

AGENDA ITEM No. 6.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL Area Committee Report

To: BELLSHILL AREA COMMITTEE	Subject:
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT	Small Communities Projects
Date: 8 September 2005	Ref: DPT/16/05/02/MH

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of the progress made on projects relating to the Small Communities Programme within the Bellshill area.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Area Committee of 2 June, 2005 was advised that David Wilson Associates had been appointed to develop detailed designs for the six Category 1 projects.
- 2.2 The detailed proposals were prepared over the summer and the drawings were sent to the Area Committee Convenor, Local Members, Bellshill and District Community Forum and Holm Gardens/Burnside Avenue Tenants/Residents Association for consultation purposes.

3. 2005/06 Projects

- 3.1 An update of all projects put forward to date is outlined on the attached Appendix. The Area Committee previously approved projects to achieve the £60,000 spend for this financial year 2005/6. Estimates of costs indicate it will be feasible to implement three of the projects within the Bellshill area and one project within Holytown. The proposals in the Mansfield Road area have proved to be outwith this year's budget but will be implemented early in the new financial year. The remaining projects will continue to be progressed and details reported to future Area Committees.
- 3.2 The increased budget in 2006/7 will allow a greater number of projects to be delivered. Suggestions and ideas from the community are required now, as a considerable amount of time is required to work up these ideas into deliverable projects. Such suggestions should be forwarded to the Director of Planning & Environment.
- 3.3 A marketing programme for the Small Communities Fund is currently being developed in order to raise awareness within communities across North Lanarkshire and promote good work achieved through the initiative. This programme will publicise the Small Communities Fund through next year and beyond.

4 Recommendations

- a) It is recommended that the Committee notes progress made on delivering Small Communities Projects in Bellshill.



David M. Porch
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

(22 August 2005)

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Mary Hogg on 01236 616247.

APPENDIX: SMALL COMMUNITIES PROJECTS

Category	Site Location/Name	Progress Update
1	Mossend, Holm Gardens/Burnside Road	Detailed designs and consultation complete. Proposals to be implemented in September to upgrade and improve the accessibility of the pedestrian link comprising of the provision of a pedestrian ramp, new planting, and the repair of the adjacent footpath and edging.
1	Bellshill, Mansfield Road.	Detailed designs and consultation complete. The proposals for these sites will seek to upgrade the appearance and amenity value of the spaces by introducing new planting, the repair and formation of footpaths, the installation of a new play area and general maintenance works. Indicative costs mean that the project will be implemented early next financial year.
1	Orbiston, Community Road and Surrounding Areas.	Further consultation undertaken. Detailed designs complete with the works being implemented in September. Proposals for these areas will include general maintenance to upgrade the appearance of the area including the repair of footpaths, re-turfing, repair or replacement of fencing and new planting.
1	Bellshill, Motherwell Road.	Detailed design complete. The proposals for this area seek to enhance the appearance of this highly visible site. Proposals include the removal of litter and debris, the construction of a new coping course to walls, replacing existing stone and cement coping on one side and the filling in of gaps in the existing soft landscaped areas. The land is not within Council ownership but talks are in progress with the owners of the land to accomplish a partnership agreement to progress the project to implementation stage in the next financial year.
1	Bellshill, Rockburn Crescent.	After further consultation detailed design complete. Proposals to be implemented in September. The proposals for the site seek to improve the amenity of the area for the residents of Rockburn Crescent and will include the planting of the embankments with shrubs and trees, the removal of a handrail, additional tree planting to achieve an 'avenue' effect and the reconstruction of uneven concrete slab paths and the removal of a paved area. A small section of railings will be installed as part of the proposals.
1	Holytown, Alexandria Quadrant	Detailed designs and consultation complete. Proposals to be implemented in September. The environmental works will add to the general amenity value of the space, in turn enhancing the appearance of Holytown village centre. Proposals will include the reformation of the open seating area, replacement of seats and litter-bins, the removal of wooden rails, reformation of footpaths, additional shrub and tree planting and general maintenance work.

2	Holytown, Jerviston Street, Holytown Station.	The land is in private ownership and would require the owner's input to ensure that improvements to the appearance and function of this site can take place. At present negotiations are underway to agree a solution with the owners that would result in the project being taken forward to design stage and eventual implementation.
2	Viewpark, Laburnum Road.	In September Consultants will be appointed by the Council to undertake a North Lanarkshire Council Wide Woodland Audit as part of the Audit a comprehensive woodland management plan will be drafted for Viewpark Glen which could result in alternative funding being made available for the enhancement of the woodland. The Small Communities budget may provide some financial assistance towards any future projects for this site however, the scale of this project requires alternative funding to develop a project of this nature and size of project
2	Holytown, Bo'ness Road, Edinburgh Road.	The original proposal for this site was for the upgrading of the fence defining the village park area to enhance and improve the visual amenity of this area. Given the location of this proposal, adjacent to one of the main approach routes to Holytown, the project has the potential to expand to a 'gateway' project leading to the village. This type of project would require additional monies and investigations are underway to find additional funding that will enable this project to be taken forward in its new form.
2	Mossend, Holytown Road, King George V Park.	This proposal comprising of the repair and repainting of the public park boundary fence will contribute to the visual amenity of this route corridor leading to Bellshill. Investigations are still on going to access additional funding in order to progress this work to implementation stage.
3	Bellshill, Town Square.	The proposal to create a more user friendly pedestrian area that would form a visible focal point for the people of Bellshill is a desirable project however, given the location, scale and funding required to undertake such works this project will be progressed through the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan.
3	Bellshill, Main Street.	This prominent maintained area of open space, which displays a good example of street artwork in the form of an obelisk, has the potential to be further enhanced by the installation of lighting. Alternative funding is being investigated to enable the project to be progressed to implementation stage.
	Hattonrigg, Emma Jay Road, Hattonrigg Road.	This project has been completed

Category 1 projects to be implemented through the money available from the Small Communities Budget.

Category 2 projects which require additional finance and resources from a range of partners which to date has not been secured.

Category 3 projects more appropriately led and delivered from other funding sources or organisations.