

Garstang Town Council

Minutes of the Virtual Town Council Meeting Held on 20 July 2020, 7.30pm

Present: Chairman - Cllr Webster

Cllr Allan	✓	Cllr Hynes	✓	Cllr Pearson	✓(arrived item 3)
Cllr Brooks	✓ (arrived item 8)	Cllr Leech	✓	Cllr Ryder	✓
Cllr Halford	✓ (arrived item 3)	Cllr Mitchell	✓	Cllr Salisbury	✓
				Cllr Webster	✓

Also present: Wyre Ward Cllrs D Atkins and R Atkins (part) and Cllr Collinson and 1 members of the public.

Before the meeting started, the Mayor pointed out the reference to standing orders 22b, to Cllrs.

All requests from the press or other media for an oral or written statement or comment from the Council shall dealt with by the Mayor or the Proper Officer.

46(2020-21) Apologies for absence

None

47(2020-21) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr Pearson – ‘other’ interest - Item 12 Trustee Kepple Lane Park Trust – Trustee, did not participate in the vote

Cllr Pearson – ‘other’ interest - Item 15 St Thomas’ primary school – Governor, did not participate in the vote.

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to speak.

48(2020-21) Public Participation

Wyre Cllr D Atkins reported that Garstang Town Council should be taking a lead on Garstang swimming pool, but no information was provided. Wyre Council were not responsible for opening/closing of the swimming pool. Cllr D Atkins also reported that Remembrance Sunday would be following government guidelines and that Wyre Council would keep her informed of their plans. She reported that the High Street closure had been a success, after speaking with Mr Harter, Chair of Town Trust.

49(2020-21) Minutes

A copy of the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15 June 2020 had been circulated

Resolved: The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15 June 2020 were confirmed and signed electronically as a true record.

Standing item:

Delegated decisions taken since the last Council meeting on 15 June 2020 requiring a resolution minute number:

50(2020-21) Match Funding pot for the RHSSF project

Resolved: 'That a sum of £3000 is allocated to the Match Funding pot for the RHSSF project'. That the £3,000 be sourced from Code 338 EMR VE Day 75 Weekend (6/7/2020).

51(2020-21) Town centre bollard covers

Resolved: The Council do not approve the purchase of 40 bollard covers (estimated cost 1,560) from the Wyre 'Reopening High Streets Safely Fund'. (10/7/2020).

52(2020-21) Temporary road closure, on a Thursday

Resolved: That the Town Council approve a temporary road closure, on a Thursday, to close the High Street (at the entrance by the High Street car park) to enable the Thursday market to operate in a safe environment (10/7/2020).

53(2020-21) Report from Market Town working group (MTWG) – Cllr Allan,

Cllr Leech thanked Cllr Allan for his work and progress to date on the MTWG.

- a) The Council noted a summary, to date, of the MTWG progress detailed in Appendix 1.
- b) The Council noted the weekly meeting notes of 20200616, 20200622, 20200629, 20200706, 20200713.
- c) **Resolved:** The TC endorsed the recommendation from the MTWG, that the development of a Garstang Town Centre Partnership Board and Town Centre Strategy be pursued. The Council acknowledged that the board would have sub groups with short, medium & long term goals. The Council also acknowledged that in the short term the MTWG would continue to work towards a six-month plan and co-ordinate activity.
- d) **Resolved:** The Council approved the ownership of 6 notice boards in the town, from the former Garstang & District Partnership (GDP), at no cost to the council.

54(2020-21) Planning Applications

a) Application Number: 20/00339/FUL

Change of use of existing ground floor retail unit Class A1 to a hot food takeaway Class A5, with modification of a door aperture on the front elevation and provision of extraction flue, 39 High Street Garstang

Resolved: The Council agreed with the proposal and endorsed the recommendation of Wyre Council's Environmental health report; particularly the odour and the sound elements. The TC asked that Wyre Council confirm that toilet facilities will be provided.

b) Application Number: 20/00491/FUL

Single storey rear extension and raised decked area, 2 Rivermead Court Garstang

Resolved: The Town Council agreed in principle to the application. The Town Council asked that Wyre Council's senior engineer comments be considered and that in a flood 2 zone risk area and that further information on this should be provided.

c) Application Number: 20/00498/FUL

Detached garage (following demolition of existing garage), 91 Dorchester Road
Resolved: No objections

d) Application Number: 20/00579/FUL

Proposal: Rear dormer windows and Juliet balcony, Redwoods 3 Larch Grove
Resolved: No objections

e) Application Number: 20/00608/FUL

Two storey rear extension and detached garage, Sullom View Garstang Bypass Road
Resolved: No objections

55(2020-21) Code of conduct consultation, LALC

The Council noted that the Local Government Association (LGA) had launched a consultation on a new model member code of conduct. NALC strongly encouraged local councils and county associations of local councils to consider the proposed new model member code of conduct and respond to the LGA consultation before the deadline of 17 August 2020.

'We all know the impact that poor behaviour, bullying and harassment can have on individuals and on local councils as organisations, so it is vital we continue to work as a sector to improve standards and push for further reform, at both local and national level'.

Resolved: Cllrs delegated the response to the Clerk. Cllrs to respond to the Clerk by Monday 10 August 2020 with their comments.

56(2020-21) Biodiversity within the town, Cllr Mitchell

Cllr Mitchell proposed if the Town Council would support a move to improve biodiversity within the town and create more safe havens for pollinators?

Suggestions included, reviewing the areas of grass currently under the stewardship of the lengthsman and see if there are any areas that would be suitable to plant up with more of a meadow style planting, liaise with Wyre to see if we could extend this approach to the areas within their remit, when bus shelters are due to be renewed, could we get costs for shelters with a 'green roof'?

Resolved: The Town Council agreed that the Town Council should review and improve the biodiversity within the town and create more safe havens for pollinators.

57(2020-21) Kepple Lane Park Review, Cllrs Allan, Halford & Pearson

After a lengthy discussion (37minutes) the following was resolved:

Resolved: The Town Council endorsed the review team's (Cllrs Halford, Pearson and Allan, and Kepple Lane Park Trustees) recommendation of proceeding with Option 3. Option 3 maintains the Net VAT purchasing ability and reduces the RFO management time required over the account. The review group further recommends that KLP Trustees appoint two Town Councillors on to the KLP Trustees as agreed when the lease was originally approved. The Town Council further resolved to approve the following detail.

1. Two Town Councillors are to be appointed on to the KLP Trustees as agreed when the lease was originally signed.
2. The Town Council will maintain the Kepple Lane Park EMR

3. On receipt of the precept, at the beginning of the new financial year, Full Council will approve annual MRD spend of up to £4000 at April's Town Council meeting for the remaining term of the lease.
4. On receipt of the precept, at the beginning of the new financial year, Full Council will approve annual DR spend of up to £3000 at April's Town Council meeting for the remaining term of the lease.
5. The Town Council will delegate authority to the RFO, Mayor or Deputy Mayor and payments of MDR and DR invoices will be signed by the Town Council appointed KLP Trustees as approved for payment
6. Any additional spend from the EMR is brought to Town Council by the TC appointed Trustees.
7. Any Town Council proposed EMR spend will be discussed with KLP Trustees
8. The Town Council and KLP Trustees will convene an annual review meeting prior to the Annual Town Meeting
9. KLP Trustees will provide the Town Council with the KLP Annual Accounts and will report on the KLP activities at the Annual Town Meeting.
10. The Lease is amended or a side letter agreed whichever is the cheaper option. The amendments are needed to;
 - a. Incorporate points 1 to 9
 - b. Amend the Town Council address
 - c. Update the KLP Trustee list
 - d. To recognise the additional costs for Lengthsman, Grass Cutting, Playground Equipment Inspection and Tree Inspections.

58(2020-21) Our Lancashire

Resolved: The Town agreed to sign up and join 'Our Lancashire'. Our Lancashire is funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner and the website is dedicated to not-for-profit organisations - providing space to advertise the amazing work they do, promote their upcoming events, get their message out to new members or potential volunteers and network with other organisations.

The Town Council further resolved to follow up the offer of free DBS checks, during the Covid 19 crisis for volunteers of groups with less than £150K turnover, for Cllr Pearson, Lynn Harter, Oliver Atkinson and Wyre Cllr Dulcie Atkins who are all actively involved in the Youth council.

59(2020-21) Wyre Council – 3 Year Review of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) – Control of Dogs and Dog Fouling

The Council were informed that Wyre Council is required to review its PSPOs every 3 years. The following link details the current PSPOs (PSPO Dog Control 2017 https://www.wyre.gov.uk/downloads/file/4291/pspo_dogs_order_2017)

The online consultation will be going live towards the end of July /early August for a three week period.

Resolved: Cllrs Hynes and Webster agreed to look at the review and report back to Council with their comments either at the next meeting on 17/8/20, or if required due to the timescale, by delegated powers to the Clerk, Mayor & Deputy Mayor.

60(2020-21) St Thomas School Funding Request

The Town Council considered the funding request of £5000, to assist creating a track around the perimeter of the school field. The track would allow the children to walk or run a mile a day thus having positive impact on their health, fitness and reduce the

risk of childhood obesity. The hall which is normally used for Physical Education will no longer be available.

The Clerk had informed Cllrs that, that the council would not have the power to help with the school's running costs. However, there is the Misc. Provisions Act 1976 s19 which covers recreation.

Resolved: The Town Council agreed that they were unable to assist on this occasion. As there are 3 schools classed as 'being in the town', the town council felt they would all have to be treated the same. Cllr Webster to check with Wyre and LCC for any funding streams and relay the information to the Clerk, who would then respond to the school.

61(2020-21) To improve contacts between the Town Council and the Press, Cllr Brooks

Resolved: Cllr Brooks withdrew his agenda item.

62(2020-21) Securing the future wellbeing of the High Street Cllr Brooks – request for a statement from Cllr Halford.

Resolved: Cllr Halford reported that there are no Town Trust meetings taking place at the moment with the pandemic. All decisions are being delegated to the Chair, Gordon Harter and the market superintendent. The temporary High Street closure on a Thursday was a recommendation from the MTWG and was introduced to enable shoppers and visitors to maintain social distancing. The Trust is marketing the market so that it evolves as a prosperous market. Garstang is a 'market' town – so it needs a market. Cllr Pearson (head of 'business needs' on the MTWG) added that the businesses were supportive of the closure and he had received positive feedback.

The Town Council agreed that Cllr Brooks should contact Mr Harter, Chair of the Town Trust to respond to the specific questions that he raised.

63(2020-21) Finance Committee meeting minutes 14/7/2020 (circulated to Full Council)

Resolved: The Finance Committee members approved the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 14/7/2020.

64(2020-21) Accounting statements

As per standing orders 17c) the RFO had circulated the following statements to summarise:

- i. the Council's summary receipts and payments for end Q1, 30 June 2020
- ii. a budget report for Q1, 30 June 2020 for the 2020/21 financial year which highlights any actual or potential overspends.

65(2020-21) Finance

a) Payments – Cllrs approved the following expenditures

Royal Bank of Scotland Bank account – cashbook 3

Payroll (figures provided by Towers + Gornall)

to be paid electronically on 26/7/2020 (BACS269 & BACS270) 2,779.44

LCC pension direct debit (19/7/20) 915.51

Clerk; LC2 range (new SCP as from 1/4/19 19-32), 'National Agreement on Salaries and Conditions of service of Local Council Clerks in England & Wales 2004'.

Lengthsman scale point SCP 1-4 (new SCP as from 1/4/19)

BACS00271	Mrs E Parry		14.39
	monthly reimbursement for Zoom account 7/7 – 6/8 (approved delegated authority Mayor & Deputy Mayor 7/5/20)		
BACS00272	Mowerpower		62.85
9-July-2020	119569	Stihl hedge trimmer – resin & spark plug	29.16
13-July -2020	117988	Stihl strimmer – valve clearance	33.69
BACS00274	Austin Walmsley – repairs to Kubota mower		43.20
BACS00273	Police & Crime Commissioner (P&CC) TC office rental at police station 1/5/20 - 30/4/21		1,400.00

Resolved: That the Clerk writes to the P&CC and ask if there would be a rebate on the Town Council office as the office is currently not being used by the Clerk and has not been used since 18/3/2020.

Direct Debit

17/7/2020	Three – mobile phone	16.43
1/7/2020	Three.co.uk - Office internet	8.00

Income received (cashbook 1)

19/6/2020	Public Rights of Way - Local Delivery Scheme 2020/21	500.00
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66(2020-21) Cllrs noted the statement of Accounts at 30 June 2020 – for information

HSBC Current account	£	2,340.23
Royal Bank of Scotland	£	32,431.00
HSBC Reserve account	£	49,464.53
Money Market Account 3 month	£	30,602.84
HSBC Christmas Lights account	£	-23.89

67(2020-21) The information report was noted (detailed in the Appendix)

68(2020-21) Items for Next Agenda

Councillors were asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda and 'Report of other representatives and projects', for the meeting of the Town Council **on 17 August 2020 by notifying the Clerk by 7 August 2020**. The item should specify the business which it is proposed to transact in such a way that the member who receives it can identify the matters which he will be expected to discuss i.e. it needs to specify either what the proposal is and that a decision is required or whether the item is for information only.

The meeting finished at 21.30

Appendix

Item 8 Market Town Working Group

Town Council had been approached by two businesses who had concerns about the future of the Town Centre and the recovery from the momentous lockdown caused by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Recognising the need for an urgent response and we called an Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council and sent out an open invite to the Garstang Community to get involved. We drew in support from representatives of the business community both from within the IGT and outside of IGT, the Town Trust, neighbouring parishes and members of the community. Cllrs Webster, Pearson, Mitchell, Leech and Allan volunteered to support the group.

This meeting was very well attended with 35 people joining remotely.

Since the extraordinary meeting, (8 June 2020), meetings are being held on a weekly basis, with the support of Wyre Council and LCC.

We identified some short term objectives which primarily are aimed at promoting Garstang town centre as a safe environment for people to visit and shop. One of our first challenges was to address queueing issues on Church Street and the Market Place. Measures have been taken to improve both of these areas.

Wyre Officers visited all the shops on the High Street last Thursday and carried out a health check on their preparations for welcoming customers safely. The feedback from them was very positive. Our businesses have done very well.

We are now looking at how we can prepare for the autumn and winter weather ahead where we recognise that queuing outside in bad weather will be a problem.

Thursday Market has thrown up a number of challenges and the Market Supervisor has had a team of volunteers out in Hi Viz gear to assist with the safe placement of market stalls. These have been spread out along the High Street. More is being done on this and a Temporary Road Closure has been agreed for Thursdays.

Access will be maintained for Residents and shopkeepers who will all be visited prior to the closure. Arrangements have been made to enable access to the Royal Oak car park from Park Hill Road. The first such road closure is in place for Thursday 16th July.

We have set up a Town Centre business emailing list making it much easier to communicate quickly with all businesses. So far we have sent four update communications to all registered businesses. We have also sent our restaurants, cafes, and pubs an invite to register with the Town Council if they are going to register with the Government August discount initiative. We aim to promote those business in all our usual media outlets.

In the longer term the MTWG objective is to return Garstang to its rightful place as a Thriving Market Town and a Destination for the local community and those further afield. This will be a challenge. Everyone involved is determined to make it happen.

We have structured our teams to address the short term needs with four work streams; Business Needs, People and Communications, Local Authority Liaison and Funding. This structure will be capable of supporting our first objective of building confidence in Garstang being Open for Business.

The longer term structure will change to support a five year strategic plan. This plan is the vehicle for putting Garstang on the Destination map as a Thriving Market Town. The longer term structure is currently being developed and it will have a Vision for the town which will include Economy, Health and Wellbeing, Infrastructure and Conservation of our Heritage.

In preparation for this long term project the MTWG had a presentation given by Andrea Wallace Wyre Council Senior Economic Development Officer. In this, Andrea set out a proposed Town Centre Partnership Board model. We have asked the group to provide us feedback on the way forward.

Cllr Alec Allan
Chair, MTWG

Clerks Report: For information

Mayor's duties

Sunday 21st June - Presentation of thanks to the manager at Aldi on behalf of Garstang Volunteer Force.

Sunday 21st June - Presentation of thanks to the manager of Co-Op on behalf of Garstang Volunteer Force.

Saturday 27th June - Armed Forces Day - Flag raising at Kepple Lane Park

Saturday 4th July - Gift presentation on behalf of Garstang Volunteer Force volunteers to Charlie Collinson, the founder of GVF.

Saturday 11th July - Charity stall outside Garstang Indoor Market to raise money for Garstang Millennium Way and Garstang Christmas Lights.

Project sheet - Cllr Ryder Moss Lane

Report from outside body - Garstang and District Fairtrade, Cllr Ryder

Garstang and District Fairtrade Directory is now available so pick up a copy from the Visitor Centre or look at it on our website under the business section.

<http://www.garstangfairtrade.org.uk/>

Youth for Fairtrade

This summer the Fairtrade Foundation is starting a Youth for Fairtrade group to advise the Fairtrade Foundation and shape the future of Fairtrade campaigning.

Fairtrade's vision is a world in which all producers can enjoy secure and sustainable livelihoods, fulfil their potential, and decide on their future.

We believe that by connecting disadvantaged producers and consumers, we can all work to promote fairer trading conditions and empower producers to combat poverty.

As a movement of producers, activists, businesses, and decision-makers, we have made great strides, over the past twenty-six years, since the Fairtrade Mark was first placed on a product and we are determined to continue to strive for a world in which producers thrive.

So, join us to shape the way Fairtrade drives change across the movement.

What are we looking for?

16-30 year olds to help us get creative about how we work as a campaigning movement. Would you or anyone you know like to get involved and rise to the challenge?

What is the commitment?

This is one of the things we want you to help us define! How much is the right amount of work? The group will meet virtually, and the commitment will change according to what we are working on. At first, we will run some longer workshops around our big pieces of work. This may be up to half a day per month to begin with.

We value commitment and would expect you to try to make every meeting.

What do you need to know?

You don't need to be a Fairtrade aficionado, but you do need to be someone who is passionate about seeing a world where people know and care where their food came from, and who is prepared to take action for the world you want to see.

Sounds great! What do I need to do?

You can find all the details on the Fairtrade Foundation website so visit

<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get%20involved/Youth-for-Fairtrade>

where you can download and fill in the form then return it to

joseph.harrison@fairtrade.org.uk.

There is no closing date, but we are keen to start working together as soon as possible.

Lastly, a big thank you to the market hall for hosting our display for Fairtrade Fortnight.

Wyre Council

Press release Mon 15/06/2020

Lancashire council leaders agree to explore new Combined Authority

Lancashire council leaders have agreed in principle to explore a combined authority for Lancashire.

At a meeting of all Lancashire council leaders on Wednesday a unanimous decision was taken for the councils to work together more closely to improve the economy of Lancashire addressing issues such as transport and inward investment.

At a meeting of Lancashire council leaders on 10 June councillors agreed that: All councils in Lancashire agree to continue to explore the possibility of working together with our local authority partners to investigate setting up a combined authority to embrace the county's future economic opportunities. The agreement needs to be ratified by each of the councils represented and will be subject to local democratic processes.

Other areas of the UK which have set up a combined authority have seen a boost to investment in the economy, infrastructure and skills.

Councillor Geoff Driver, Leader of Lancashire County Council stated, "The creation of a combined authority is a great opportunity for the whole of Lancashire.

The principle has been positively endorsed today by Lancashire County Council's Cabinet".

Council leaders acknowledged that the delivery of local government functions may need to be simplified in the combined authority area. They have agreed to explore models of devolution and improved governance arrangements in the future.

Councillor David Henderson, Leader of Wyre Borough Council and Councillor Alyson Barnes, Leader of Rossendale Borough Council, and Chair of the District Leaders Forum stated, "Councils in Lancashire are keen to work together for the benefit of all our residents and businesses across Lancashire.

The interest in a combined authority for Lancashire stems from the ability to access greater Government funding to assist the growth of businesses and stimulate the economy."

LALC update report Cllr Dave Sharples (secretary) Tue 07/07/2020

Unfortunately, due to the continuing situation the July meeting is cancelled, this decision has also been taken due to our new venue not reopening until August, we will review the position in the near future and ascertain how they could provide us with an appropriate setting.

For your information and notification to your respective councils i have attached a copy of a letter from Cllr. Albert Atkinson LCC Cabinet member covering HWRCs and the current status affecting the Claughton facility in Rural East. This information was sought by Catterall PC following public angst, speculation & rumour as to its future. I hope this will assist particularly the Rural East councils who are most affected by it.

Just in case you have not received the poster from Wyre I am also attaching a copy of the same received by Catterall PC regarding the opening of playing fields.

Finally, this to inform that Garstang Town Council has formed a working group to help with the reopening of the town for full business and to help promote the future of the Town. Garstang is the Key service centre for the East of the Borough and its prosperity is crucial to us all. We will receive updates of progress which I will send to you periodically to keep you informed, In the meantime we would ask for your assistance in encouraging your communities to consider utilising Garstang as much as possible.

Kerry Cossens, Community Engagement Officer, Wyre Council

Thank you for your support.

I hope you are all well and finding ways to adjust to the new way of life that we are all trying to come to terms with. Now that the community hubs that we have been operating have become much quieter I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support for both myself and the hubs but more importantly for the wider community. Living locally I have seen many people doing the simple things that have made a difference for other people and am aware that there will have been many phone calls made, meals cooked and chats over garden gates that have kept those self isolating connected.

Over the past fifteen weeks the hub for Garstang and Over Wyre have spoken to over 1300 vulnerable people to confirm their access to support and to organise further assistance. Whilst the programme for those who have been shielded is pausing at the end of July people can still access that advice and support at Wyre Together or by calling 01253 891000 until the end of August and the hubs will be prepared to restart should the need arise. People can also contact NHS volunteer responders who will also remain active by calling 0808 196 3646 and someone can shop for them or collect prescriptions if they are still experiencing difficulty or still do not wish to leave the house.

Although the business sector is reopening we are awaiting guidance for community activity and events once we have that information I hope that we can work together again to encourage people to engage with the many groups that the area has to offer and plan for next year's events season.

If you have any ideas with how we can help people move forward from this period of isolation just get in touch.

10 July 2020 Plans to reopen leisure centres across Wyre

Wyre Council has been working with Sport England and Leisure Consultants KKP to look at the best way to safely reopen leisure centres in the borough. Plans are now being put in place to reopen all YMCA leisure centre sites in Wyre for gym use and fitness classes.

Following the Government's announcement last night that gyms can reopen later this month, Fylde Coast YMCA will be reopening centres in Thornton, Garstang, Fleetwood and Poulton for gym access and fitness classes.

The gyms at Thornton and Garstang will reopen on 25 July with classes at these centres starting on 27 July. The gyms at Fleetwood and Poulton will reopen on 3 August followed by classes from 5 August.

Swimming pools and other services are not reopening at this stage, however this will be kept under constant review. As well as safety concerns, having to limit numbers of swimmers due to social distancing and the practicalities of limited changing room space, it has been decided that pools and further activities will reopen when viable. Councillor Lynne Bowen, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Health and Community at Wyre Council comments, "Since our first announcement regarding leisure centres reopening, we have been working with Sport England and industry experts to review plans to reopen. Together we have looked at the best way to provide opportunities for people to access facilities in all areas of the borough, in a way that makes sense financially and from a safety point of view. This phased approach means that we can now safely open more centres.

"We want to enable as many people as possible to be able to safely access the fitness suites and exercise classes. By re-opening all four Wyre sites, more of our residents will be able to be more active, more often with all the health benefits that that brings. We are hoping that members and non members will support the leisure centres as they start to reopen, so that we can gradually look at re-opening further facilities within each one. This approach gives us a safe, controlled and supervised health and fitness offer so that we can gradually re-build use of our facilities. We are very much looking forward to welcoming customers back."

Leisure centres across the country have been closed during the Coronavirus pandemic. As a result, leisure centres are facing unprecedented financial and operational impacts. The council has been working with the YMCA to mitigate the impact of the pandemic and support a sustainable future for the leisure centres by committing, in principle, to fund over £630,000 of costs in 2020/21.

John Cronin, CEO at Fylde Coast YMCA comments, "The YMCA will comply with all safety conditions issued by government to ensure all our visitors are safe. We will keep reviewing our services to reopen more activities as soon as it becomes viable to do so.

"I would like to thank Wyre Council for their support to enable us to continue to deliver this community provision in difficult times and serve the residents of Wyre."

To keep up to date with the latest information please visit the Fylde Coast YMCA website www.ymcayactive.org

LCC - Have your say on your roads

You can have your say on your roads and transport locally by completing a short survey. As part of a new campaign to promote the work of their highways service, Lancashire County Council is encouraging people to complete the National Highways and Transport (NHT) survey, which measures public satisfaction with services across different local authorities.

The campaign will also focus on their work maintaining Lancashire's roads, this year the team will fix around 36,000 potholes and resurface 175 miles of roads. But following a wet and stormy winter the council are finding more potholes than usual this year, so they are also asking people to help them by reporting potholes their website.

In 2020/21, the county council will spend £26m to maintain our 4,600 miles of highways and 5,300 miles of footways. They are continuously introducing new techniques to fix potholes and supplement the traditional repair teams. They have also introduced a new deep insitu recycling process for resurfacing and this year will recycle 19,000 tonnes of asphalt in resurfacing our roads. At 20 tonnes per wagon load that's an amazing 900 loads diverted from landfill and 1800 return journeys eliminated.

Find out more about how Lancashire's roads are improving and complete the survey at www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/pothole