

NORTH LANARKSHIRE

COUNCIL

To: BELLSHILL LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP	Subject:	
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	BELLSHILL TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN UPDATE	
Date: 15 April 2010	Ref: DPT/01/02/SP	

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 have been administered, supervised and managed by Land Use Consultants on the Council's behalf. RJ MacLeod were appointed in early March 2010 as contractors to implement the fourth and final phase of the streetscape improvement programme. The contract will again be administered and supervised by Land Use Consultants on behalf of the Council.

3 Progress

- 3.1 Phase Three of the streetscape works is now complete. Fountains returned to site in January 2010 to complete the paving, installation of the street furniture and the granite planter / focal point outside the Cultural Centre. A granite planter has also been constructed at the eastern end of Main Street outside the flats at Academy Terrace. The carriageway along Main Street between Emma Jay Road and Motherwell Road and at Thorn Road junction has been resurfaced. The completion of phase three of the streetscape improvement programme has seen an investment of £1.9 million in Bellshill Town Centre over a 15 month period, with a resultant fresh look within this core area of the town centre and continuation of the improved public realm established through phases one and two.
- 3.2 Tender returns for Phase Four were received in February 2010, with contractor RJ MacLeod subsequently appointed in early March 2010. Phase 4 comprises the remainder of Main Street from its junction with Motherwell Road to the Cross, part of North Road extending from the Cross to the entrance to the Council's car park, and Hamilton Road from the Cross to the railway bridge. The footways will be re-surfaced in Caithness slabs and edged with wide granite kerbs to match Phase 3. A focal point will be created in front of St Andrew's Church to accommodate turning facilities and delivery vehicles. The pedestrian link between Tesco and Main Street will also be improved. It has been agreed for the contractor to make use of North Road car park as a site compound for the duration of the contract.

- 3.3 The contract also includes provision for architectural lighting on some of the feature buildings in the Town Centre. Discussions are on-going with the owners of the buildings to secure agreement to carry out these proposals.
- 3.4 The Phase 4 contract commenced in late March 2010 and is programmed to be completed in May 2011. The contractor's working hours specified in the tender document have been extended from the usual 8am to 7pm on Mondays to Fridays to 8am to 8pm. On Saturdays work will take place between 8am and 4pm with no working on Sundays or public holidays. The extended hours will reduce the time that the contractor requires to be on site to complete the Phase 4 works

4 Town Centre on Street Parking Restrictions Update

- 4.1 The initial consultation period on the proposed restrictions within the newly created bays within the town centre has now elapsed. Comments received are currently being reviewed and responses will be issued accordingly. On completion of this process, the proposals will be formally advertised to allow objections to the scheme. The consultation has covered parking bays, loading facilities, taxi ranks and disabled parking.

5. Town Centre Regeneration Fund Bid

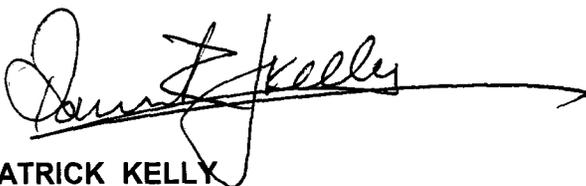
- 5.1 Funding of £150,000 has been secured from the Scottish Government's Town Centre Regeneration Fund for the acquisition of gap site at 278 – 286 Main Street, Bellshill from William Morrison Supermarkets PLC. All documentation required to secure the funding was submitted to the Scottish Government by the stated deadline in March 2010.
- 5.2 Discussions are continuing between the Council and Morrison's agents to finalise terms for the land in question, which will then allow the proposed works to progress. The works are included in the Phase 4 contract, and will involve the creation of an improved public space through re-paving, new street furniture and new lighting using a quality palette of materials, as throughout the streetscape improvement programme.

6. Motherwell Road Roundabout

- 6.1 Tenders for the construction of a new roundabout at Motherwell Road were returned in January 2010 and contractor MacLay Civil Engineering subsequently appointed in February to undertake the works. The roundabout forms part of the measures contained within Option 8 of the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan as approved by the Planning and Environment Committee in January 2002, and will lead to improved road safety along this important approach to the town centre. The new roundabout will facilitate the closure of three gaps in the central reservation along Motherwell Road.

7 Recommendations

- 7.1 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 (19 March 2010)