

Towns Funds Projects

Mablethorpe

All 4 of our managed schemes are on track for completion.

The Colonnade is progressing well and is scheduled for completion by Spring next year. We have also allocated further funds to maintain the standard and look of the paddling pool and introduce a new MUGA at the King George V Playing Field. A programme of additional events is being delivered by the Council in Sutton on Sea over the summer months with fortnightly meetings held with local businesses to help shape the programming and promotion of local activities.

The move of Grayscroft to a new depot on Golf Road continues to be on track with commercial arrangements due to be signed in the next few weeks.

Progress continues to be made with the proposed occupier of the Campus. Heads of Terms for the occupation are close to being completed, after which the building will be fitted out, with occupation of the building in the new year.

The big news though and I am absolutely delighted to say that Station Leisure and Learning Centre opens (has opened) week commencing 1st July, providing a brand new swimming facility for the first time in a generation for the Town.

Skegness

Work commenced on the Foreshore in early June to build a Travelodge Hotel and Starbucks with an expected opening of Summer next year.

In terms of the Culture House and surrounding public realm area at the Embassy Theatre it is disappointing to hear that Mellors Group have now withdrawn their match funding contribution and input into part of the scheme. However, we are now in discussions with the Arts Council about transferring their proportion of the funding and progressing this on our own. We are awaiting confirmation of this following the general Election.

Place Team Update

The Place Team have attended Lincolnshire County Show this year with a marquee in the Countryside Ring. They promoted activity along the coast, linking into the newly launched Lincolnshire Coast website, as well as the Wolds and Boston. They will also be having a presence at Heckington Show later this month. Preparations are also well underway for the 2nd Louth Food and Drink Festival on 29 September this year. In addition, the Place Team continues to support the development and delivery of Teenage Markets with a number being delivered over the summer.

The Lincolnshire Coast website has been supported through UKSPF and allowed Destination Lincolnshire to create a coastal presence. The Place Team is supporting this work through promotion and encouraging businesses to sign up to register their business for free.

The Arts Council Funded National Portfolio Organisation has been running events with the support of the Place Team at Sutton on Sea. There was a highly successful Vintage on Sea event held on Saturday 29 June which saw good weather, a good atmosphere and lots of entertainment in the town centre. On 1 August there will be a giant Whale in the town to engage people with sea pollution.

ELDC Levelling Up projects are also making good progress with planning applications submitted, or being readied, for all three sites. This should hopefully lead to activity on the sites in the coming months as work begins.

Healthy Living within East Lindsey

Household Support Fund

- ELDC have successfully distributed the final local allocation of Household Support Fund – a further £400,000 in East Lindsey to help struggling households in financial hardship or experiencing crisis.
- Under Cllr Devereux's steer we have been able not only to provide much needed grants for local food banks and community support organisations, but also provide vouchers for NHS Neighbourhood Teams to help vulnerable residents and an open application scheme which has supported households 'just about managing' including homeowners and pensioners.

Digital Inclusion

- To help resident's access and navigate support and services, we continue to work with Lincs Digital to deliver digital drop-in sessions hosted by the community.
- The sessions continue to popular locally and now with UK Shared Prosperity Funding the Healthy Living Team have been able to share our experience and success across the South & East Lincolnshire Partnership region and deliver sessions in Boston and South Holland.

Theddlethorpe GDF Community Partnership

A briefing note has been produced in response to the following request;

"A full update to be provided on the Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) Community Partnership work at the next Council Meeting to ensure Councillors are aware of the issues to be faced and what progress had been made to date" as follows:

The Community Partnership

- October 2021 - Working Group established and defined the Search Area in February 2022 covering the two electoral wards of Withern and Theddlethorpe, and Mablethorpe.
- June 2022 - Community Partnership Theddlethorpe GDF Community Partnership (workinginpartnership.org.uk) formed to facilitate discussion and ensure the community has the relevant information they need when considering the possibility of hosting a GDF deep underground up to 22km from the coast.
- The Community Partnership has 12 members, local authority (LCC and ELDC), voluntary and community, and business (vacancy). NWS (in the role of Developer) is a member of the Community Partnership. Recruitment is currently underway for an Independent Chair.

- The Community Partnership have met 17 times so far and hold regular monthly meetings. The first 'in public' meeting is proposed for September 2024.

NWS organised visits

- Four members of the Community Partnership visited an underground research facility in Bure, France to build their knowledge of how a GDF could look and to meet local community leaders to understand their perspectives on the siting process for the French equivalent of a GDF.
- Four Community Partnership members visited the British Geological Survey to find out more about rocks in the Theddlethorpe area.

Community Investment Funding (CIF)

- A Community Investment Panel manage the funding applications and award the grants. Funding of up to £1 million per annum is available for the Community Partnership to allocate to local groups and projects. A funding year runs from July to June.
- The full £1 million was awarded to eight local projects within the first funding year of the Community Partnership. This included a new adventure playground and community garden, an employability programme, and a befriending service.

Community Partnership Community Vision

The Community Partnership has a key role which involves working directly with local people – to create a community vision. The Community Partnership has initially identified ten key areas that it would like to focus on for visioning. NWS is supporting the Community Partnership in understanding how these could be presented to the public through a series of forthcoming events.

- 1) Get Connected - enhance the transportation of people, materials & data, linking communities together, providing sustainable & reliable utilities in the support of our day to day lives.
- 2) Get Involved - engaging with our community to drive change in the creation of an enhanced built environment.
- 3) Get Together - protect & enhance, resilience within or communities to survive the highs & lows of life.
- 4) Get Smart - maximise the opportunities for all, supporting innovation, sustainability & growth, whether personal or professional.
- 5) Get Creative - respect existing heritages, whilst creating new heritage & cultural opportunities connecting through arts, beliefs, customs & institutions fostering pride in where we live, work or visit.
- 6) Get Wise - protect & enhance our diverse rural & coastal landscapes, reducing consumption to support living in harmony within our built & natural environments.

7) Get Employed - support sustainable, full & productive all year round employment, encouraging new industries & businesses to the area, championing innovation, whilst supporting existing businesses through change.

8) Get Supported - promote & support healthy living for all from cradle to grave, identifying the long term resources needed to improve service provision to support our community's needs.

9) Get Skilled - support inclusive, quality, life long learning opportunities for all, supporting vocational & educational pathways to enable everyone to achieve the best that they can be.

10) Don't Get Left Behind - support the removal of long term deprivation and dependency from our communities and to support age, gender and social mobility for all.

Community Partnership Programme of Activities

The Community Partnership has established a programme of key activities to help them to fulfil their role and responsibilities. Four subgroups have been established.

- Communications and Engagement - Community Partnership newspaper 'GDF Voice', doorstep engagement (500 households), website and social media channels, holiday maker survey and weekly drop-in at the Coastal Centre.
- CIF - Promoting and allocating the £1 million funding available to the community per annum, highlighting projects benefiting from being awarded grants.
- Community Vision - working with the community to deliver a vision.
- Operations and Governance - provide support for the running of the meetings including member inductions and oversight of the workstreams as well as planning for a Test of Public Support.

NWS developer role

- The GDF programme requires NWS to find both a suitable site and a willing community and is still in the early stages. NWS will evaluate each potential site, through its site evaluation process, to establish its suitability based on six siting factors: safety and security, community, environment, engineering feasibility, transport, and value for money. Detailed studies and investigations will be conducted over a number of years to help ensure a GDF can be constructed, operated, and closed safely and securely.
- Geological Disposal Infrastructure is Nationally Significant Infrastructure under the Planning Act 2008. As such NWS is working towards an application for a development consent order to allow for site characterisation works including deep boreholes.

As many of you may be aware, a couple of weeks ago we lost Michelle Hillard to her long battle with cancer. For those who may not be aware, Michelle worked as a Communities Officer here at East Lindsey, helping to support people in our District and she played a primary role to our residents during the Covid-19 Pandemic. In addition to her role, she had also raised a huge £12,000 for the Pink Rose Suite at Grimsby Hospital.

My thoughts are with Michelle's family during this difficult time.