 2 Task	10				12								4		- 0			
21	Scaffolding and Access Works	2w	Ongoing																
22	Inspections	1d	Ongoing					-								. 3			
23	Asbestos Sampling	1d	Ongoing				2	5 8											
24	Cast Iron Gutter Installations	1w	Ongoing							Q									
25	Drainage Works	3d	Ongoing				v v												
26	Chimney Take Down	1w	Ongoing							Ũ									
27	Chimney Rebuild	3w	Ongoing																
28	Accessible Gutter Clearance	1d	Ongoing				8	2 43								15			
29	Remove Gable Render	1w	Ongoing				2	-3			Ĭ			4					
30	Re-render Gable	2w	Ongoing				9			8		3							
31	Repointing Front Elevation	6w	Ongoing				s = 8	- 3											6
32	Joinery Works to Front Elevation	8w	Ongoing																
33	Scaffold Removal	1w	Ongoing							Q.									
34	Railings Fabrication and Installation	3w	Ongoing											1					
35	Clean and Clear Site	1w	Ongoing				7	-		4									

Revised Draft Programme February 2023 For Phase 2 Proposals

5. The area to the rear of Hillside had limited development potential due to a right of access to an adjacent neighbouring development plot which crossed the site. Future High Street funding has subsequently been utilised by Fylde Council to acquire the neighbouring development plot which in turn has extinguished the access rights meaning the area to the rear can now be redeveloped.

- 6. Options for the future use of Hillside continue to be explored in order that the revenue cost implications of each associated proposal can be fully considered together. An independent report produced by Growth Lancashire recommended that the best option for the Council should be to sell the Hillside building, once the repair works have been completed. Officers will be meeting with LCC Estates in the coming weeks to explore the options further and present their findings back to the Steering Group.
- 7. Fylde Council are now in receipt of proposals for works to be carried out to the retaining wall at the rear of Hillside, which will be funded from remaining FHSF funding allocated to the acquisition of the building and redevelopment of the property. The proposals will now be considered in full and once agreed will be put out to tender to secure a contractor to carry out the works.

## Former Girls Charity School 52 – 64 Poulton Street, Kirkham

- 8. On 1st December 2021, the Council approved the acquisition of the freehold interest of the property known as the former girls school/TSB bank 52 64, Poulton Street, Kirkham and authorised officers to seek a potential restaurant / community tenant to take on a 7-year lease.
- 9. The property was acquired by Fylde Council in April 2022 and as previously reported DC & MG Associate have been appointed to provide consultancy services through RIBA Stages 0-6.
- 10. The timetable for delivery of this project is included below:

Milestone	RIBA Stage	Revised Completion dates				
Preparation & Briefing	RIBA Work Stage 0-1	26 September 2022				
Concept Design	RIBA Work Stage 2	21 November 2022				
Spatial Co-ordination up to and including Planning/Listed Building Submission	RIBA Work Stage 3	9 December 2022				
Planning Determination Period (may include application going to committee)	13 weeks (maximum)	1 March 2023 (committee date)				
Technical Design including Tender Action/Building Regulation Submission	RIBA Work Stage 4	31 May 2023				
Manufacturing and Construction including Project Administration and Practical/Site Completion (32 week period)	RIBA Work Stage 5	26 July 2023 – 8 March 2024				
Close out including Project Administration and Retention Period	RIBA Work Stage 6	31 May 2024				

11. At the time of writing this report the planning application for the alterations and extensions to the Former Bank premises associated with the use as a bar/restaurant, including the erection of a single storey rear extension following demolition of the existing rear extensions and outbuildings and formation of a patio area to the rear of the extensions are due to be considered by members of the planning committee to be held on Wednesday 1 March 2023.

# **Kirkham Shopfront/Property Improvement Scheme**

12. Progress on the Kirkham Shopfront/Property Improvement Scheme began in earnest in November 2021 with the appointment of the Design Team consisting of North West Design Collective (NWDC), Joseph Boniface Architects and DC & MG associates, to assist with the process of drawing up plans for individual projects, submitting applications for all the necessary consents required for the individual schemes and preparing the tender paperwork for each individual project.

- 13. Following the appointment of the design team, applications were invited from businesses and landlords within the defined HAZ and FHSF areas of Kirkham Town Centre, who wished to apply to the scheme for funding towards property/shopfront improvements. Demand was high with over twenty-five applications received across both the FHSF and HAZ schemes and the application process has since been closed to new applications.
- 14. To date eleven shopfront/property improvement schemes have been tendered with two of these projects starting preliminary works in January 2023 due for completion in April 2023. Grant offers have been made and accepted on a further two schemes which will begin with measuring up works in March 2024.
- 15. The remaining schemes are at various stages of development in terms of planning application, tendering and grant agreements stages. Detailed drawings of all the proposed schemes are available via the following planning application links:

10 -12 Poulton Street Kirkham

79 Poulton Street Kirkham

5 Preston Street Kirkham

26 Poulton Street Kirkham

66 Poulton Street Kirkham

82a Poulton Street Kirkham

4-6 Freckleton Street Kirkham

16 Poulton Street Kirkham

36 Poulton Street Kirkham

1-3 Preston Street Kirkham

4 Church Street Kirkham

2A Church Street Kirkham

3-5 Poulton street Kirkham

10 Station Road Kirkham

## **Kirkgate Centre**

- 16. Members will recall that through Future High Street funding (FHSF) the Council had originally proposed to acquire and repurpose the Kirkgate Centre to create an alternative and sustainable use, in particular to see a scheme that would see the first and second floors converted to residential use to provide 22 two bed affordable apartments whilst the ground floor would be retained for active retail uses.
- 17. Unfortunately, despite ongoing conversations with several potential private sector providers and housing associations it has not been possible to secure a scheme at the Kirkgate Centre due to it not being viable for partner organisations engaged.
- 18. Senior officers have been in discussion with the Department for the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities around the possibility of reallocating/redistributing the funding to existing ongoing projects within the Kirkham FHSF programme. Subject to the funder's approval, members of the Kirkham Futures Steering Group agreed that the priority for the redistributed funding should be to progress phase one of the public realm works which would subsequently benefit everyone in the community and town centre and that an additional amount also be allocated to the Former Girls Charity School, 52-64 Poulton Street, Kirkham to account for the substantial increase in material and labour costs in relation to this scheme.

19. The change request documentation was submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in November 2022 with a proposal to reallocate the Kirkgate funding to Phase one of the Public Realm and the Former TSB building. Since the change request was submitted officers have been responding to queries raised by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities analysts, and at the time of writing this report a decision by the department is still outstanding. We continue to apply pressure wherever possible for a decision on the change request submitted.

#### **Public Realm Phase 1**

- 20. Following receipt of the signed Section 278 legal agreement from Lancashire County Council in January 2023, the appointed contractor for the public realm project, Eric Wright, commenced works on the Kirkham Futures Public Realm Phase one project on Monday 9 January 2023. Initial site activities included setting up of the site compound at Eagles Court Car Park, which was completed on Sunday 5th February with the installation of the contractors site cabins. Works began on the Market Square on Monday 16 January with the breaking up of the existing surfacing and removal of street furniture
- 21. On final confirmation of the start date for the works, advance notices were erected on Eagles Court Car Park and Market Square to inform residents and businesses of the intended closure of Eagles Court Car Park from 9 January and the Market Square from 16 January. These notices included a plan of each car park to be closed, a list of alternative car parks available in the town centre, number of spaces available on these alternative car parks and contact details for the Kirkham Futures Team.
- 22. The notice was circulated via the Fylde Council newsletter on 7 January and on Fylde Council's social media channels. The Town Council Clerk also arranged for this notice to be shared on the Town Council social media channels. An advance notice was placed in the Kirkham and Wesham Advertiser on Wednesday 11 January regarding the closure of the Market Square and Eagles Court. Alternative car parking options were identified and contact details for the Kirkham Futures team included for any queries.
- 23. On Monday 9 January the Kirkham Futures Programme Manager, Public Realm Project Manager and Site Manager for Eric Wright visited all of the businesses that were open on Poulton Street, Church Street, Freckleton Street and Preston Street. Time was spent in each business providing information on the proposed works, answering queries, and handing out the parking notices for information. This was followed up on Saturday 14 January with a letter which outlined further details of the project and provided contact details for both the contractor and Fylde Council. Businesses were encouraged to engage as early as possible with the Kirkham Futures team and the contractor regarding any issues that arise during the works so that the project team can work together to resolve any issues as quickly as possible.
- 24. Information, including copies of car park closure notices and the resident/business letter were forwarded to both the Town Council and the Chair of the Kirkham business group to assist in the distribution of this information via their mailing lists, website, social media channels and contacts. Fylde Council's communications team have also supported the communication of the start of the public realm works with a series of communications as outlined below:

02.12.2022 – Delivery of posters to Town Centre venues and businesses with dates for meet the team/public exhibition -Posters

03.12.2022 – Meet the team behind Kirkham's Regeneration – Corporate newsletter

07.12.2022 – Kirkham Highstreet Shopfront Improvements – PR on corporate website

08.12.2022 – Kirkham Highstreet Shopfront Improvements – <u>PR on Kirkham Futures website</u>, promoted on <u>Corporate Social Media</u>, <u>Kirkham Futures website</u>, <u>Social Media</u>

08.12.2022 – Meet the team behind Kirkham's Regeneration – <u>Corporate Social Media</u>

10.12.2022 – Kirkham Highstreet Shopfront Improvements – Corporate newsletter

10.12.2022 - Meet the team behind Kirkham's Regeneration - Corporate newsletter

- 13.12.2022 Meet the team behind Kirkham's Regeneration <u>Corporate Social Media</u>, <u>Kirkham Futures</u> website, Social Media
- 14.12.2022 Fylde Flyer at Kirkham Community Centre Car Park <u>Corporate Social Media</u>, <u>Kirkham Futures</u> <u>website</u>, <u>Social Media</u>
- 14.12.2022 Meet the team/public exhibition events advertisement Kirkham and Wesham advertiser
- 17.12.2022 Meet the team behind Kirkham's Regeneration Corporate newsletter
- 06.01.2023 Eagles Court / Market Square Closure PR on Kirkham Futures website
- 07.01.2023 Eagles Court / Market Square Closure Corporate Social Media, corporate newsletter
- 07.01.2023 Meet the team behind Kirkham's Regeneration Corporate Social Media, corporate newsletter
- 11.01.2023 Eagles Court / Market Square Closure PR on corporate website, **Kirkham and Wesham advertiser.**
- 13.01.2023 Meet the team behind Kirkham's Regeneration Corporate Social Media
- 14.01.2023 Eagles Court / Market Square Closure Corporate newsletter
- 14.01.2023 Meet the team behind Kirkham's Regeneration Corporate newsletter
- 8.02.23 Photocall for the start of the public realm works. Press release to follow.
- 25. On Wednesday 14 December from 11am until 1.30pm and Saturday 14 January from 10am until 1pm the Kirkham Futures Team held two public exhibition events in the Council event bus outside the community centre in Kirkham. These events provided an opportunity for residents, businesses and other key stakeholders to come along and meet the team and learn all about the project, see samples of the public realm works materials and images, see the plans for the Former TSB/Girls Charity School, hear all about the Health and Wellbeing programme and cultural consortium and ask questions about the Hillside project and Shopfront improvement scheme.
- 26. The events were both well attended and feedback on the programme as a whole was positive. Both of these events were supported by posters in key venues and businesses in Kirkham Town Centre, advertisements in the Kirkham and Wesham advertiser, social media posts on Kirkham Town Councils social media and in Fylde Councils social media posts and newsletter (as outlined above). The event was also supported and advertised by Kirkham Town Council and Kirkham Business Group.
- 27. Fylde Council are working alongside Lancashire County Council, Kirkham Town Council and Kirkham Business Group to deal with concerns and issues arising during the duration of these works in particular to try to ease parking issues for the residents on Church Street. Both the Town Council and the Business Group have been supporting on communications on the matter and LCC are considering the options available to support residents with parking issues arising from the closure of Market Square.
- 28. A photocall for Councillors took place on Wednesday 8 February to officially acknowledge the start of the public realm works in Kirkham and will form part of a positive press release about the scheme.
- 29. Phasing plans for the works are available on the Kirkham Futures website and have been distributed to the business group and Town Council so that residents and businesses are able to access the information and are made aware of the timings of works as they happen. A series of communications are planned for the project throughout its duration which are contained in a dedicated communications plan for the project.
- 30 A timetable for the delivery of Phase one of the Kirkham Futures Public Realm Scheme is outlined below;

Project	Milestone	Expected Date	Revised date
	Contract Assert Date	26/07/2022	42/00/2022
Public Realm	Contract Award Date	26/07/2022	12/09/2022
Phase 1	Establish Site Compound	16/09/2022	09/01/2023
	Market Square Commencement	21/09/2022	18/01/2023
	Market Square Completion	13/04/22	22/06/2023

Poulton Street Commencement	21/09/2022	30/01/2023
Poulton Street Completion	10/03/2023	17/07/2023
Landscaping Commencement	25/11/2022	29/03/2023
Landscaping Completion	07/03/2023	22/12/2023 *
Church Street and Roundel Commencement	15/03/2023	01/03/2023
Church Street and Roundel Completion	18/05/2023	22/06/2023
Resurfacing of Poulton Street Commencement	05/06/2023	18/07/2023
Resurfacing of Poulton Street Completion	07/06/2023	27/07/2023
Planned Completion	12/06/2023	31/07/2023 **
Contract Completion **	14/09/2023	08/01/2024
Key dates to work around		
Christmas Embargo		01/12/2022 – 3/01/2022
Remembrance Day		10/11/2022
Christmas Lights switch on		26/11/2022
Easter		07/04/2023-10/04/2023
Club Day		10/06/2023

#### **Public Realm Phase 2**

- 31 The programme for Phase Two Public Realm works is currently being prepared by the Programme Manager and Head of Projects and Regeneration. This will align the works with the required funding timescales as stipulated by Lancashire County Council. The team is using the intelligence gathered through the Phase One works to inform the programme. Discussions with LCC's Highways team will also inform the programme, as well as consideration of the use of a partnership agreement to formalise the Section 278 approval process.
- 32 LCC have been informed that Phase 2 of the Public Realm project cannot commence until capacity is increased within the Projects and Regeneration service. The Senior Project Manager vacant post is currently out for advert and is targeted to be recruited to by mid-April. The new Senior Project Manager will be allocated to Phase 2 once in post.

#### Health and Wellbeing 2020-2024

- 33 Under the HAZ a Heritage & Well-being Consortium has been formed which brings together key partners who are in the process of running an exciting, innovative 4-year (2020-2024) programme of culture, heritage & well-being activities and interventions.
- 34 Already, the project has engaged many people in heritage themed activities in Kirkham.
- 35 Following the completion of a project evaluation of year one and two of the Health and Wellbeing Project, a Year three programme of activity has been ongoing with the support of the Project Steering Group and has seen a renewed focus on engaging with Hard-to-Reach Groups.
- A year 4 delivery programme is now proposed and will begin delivery from April 2023, subject to approval by the project steering group. The final year of the programme will continue until March 2024. This proposed programme of activity has a particular focus on sustainability beyond the lifetime of the Kirkham futures programme of funding and will involve substantial partnership working through the final year of the programme.

- 37 If agreed, Green Close in partnership with Phoenix Rising will continue to deliver heritage based social prescribing in Kirkham in the final year of the programme from April 2023 to March 2024, funded through Historic England's High Street Heritage Action Zone.
- 38 Helen Shearn the lead consultant on the Kirkham Health and Wellbeing Project has put together a strong programme of activity for the final year of the project which supports the heritage based social prescribing being delivered by Green Close and Phoenix Rising to continue, support for awareness raising of the project on Kirkham's club day, and a 'Men's Shed' project that will focus on support for males from the community in need of wellbeing support supported by a team to provide advice, mentoring and support and introduce opportunities linked to art, nature, movement and heritage as requested by the group.
- 39 An evaluation of the Health and Wellbeing programme is planned and would be commissioned in March 2023 and run through to the end of the programme in March 2024 and will support sustainability of the project going forward beyond March 2024 will provide valuable feedback to all the funders of the programme and the community groups and volunteers who have taken part.

#### **HAZ Cultural Consortium 2020-2024**

- 40 Kirkham Cultural Consortium have planned an ambitious programme of activities for the final year of the programme in 2023/2024, focusing on Roman Kirkham. If successful it will provide an amazing range of free opportunities for the local community to enjoy.
- 41 The existing cultural programme described below has recently been successful in a grant application made to Lancashire County Councils Cultural Fund to support the following activities:

# **A Community Archaeology project**

It is well known that Kirkham has a rich Roman heritage, with evidence of a Roman Fort at Carr Hill. However, there is still a lot more to find out. Facilitated by Northwest Heritage and a range of specialists this project will review previous finds and facilitate a fantastic community dig.

This project will provide a high-quality programme of activities, opportunities to get involved in a dig, attend open days looking at finds, learning how to catalogue finds, how to research an object and also look after them. It will also include an education programme for schools, with a free programme of heritage workshops being available for those who sign up.

The results from the excavations will be written up and published. The archive at St Michaels Church will be developed, along with an exhibition focusing on Roman Kirkham. This will be linked to an external site in Kirkham Town centre, which tells the story of Romans Kirkham and is accessible at all times.

#### **The creation of a Town Centre Mural**

This is proposed to be on the gable end, next to the United Reformed Church, permission has been given for this work to be undertaken. It is intended that the work will be inspired by Roman Kirkham and the k for Kirkham (co created by local school children working with artist Maxine Le Mackie). The work will have a community engagement programme linked to targeting young people in Kirkham and Wesham and will celebrate local heritage.

## A community lantern/light festival, illuminating and celebrating the towns heritage.

Schools and community groups will be given the opportunity to participate through a free programme of workshops. Professional artists will facilitate workshops to cocreate the artwork, develop themes and create lanterns that will celebrate and illuminate the towns rich heritage.

The festival will be planned to take place, either in late October or early November, depending on the completion of the public realm work.

Additional funding bids will be submitted to help to enhance the existing 4-year Cultural Programme by adding further activity and hopefully helping to provide some sustainability for some of the individual cultural programme projects moving forward beyond the lifetime of the Kirkham futures Programme.



#### Award of exempt contracts

42 During the course of the last month, two contracts have been awarded using exempt contract arrangements under the Contracts Procedure Rules, this is where the contract procedure rules cannot reasonably be followed. In both instances the Chief Executive has given his authority for the goods materials or works to be ordered as considered urgent. The Head of Regeneration Projects has also been satisfied that the arrangements made secure the best available terms to the Council commensurate with the contract risk and value and provide adequate protection against fraud and collusion. The details of the award of both these contracts are set out below:

Hillside 48 Preston Street, Kirkham - With just over one years to run on the four-year HAZ programme, it is now with renewed urgency that there is a need to secure the continued supply of consultancy services from Jubb Clews to ensure that the project is able to complete on time and secure the full funding allocated to the project from HAZ for the 22/23 & 23/24 financial years. As a result, the Chief Executive authorised the extension of a consultancy services contract to Jubb Clews in connection with the ongoing conservation works at 48 Preston Street Kirkham as an exempt contract under the contract procedure rules. The value of this contract extension is £30,475.05.

Hillside, 48 Preston Street Kirkham, continuation of external façade works — Following the acquisition of Hillside, 48 Preston Street, Kirkham a schedule of urgent works was prepared by JubbClews, the scheme's retained chartered historic building surveyors, in order for emergency works to be carried out to prevent further deterioration of the external fabric of the building, which formed the first step in the plans to repurpose the building.

Jubb Clews have subsequently prepared a schedule of further works required to the property to follow on from the initial emergency works identified which will further aid the prevention of further deterioration of the external fabric of the building.

In order to secure the remaining funding allocated to the project from Historic England for financial years 22/23 & 23/24 and to ensure the timely completion of these works, Fylde Council wishes to retain the services of the existing contractor, Heritage Property Repairs, to carry out the additional works identified by Jubb Clews.

With the building and funding at risk the Chief Executive authorised the award of a contract for specialist building services in connection with the additional works required. This was dealt with as an exempt item under the exempt contract procedure rules and as a result an extension to the initial contract was awarded to Lancashire based Heritage Property Repairs Ltd for a further period of up to 32 weeks from March 2023. The value of this contract extension is £203,169.