



# DRAFT ENHANCEMENT PLAN 2018-2023



## KIRKHAM TOWN COUNCIL DRAFT ENHANCEMENT PLAN 2018 - 2023

Kirkham Town Council have developed this plan which takes in the needs, aspirations, challenges and assets identified through consultation with the residents, visitors and businesses in the Town.

The Town has a long history and is well placed as the centre of the rural villages of the Fylde but, in a changing world, is facing many challenges and finds itself with a diminishing identity and a decreasing “offer” for residents, businesses and visitors.

Fortunately it has a Town Council made up of Kirkham residents who care deeply about the Town and work hard to enhance the Town’s facilities and to improve the quality of life for their fellow residents. With a broad outlook and an “anything is possible” attitude Kirkham Town Council hope through their endeavours to put Kirkham firmly on the Fylde map and return it to the thriving centre of the Rural Fylde.

The plan is divided into five themes

1. Economic Vibrancy (Page 3 and 4)
2. Activities and Opportunities to involve the Community (Page 5 and 6)
3. Amenities and Facilities (Page 7 and 8)
4. Environment and Safety (Page 9 and 10)
5. Development and planning (Page 11 and 12)

### Abbreviations

KTC-Kirkham Town Council  
CDO- Community Development Officer  
FBC-Fylde Borough Council  
LCC- Lancs County Council  
FofKP- Friends of Kirkham Parks  
FCYT- Fylde Coast Youth Theatre  
KBG- Kirkham Business Group  
SATC- St. Annes Town Council  
KiB- Kirkham In Bloom  
KATA- Kirkham Allotment Tenants Association  
HMPK-Her Majesty’s Prison Kirkham  
CSP-Community Safety Partnership  
KCDG-Kirkham Cycling Development Group

# 1. ECONOMIC VIBRANCY

## ANALYSIS

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centre of Rural Fylde</li> <li>• Free Car parking</li> <li>• Main bus route</li> <li>• Pavements revamped</li> <li>• Historic Market Town</li> <li>• Christmas Lights</li> <li>• Good choice of shops</li> <li>• Retained greengrocers and butchers</li> <li>• Retained hairdressers/ beauticians/solicitors</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Out of date Town Centre Plan</li> <li>• Loss of doctors surgeries from Town Centre</li> <li>• Loss of Banks on High Street</li> <li>• Out of Town Development</li> <li>• Off high street businesses using shoppers car parks</li> <li>• Shop fronts/signage declining/scruffy lamposts</li> <li>• Non-active business group</li> <li>• On line shopping impact on shops</li> <li>• Lack of attractions to bring in shoppers</li> <li>• Pharmacies under threat</li> <li>• Declining Thursday Market</li> <li>• Too many charity shops</li> <li>• Absentee landlords</li> <li>• Loss of Police Station</li> <li>• Isolated from walkers/cyclists by A585/A583</li> <li>• Pavement parking on Freckleton Street</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop Town Centre plan</li> <li>• Develop and support Business Group- work with local businesses</li> <li>• Map businesses to identify gaps</li> <li>• Map ownership of premises</li> <li>• Hold regular Market</li> <li>• Develop annual calendar of events for the high street</li> <li>• Encourage shop local/ make aware of impact on town</li> <li>• Encourage alternative attractions to increase footfall- Eateries, arts, theatre/cinema, sports facilities, art and history trails etc.</li> <li>• Improve shop fronts/ street signage (revamp LCC signage and lamposts)</li> <li>• Improve signage on by-passes</li> <li>• Safer crossings on by-passes</li> <li>• Develop echelon parking along Freckleton Street/improve Eagles Court CP</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absentee landlords restricts improvement</li> <li>• Further out of town development diverting footfall from town centre</li> <li>• Further shop closures affecting existing shops</li> <li>• Reduced public transport from rural areas</li> <li>• Business Group is not developed or sustained with volunteers</li> <li>• Resistance to installation of safer crossings</li> </ul>

## ACTION PLAN

Issue	Action	Lead	Support	Priority H/M/L	Status	Financial implication	Funding
Town Centre Plan	Develop Plan	KTC	FBC/KBG	H	Awaiting KBG	None	N/A
Develop and support Business Group	Contact Business leaders	KTC/CDO	FBC	H	Ongoing	None	N/A
Map businesses to identify gaps	KBG acquire volunteers	KBG	CDO	M	Awaiting KBG	None	N/A
Map ownership of premises	Get info from Fylde	KBG	FBC/CDO	M	Awaiting KBG	None	N/A
Hold regular Market	Support KBG to develop	KBG	KTC	M	Awaiting KBG	?	?
Install street signage/Revamp existing/Paint lampposts	Design signage/ repaint lampposts	KTC	FBC/KBG/L CC	H	Awaiting LCC	?	2019/20 Budget
Develop annual calendar/events for the high St	Support KBG	KBG	KTC/FBC SATC	M	Awaiting KBG	?	Grants
Encourage residents to shop local and make aware of impact on town	Advertise "Shop Local" campaign	KBG/KTC KBG	FBC/LCC  Shop Local	M M	Awaiting KBG	?	?
Encourage alternative attractions to increase footfall- Eateries.	Rent/rates start up offer	KBG	KTC/ FBC	M	Under discussion with local landowner	?	?
Arts/theatre/cinema, sports facilities etc.	KTC Facilities program Arts development	KTC KTC	FBC/Local Groups	M M	See below		
Improve shop fronts	KBG initiative	KBG	KTC/FBC	M	Awaiting KBG	?	S 106
Improve signage on by-passes	Design Kirkham signs Welcome signs on in roads	KTC	LCC	M	Price/quotes		2019/20 Budget + S106
Lobby for safe crossings on by-passes	Highlight at planning	KTC	LCC	M	Ongoing	?	S106
Develop echelon parking along Freckleton Street/improve Eagles Court CP	Consult with LCC/FBC	KTC	FBC/LCC	H	Awaiting S106		S106

## 2.ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO INVOLVE THE COMMUNITY

### ANALYSIS

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centre of Rural Fylde</li> <li>• Some Community Groups</li> <li>• Community Centre classes</li> <li>• Cycling/Walking on Rem Way</li> <li>• In Bloom</li> <li>• KirkFest</li> <li>• FCYT</li> <li>• Allotments</li> <li>• Christmas Light switch on</li> <li>• Cricket/ Football Clubs</li> <li>• Strong Town Council</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of Community involvement</li> <li>• Minimal volunteering</li> <li>• Lack of "Community Hub"</li> <li>• Few sports clubs</li> <li>• Unengaged/unheard youth (ASB)</li> <li>• Not enough Town Councillors</li> <li>• No Youth Council</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Project</li> <li>• Promote more volunteering</li> <li>• Involve community in Council initiatives</li> <li>• Develop community groups-In Bloom/Friends of Parks/ Business Group/ Christmas Lights</li> <li>• Expand allotments so more KATA members</li> <li>• Develop sports clubs/activities</li> <li>• Develop a youth Council</li> <li>• Recruit more Town Councillors</li> <li>• Develop "adopt a plot" project</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessing hard to reach members of the community</li> <li>• Resistance to volunteering</li> <li>• Group leaders not understanding "Community group" and isolating others</li> <li>• Lack of Governance and Funding advice for new groups</li> </ul>

## ACTION PLAN

Issue	Action	Lead	Support	Priority	Status	Financial implication	Funding
Community Development project	Recruit development Officer	Clerk	KTC	H	Started	Full cost recovery	Reaching Communities
Promote more volunteering	Map existing groups/identify gaps	CDO	Community	H	Ongoing	Clerk time	N/A
	Advertise volunteering opportunities	CDO/KTC	Community Local Groups	H	Started	Clerk Time	N/A
	Request local groups for promotional posters to publish	CDO	Community Local Groups	H	Started	Clerk time	N/A
Involve community in Council initiatives	Publish plan	KTC	N/A	H	Imminent	Clerk time	N/A
Develop community groups-In Bloom/Friends of Parks/KBG/Christmas lights	As above	CDO	Local groups/CVS /KTC	H	Started Ongoing	Clerk time	N/A
Expand allotments so more KATA members	Postponed for 2 years until land becomes available	KTC  CDO	FBC	L	Waiting on FBC to transfer	Minimum cost	KTC
Develop sports clubs/activities	Expand sports facilities	CDO	Sports England FBC	H	Being developed	A lot!!	Grants S106
Develop a youth Council	Work with schools and youth clubs to engage youths	Youth Groups	KTC	Done	Growing from strength to strength	N/A	N/A
Recruit more Town Councillors	Completed	KTC		Done	Co-opted in September 18		
Develop "Adopt a plot" project	Support In Bloom and FofKP to develop project	CDO	KTC/KiB/ FoKP	M			

### 3. AMENITIES AND FACILITIES

#### ANALYSIS

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <p>Centre of Rural Fylde          Community Centre          WSH Sports Field and Pavilion          Remembrance Way and Calder Close Field          Allotments          Memorial Gardens          Maryfields          Barnfield Play area          Barnfield lock up          The Close play area and open space          Library/CAB          HMP Community Team          MUGA</p>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <p>Lack of Sports facilities          No youth facilities          Little provision for youth activities          Call for more Cycle routes          Call for history trail          Call for nature/arts trail          Dog provision          The Close underused</p>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <p>Library service runs again from Millbanke          Develop Sports Facilities on WSH          Develop Youth facilities on WSH          Develop Youth activities in arts, events.          Develop cycle routes in and out of Town          Develop History and nature/arts trail          Develop dog agility/walking area Calder Close          Utilise The Close</p>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <p>Lack of funding          Too much work for one person to action          WSH not big enough to accommodate all sports          Development encroaching on towns green spaces</p>

## ACTION PLAN

Issue	Action	Lead	Support	Priority	Status	Financial implication	Funding
Develop Sports Facilities on WSH	See Separate Project Plan	KTC	Various	H	Started	Separate plan	Various
Develop Youth facilities on WSH	Part of plan above	KTC	Various	M	Started	In separate plan	Various
Develop Youth activities in arts, events.	Calendar of activities/projects to involve youth	FCYT KirkFest FoKP	KTC/ Youth Council	H	Groups developing plan	Match Funding for grants	Grants
Develop cycle routes in and out of Town	Work with partners to map cycle network and identify gaps Apply for funding to develop	KTC	FBC Sustrans	L	Project for later	?	?
Install bike stands	Clerk to organise	KTC/ HMP/ FBC		H	Started	?	KTC/In Bloom
Develop History. Arts and nature trail	Develop Art projects to extend Arts trail from Rem Way incorporating Kirkham history	KTC	FBC FoKP CDO	H	Some parts started.	See project Plan for Arts Trail below	2019/20 Budget
Utilise The Close	Discuss	FoKP	KTC	L	Later project	?	?
Develop dog agility/walking area	Start	KTC	FofKP/KiB	H	Install Spring 19	Price- £2350	In Bloom/KTC



## 4. ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY

### ANALYSIS

<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surrounded by countryside/agricultural land</li> <li>• Council environmentally aware</li> <li>• Good number of Open Spaces</li> <li>• PCSO's</li> <li>• Observant residents</li> <li>• Close knit community</li> <li>• In Bloom</li> <li>• Kirkham Allotment Tenants Association</li> <li>• Scouts</li> <li>• Strong cycling community</li> </ul>	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth ASB</li> <li>• Drug use</li> <li>• Child exploitation</li> <li>• Lack of Police</li> <li>• Rampant housing development causing flooding and diminishing green spaces</li> <li>• Public misunderstanding of Local Government levels and their responsibilities</li> <li>• Fracking</li> <li>• No green energy strategy</li> <li>• In Bloom lacks volunteers</li> <li>• No gardening clubs</li> <li>• Dog Fouling</li> <li>• No cycling strategy</li> </ul>
<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve and provide activity for youth</li> <li>• Work with police on drug issues</li> <li>• Lobby for community policing</li> <li>• Lobby for better infrastructure on development</li> <li>• Publicise Local Government structure (educate and involve young people in local politics)</li> <li>• Continue to monitor fracking development/ risks</li> <li>• Lead the Town in Greener energy initiatives</li> <li>• Custodian of open space initiative</li> <li>• Raise awareness of dog fouling</li> <li>• Develop cycling strategy</li> </ul>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unable to engage hard to reach young people</li> <li>• More police cuts</li> <li>• Lack of funding for youth projects</li> <li>• Lack of planning regulation</li> <li>• Fracking expands across Rural areas</li> </ul>

## ACTION PLAN

Issue	Action	Lead	Support	Priority	Status	Financial implication	Funding
Involve and provide activity for youth	Run youth projects	Youth Council	KTC FCYT FoKP	H	Ongoing	Room Hire	Resolved
Work with police on drug issues	Continue to discuss	KTC Police	CSP FBC	H	Ongoing	N/A	N/A
Lobby for community policing	Gather info for a strong case	KTC	Police CSP	H	Journal being kept	None	N/A
Lobby for better infrastructure on development	Continue discussions	KTC/FBC/L CC	Community	H	Ongoing	None	N/A
Publicise Local Government structure	(educate and involve young people in local politics)	KTC Youth groups	Community	M	Youth projects being developed	None	N/A
Continue to monitor fracking development and risks	Monitoring	KTC	Community	H	Ongoing	None	N/A
Lead the Town in Greener initiatives	Eco energy for Council buildings	KTC	KBG	L	Future project	?	?
Start custodian of open space initiative (Adopt a plot)	Identify areas of open space that could be adopted by individuals or groups	CDO	KIB/KTC FoKP HMPK KATA	L	Started	Clerk time	N/A
Raise awareness of dog fouling	Signage?	FBC	KTC	H	Ongoing and future initiative	Signage costs/advertising	?
Develop cycling strategy	Set up cycling development group	KCDG	KTC	L	Not started	N/A	N/A

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### ANALYSIS

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Centre of Rural Fylde</li><li>• Town Councillors sitting on planning at FBC/LCC</li><li>• Good relationship with planning officers</li><li>• Concerned Community</li><li>• KTC ownership of green space</li><li>• Section 106 contributions increasing for town facilities</li></ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local voices overruled by central government</li><li>• Green space at risk of development</li><li>• Drainage infrastructure overloaded</li></ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to argue for sustainable development</li><li>• Raise awareness locally on unsuitable development</li><li>• Continue to acquire green space on the town periphery</li><li>• Lobby for better drainage</li></ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local voices overruled by central government</li><li>• Further unsustainable development</li><li>• More flooding</li></ul>

## ACTION PLAN

Issue	Action	Lead	Support	Priority	Status	Financial implication	Funding
Continue to lobby for sustainable development	Monitor, comment. lobby	KTC	Residents	H	Ongoing	None	N/A
Raise awareness locally on unsuitable development	Monitor, comment. lobby	KTC	Residents	H	Ongoing	None	N/A
Continue to acquire green space on the town periphery	Create green lung by extending existing KTC green space	KTC	FBC Land owners	H	Ongoing 3 plots in hand	Depending on ownership	Loan KTC Funds
Lobby for better drainage	Anti-flooding campaign	KTC	FBC community	L	Future initiative	None	N/A