

MARKET TOWN REGENERATION FUND

**PRESENTATION BY DAVID ASHLEE –
TOWN CLERK AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE**



VITAL STATISTICS

- Population - 40,000
- Tax base 17/18 - 12,435
- Band council tax charge - £175.21
- Precept 17/18 - £2,178,736
- Gross revenue budget - >£3.1million
- Capital expenditure 17/18 - circa £1million
- No members - 21 (5 wards)
- Staff employed - >85
- Services delivered - 23

Everything delivered in-house!



WHAT DOES THE COUNCIL DO?

- Cemetery and bereavement services (4 hectares)
- 6 x allotment sites (250 plots)
- 14 x parks and open spaces (play areas football pitches etc.)
- 2 x town centre gardens
- Creasey Park Community Football Centre
- Town centre floral displays
- Town Ranger Scheme
- Town Centre Ranger Scheme
- Bennett's Splash and Splashside Café
- Community grants
- Christmas lights
- Town centre management
- 7 x external contracts
- Dunstable Market
- Town centre toilets
- Large events programme
- Priory House Heritage Centre and Tea Rooms
- Grove Corner youth facility
- Grove Skate Park
- Older people's lunch clubs
- Community projects
- 2 x community centres
- Civic functions



MARKET TOWN REGENERATION FUND

- Central Bedfordshire Council funded scheme. £4million made available across the Central Beds area
- Bids to be submitted by town or parish council's
- Bids permitted up to £1million. Must be match funded by bidding town council for capital funds only
- Bids must evidence impact on town centre regeneration
- All funding must be spent by end of March 2018

WHAT FUNDING DID THE TOWN COUNCIL SECURE?

- The Town Council secured £610,000 and was able to evidence a further £935,000 of matched funding giving a total project fund of **£1,545,000** (this figure is likely to change by end of March 2018)
- Funding will assist with 7 different projects:
 - Town Centre Ranger scheme
 - Town Centre architectural lighting
 - Bennett's Splash and Splashside Café
 - Priory House feasibility study
 - Priory Gardens new entrances
 - Town Centre signage
 - Quadrant toilets re-opening



TOWN CENTRE RANGER SCHEME

- £80,000 grant awarded to purchase equipment
- £30,000 per annum cost to DTC
- Scheme fully operational



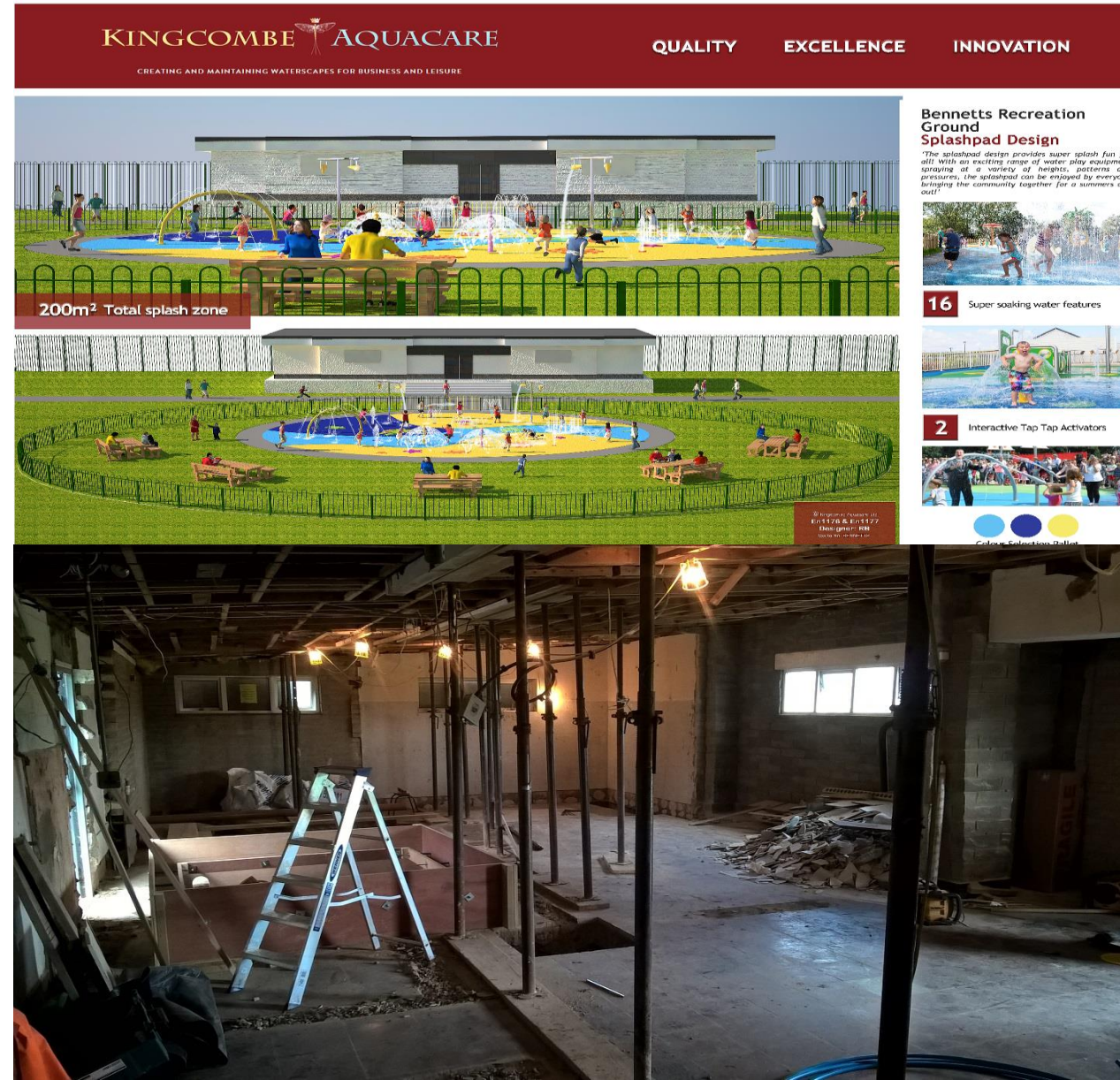
ARCHITECTURAL LIGHTING SCHEME

- £60,000 grant awarded
- £3,000 per annum cost to DTC and partners
- Lighting installed at Grove House, Priory House and Dunstable Conference Centre
- Phase 1 completed, phase 2 will be completed during the summer



BENNETT'S SPLASH AND SPLASHIDE CAFÉ

- £275,000 grant awarded
- £245,000 capital from DTC
- £40,000 per annum cost to DTC
- Work is underway and new facility should be opened by end of June this year





PRIORY HOUSE FEASIBILITY STUDY

- £30,000 grant awarded
- £35,000 grant secured from Historic England
- Study will provide a conservation programme and cost profile for future protection of priory House



NEW PRIORY GATEWAY ENTRANCES

- £30,000 grant awarded
- £10,000 capital from DTC
- £5,000 from various partners
- Phase 1 completed, phase 2 being designed



TOWN CENTRE SIGNAGE

- £70,000 grant awarded
- £5,000 DTC contribution (officer time)
- Scheme to be developed in line with A5 de-trunking. Will also include new signage at White Lion Bus Way stop



QUADRANT CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS AND PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

- £65,000 grant awarded
- £200,000 partnership matched capital
- £25,000 per annum partnership funding
- Scheme unlikely to go ahead



HIGH STREET IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

- Additional £1million made available from CBC
- Retailers / businesses can bid for 60% of improvement costs up to £20,000
- Currently 12 retailers actively being supported



QUESTIONS

