

## DECISION ITEM

| REPORT OF   | MEETING            | DATE          | ITEM NO |
|---|--------------------|---------------|---------|
| DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE                              | PLANNING COMMITTEE | 10 MARCH 2021 | 5       |
| <b>STREET LIGHTING ENHANCEMENT SCHEME – THE BEACH, LYTHAM</b> |                    |               |         |

### PUBLIC ITEM

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

### SUMMARY

The Regeneration Programme for Lytham, most recently set out in the council's Regeneration Framework, includes an on-going commitment to the upgrading of the physical environment of the town centre's streets and public spaces that will be delivered through a series of 'public realm projects'. The council's capital programme for the current year includes the delivery of a scheme of street lighting enhancements at The Beach, Lytham. The scheme, which has also been considered by, and has the support of, the Town Centres Working Group, would see the replacement of the existing 1960's concrete lamp columns along this stretch of The Beach with a bespoke designed lamp column and lighting bracket, designed to reflect the character of this conservation area location.

Lancashire County Council have agreed, in principle, to work with the council to deliver these improvements and to meet some of the installation costs, meaning that the extent of the proposed replacement lighting has been extended to include the upgrading of all 38 of the lampposts between Station Road and Lowther Gardens. The scheme has been designed alongside (and so will complement) the wider improvement works that are proposed to be carried out to Lytham Town Centre and would bring to fruition an improvement scheme originally conceived as part of the Lytham St Annes 2020 Vision.

The detailed design for the scheme and its funding is set out in the body of the report with details of the lighting columns and lamp heads contained within the appendices. The scheme was originally proposed to be carried out during the current financial year but delays due to the coronavirus pandemic mean that the work is now expected to be completed within the first quarter of 2021/22.

The funding for the scheme is in place within the Capital Programme as part of the wider improvements that are proposed for Lytham town centre.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Committee is recommended to approve the detailed scheme 'Street Lighting Enhancements - The Beach, Lytham' as shown in the attached drawings at Appendix 1 and authorise expenditure of up to £50,000, as part of the overall Lytham Town Centre Regeneration Scheme, which is included within the approved Capital Programme for 2021/22 in the total sum of £800,000;
2. That officers be authorised to procure the proposed lighting brackets using the request for quotation procedure as set out in the council's procurement strategy;
3. The Committee agree and authorise the use of the existing partnership between the Council and Lancashire County Council in the implementation of the scheme;
4. Officers be authorised to make minor amendments and variable extensions to the scheme as a result of the outcome of the tender process and ongoing discussions with Lancashire County Council, on the basis that this does not materially affect the scheme as presented and falls within the overall scope of the scheme as set out within the scheme design;

## SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

On 14 November 2018, Planning Committee resolved to support a programme of public realm improvements for Lytham town centre which were subsequently agreed for inclusion in the council's capital programme by Full Council on 4 March 2020.

## CORPORATE PRIORITIES

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy        | ✓ |
| Environment – To deliver services customers expect       | ✓ |
| Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way | ✓ |
| Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit      | ✓ |

## REPORT

### INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. The Regeneration Programme for Lytham, most recently set out in the Regeneration Framework, includes an on-going commitment to the upgrading of the physical environment of the town centre's streets and public spaces to be delivered through a series of 'public realm projects'. The council's capital programme for the current year includes the delivery of a scheme of street lighting enhancements at The Beach, Lytham.
2. This report seeks approval of the detailed design and extent of the proposed scheme, which has previously been considered and agreed in principle by the Planning Committee and has the support of the Town Centres Working Group.
3. This work was intended to be completed earlier this year, but due to the need to reprioritise workloads as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, there has been some a delay.

### DETAILS OF THE SCHEME AND ITS OBJECTIVES

4. Central, East and West Beach (The Beach) form one of the principal arterial routes of the Borough, are part of the coast road and provide the setting for the Green and the frontage buildings that face it. The area is highly prominent and sets the scene for a number of key events attracting thousands of visitors. In addition, the area is situated within the designated conservation area and contains a number of listed buildings. Accordingly, the design, maintenance and management of the public realm in this area is a key issue.
5. The existing street lighting is of poor visual quality consisting of 1960's concrete lamp columns that were increased in height during the 1980's by the addition of galvanised metal sleeves (to give an overall height of 10m) and standard lamp heads. As such the lighting is prominent due to both its height and the conspicuous nature of the columns.
6. Preliminary discussions have taken place with Lancashire County Council (LCC) about a possible replacement scheme and they have agreed, in principle to meet some of the costs involved in the installation of the replacement lighting.
7. The new scheme has been designed to be sympathetic to the conservation area setting and the 8.5m tall columns have been specified to enable the fitting of display banner arms, which the current columns would not allow for this due to structural issues. This will allow the replacement columns to be used for promotional purposes when seasonal or national events are taking place, adding colour and vibrancy to the character of the wider Green environment. It is also proposed that some of the lighting columns will be fitted with power sockets that will allow for the installation of additional lighting features, particularly during the Christmas period.
8. It is proposed to replace the 38 columns set out in the table 1 below with the lamp columns and heads as detailed in appendix 1, to this report. Subject to the outcome of the tendering process, it may be necessary to adjust the extent of the final scheme slightly.

**Table 1**

|    | <b>Section</b>                      | <b>Column refs</b> | <b>No of columns</b> |
|----|-------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1  | Woodville Terrace – Lowther Terrace | 208 - 215          | 8                    |
| 2. | Lowther Terrace – Queen Street      | 216 - 224          | 9                    |
| 3. | Queen Street – Dicconson Terrace    | 225 - 228          | 4                    |
| 4. | Dicconson Terrace - Bath Street     | 229 - 233          | 5                    |
| 5. | Bath Street – Station Road          | 234 - 240          | 7                    |
| 6. | Station Road – St. Johns Street     | 241 - 245          | 5                    |
|    | <b>TOTAL NUMBER OF UNITS</b>        |                    | <b>38</b>            |

9. The lamp brackets are proposed to be of a bespoke design that includes symbols of Lytham including the windmill, pebbles and leaf motifs together with a horizontal background relating to the Green, beach, estuary and skyline (see appendix 1, Figure 6).

#### **FINANCING, VALUE FOR MONEY AND PROCUREMENT**

10. The scheme could be completed during the first quarter of 2021/22, subject to the availability of Lancashire County Council (LCC) to install the lighting. It is estimated that the total cost of the lighting scheme will be in the region of £75,000 with LCC contributing up to £25,000 towards the work and Fylde Council meeting the remaining £50,000. Part of this contribution will be achieved as a result of LCC carrying out the works themselves and so it is proposed that they be appointed to deliver the scheme in order that this contribution to the scheme can be realised.
11. Although the lighting columns themselves will be a standard design, the work to produce the bespoke brackets will need to be the subject of a tender process which is proposed to be carried out through the 'request for quotation procedure' as set out in the council's procurement strategy.
12. The scheme has been included as part of the wider Lytham town centre improvement works that form part of the approved capital programme.

#### **VIABLE ALTERNATIVES**

13. The scheme has been developed as part of a wider programme of improvements. Whilst the lighting could be left as it is until it is replaced by LCC as part of their ongoing maintenance programme, such a replacement scheme would be to a standard design. It is considered that the current opportunity to replace the lighting in a sympathetic design should be taken in order to improve the character of this prominent conservation area location and will allow the delivery of a comprehensive scheme that extends to all the lighting columns along the Beach from Station Road to Lowther Gardens.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

14. The scheme has previously been approved in principle by the Planning Committee and the detailed scheme has the support of the Town Centres Working Group. There is currently an opportunity to work with LCC to deliver an extended scheme and members are requested to authorise officers make arrangements to deliver the scheme.

| IMPLICATIONS                            |  |
|---|--|
| Finance                                 | The report requests approval of the 'Street Lighting Enhancements - The Beach, Lytham' scheme as detailed within the report and also the authorisation of expenditure of up to £50,000 as part of the overall Lytham Town Centre Regeneration Scheme, which is included within the approved Capital Programme for 2021/22 in the total sum of £800,000 |
| Legal                                   | None   |
| Community Safety                        | None   |
| Human Rights and Equalities             | None   |
| Sustainability and Environmental Impact | None   |
| Health & Safety and Risk Management     | None   |

| LEAD AUTHOR | CONTACT DETAILS                            | DATE          |
|-------------|--|---------------|
| Mark Evans  | mark.evans@fylde.gov.uk & Tel 01253 658460 | February 2021 |

| BACKGROUND PAPERS            |      |  |
|------------------------------|------|--|
| Name of document             | Date | Where available for inspection                         |
| Lytham St Annes 2020 Vision  | 2010 | <a href="http://www.fylde.gov.uk">www.fylde.gov.uk</a> |
| Fylde Regeneration Framework | 2010 | <a href="http://www.fylde.gov.uk">www.fylde.gov.uk</a> |

Attached documents

Appendix 1 – Details of the existing and proposed lighting columns

## Appendix 1

Figures 1 & 2 – Photographs of existing lighting



Figure 3 – Artist's impression of completed scheme

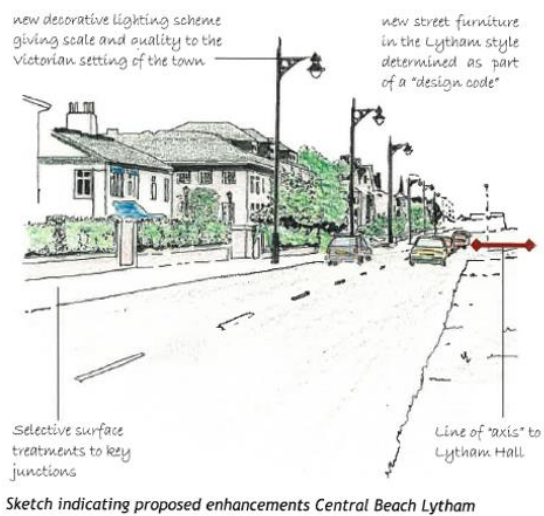


Figure 4 – Sketch indicating similar columns with proposed banner fixtures



Figure 5 – Proposed light column

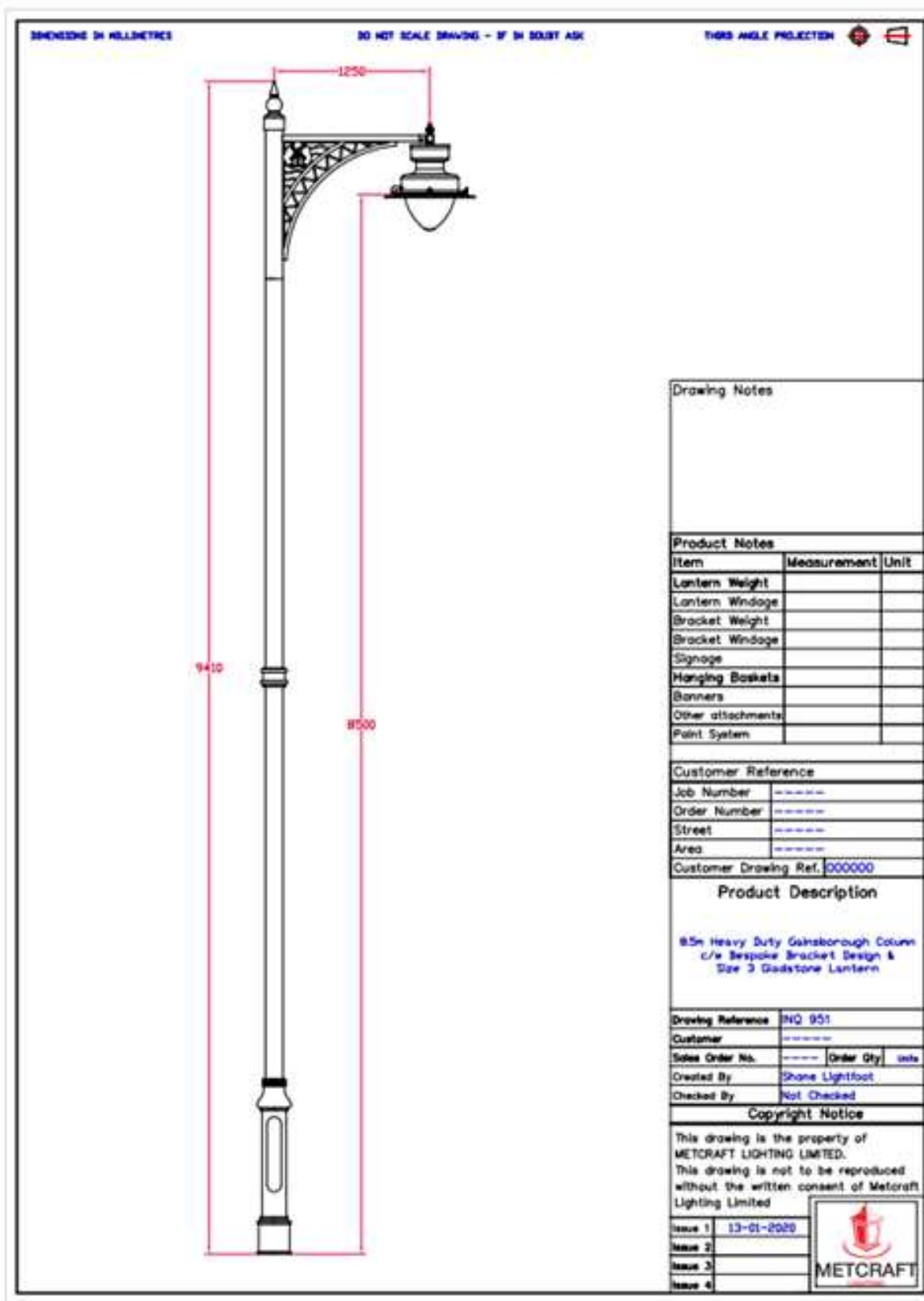


Figure 6 – Sketch of proposed bespoke lighting bracket

