

To: BELLSHILL LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP		Subject: BELLSHILL TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN UPDATE
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 13 AUGUST 2009	Ref: DPT/01/02/SP/EC	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks to update the Partnership and Committee on the progress made on the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Phases 1 and 2 of the 4 phase streetscape works approved for Bellshill Town Centre have been completed. Fountain Support Services (Fountains) were appointed in September 2008 as the contractors to implement the Phase 3 streetscape works in Main Street, Bellshill. These works will be administered, supervised and managed by Land Use Consultants on the Council's behalf. Land Use Consultants were also appointed in September 2008.

3. PROGRESS

- 3.1 The re-paving and kerbing are progressing well on Main Street. The preparation works and paving of the area east of Emma Jay Road towards Bellshill Academy have been timed to coincide with the school holidays to minimise the disruption to the school's staff and pupils.
- 3.2 The majority of the new lighting columns have been installed in Main Street, Hamilton Road and North Road.
- 3.3 The annual street fair organised by the Community Council took place successfully at the end of May. The contractor, Fountains, worked closely with the Community Council and the M & D Group to ensure that the stalls and rides could be located safely within the on-going streetscape works. It should be noted that accommodating this event has resulted in a delay of one week to the contractor's programme and an additional cost of £7,500 to the Council for the work required to make the area safe for the duration of the fair.
- 3.4 A major fire in the flats above shops in Main Street on 13 June 2009 resulted in a road closure until the building was made safe. During this period the contractor experienced delays and difficulties in getting the necessary materials into the Main Street and this has caused a further week's delay to his programme.
- 3.5 On 6 July 2009 a temporary traffic management system was set up on the approaches to the roundabout in North Road. This relates to the Tesco development and will be in place for 10 weeks to allow the diversion of the gas

main. This will be followed by a 10 week road closure to enable the construction of the roundabout and access to the Tesco development to be undertaken safely. These road works have implications for the streetscape works in Main Street as the contractor has been experiencing delays in transporting their materials from storage at the Council's depot in Old Edinburgh Road.

- 3.6 The contractor has been attempting to minimise the disruption to construction progress caused by the events outlined above by extending the working hours throughout the day.
- 3.7 It should be noted that Main Street will require to be closed towards the end of the Phase 3 works to allow the re-surfacing of the carriageway. At present this is programmed during November 2009. Further details regarding the timing and duration of the road closure will be reported to a future meeting of the Partnership and Committee.

4. TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION FUND BID

- 4.1 A bid was submitted in June 2009 to the Scottish Government's Town Centre Regeneration Fund for the acquisition of gap site at 278 – 286 Main Street, Bellshill from William Morrison Supermarkets PLC as part of a wider submission covering all of North Lanarkshire's seven town centres.
- 4.2 It is proposed that, if successful, the pedestrian route will be maintained and an enhancement scheme including repaving, lighting, planting and seating will be implemented on the gap site in the same materials as the streetscape works to provide continuity in quality and design. It is envisaged that the design would also incorporate space for community events.
- 4.3 A decision on the bid is expected by August with approved projects needing to be delivered this financial year.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Partnership note progress made on the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan.



PATRICK KELLY
HEAD OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Shirley Penman on 01236 616450 (22 July 2009)