

In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED to approve the identified actions for 2012/13 in the current Corporate Plan and the revisions to the targets and outcomes in line with changed priorities and circumstances.

8. Lytham Hall Capital Grant Monitoring Report

Allan Oldfield (Chief Executive) introduced the first progress report on the £300,000 capital grant awarded to Lytham Hall in August 2011.

Cabinet was reminded that in August 2011, the Council agreed to pay a one off capital grant of £300,000 to Lytham Hall to support the Heritage Lottery funded Restoration Project (including restoration of the historic buildings and landscapes; sustaining investment in the long term through delivery of a management and maintenance plan; and increasing usage of the facility through the delivery of an activity development plan) to ensure the continued accessibility of Lytham Hall and associated country park.

A progress report (as required by the Heads of Terms) from John Miller, Chief Executive of Lytham Hall Trust which included details of work to date, events, signage and information that is being currently used or developed to promote Lytham Hall was included as an appendix to the report. As part of the progress report, an invitation to Cabinet members for a tour of the Hall and an associated presentation was offered by Mr Miller

In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it and at the meeting and RESOLVED:

1. To note that the capital grant awarded to Lytham Hall is being spent in accordance with the Heads of Terms as at April 1st 2012 on the restoration project and that the required monitoring information has been made available.
2. To request that a further capital monitoring report at the end of the current financial year 2012/13 to ensure the grant continues to be spent in accordance with the Heads of Terms and to confirm that the restoration project remains on target.
3. To take up the offer of a tour and presentation of the Hall as part of the monitoring process and extend the invitation to any other elected members that wish to attend.

9. High Street Innovation Fund

Prior to consideration of this matter, the Leader of the Council (Councillor David Eaves) made reference to questions that had been submitted by Councillor Elizabeth Oades and Councillor Elaine Silverwood in relation to the High Street Innovation Fund. Councillors Oades and Silverwood were invited to the table and asked the following questions:

Councillor Oades asked:

“Given that the Innovation Fund has only been given to areas which applied for the Portas Pilot Competition and given that the only area which entered this competition was Kirkham, whose entry was submitted by the Kirkham Business Group with little if any help from the Borough Council, does the Cabinet agree that this money should be given to Kirkham in order that it may be used to support and enhance the economic prosperity of the town centre?”

“As the County Council is finally about to start work on Phase 1 of improvements to Kirkham’s footpaths and forecourts, a long overdue initiative and the first for 20 years in our town, would the Cabinet agree to contribute this Innovation Fund to this initiative to