## **Thornaby Town Deal Board**

## Minutes of Meeting held on 10 August 2021

## Present:

Mark White – Chair Cllr Nigel Cooke Richard McGuckin Matthew Vickers MP Cllr Sylvia Walmsley Cllr Luke Frost Cllr Mick Moore Iain Robinson Leon Jones Paul Gibson Claire Frawley
Niall Innes (observer)
Rev'd. Robert Desics
Dermit Smith
Angela Lockwood
Katy Severs
Lesley Graham
Mehboob Ahmad
Dianne Buckton (minutes)

## Apologies:

Cllr Tina Large Cllr Ray Godwin Cllr Steve Walmsley Mike Baum

Item	Comment/Action	Owner	Deadline
1	Housekeeping and Chair's remarks		
	Chair welcomed all to the meeting.		
	Since the last met there has been significant progress in a number of areas and we are now about to move ahead on workstreams. Next meeting to be held at Riverside College and hosted by Lesley.		
	Chair made reference to the recent article on Thornaby Town Deal which had appeared in the summer edition of Thornaby Pride and agreed to circulate to the Board.  Sylvia advised this will be a regular page in future issues which are circulated quarterly.	Chair	
2	Review of Minutes from 14 May 2021		
	Agreed as an accurate record.		
3	Progress Presentation		
	lain presented an update to the Board (copy attached) summarising what has happened since the last meeting and including options for the town centre.		
	Cllr Sylvia Walmsley asked if there had been any representatives from Thornaby present at the recent site visits with Consultants. Iain confirmed the site visits were held in order to give the consultants		

1

	an understanding of where the various components sit within the town.	ID	
	Chair added that when Jacobs return we need to ensure appropriate members of the Board are included in any site visits.	IR	
	lain provided background to the issues around current ownership of the Golden Eagle, the leasehold interest in the building along with existing owners of the centre, LCP. Assembling sites is the first challenge and working with landowners in order to bring the project forward. There are constraints on development including sub stations and broader considerations which need to be considered in delivery options.		
	Richard confirmed officers are working very positively with all people involved but negotiations take time due to the legal complexities.		
	Dermit added that LCP are very willing to get vacant possession. They are working with Npower at present and then the Golden Eagle and are working closely with the Council to try and maximise vacant possession as quickly as possible but at a reasonable price.		
	Cllr Luke Frost commented that Thornaby needs footfall but facilities are also needed for small to medium sized businesses and the current plans are looking residential heavy. There needs to be ongoing dialogue about priorities.		
	Matt Vickers MP asked if a commitment could be made for ownership of the buildings and dialogue to be in place for leisure facilities by the end of the year and the local deal will be in response to residents requirements.		
	Richard confirmed officers are working very hard with LCP in order to get Phoenix House and Golden Eagle, thist will happen as soon as practical and the Board will be kept informed in terms of acquisitions.		
	Frameworks are in place and workstreams are the place for the Board to give their views.		
	Revd Desics commented that his understanding was the plan was to be more commercial and leisure based and asked what links the residential plans will have in terms of Anson and Hudson buildings when they are demolished.		
	lain confirmed that all comments regarding residential use etc will be considered in detail via the workstreams including how the sites will function.		
	Next steps are to hold detailed sessions in early September in order to feed back to the next Board meeting on 24 September.	DB	10.08.21
	Dianne to e-mail Board members inviting expressions of interest in the workstreams.	טט	10.00.21
4	<u>Q&amp;A</u>		
	Cllr Sylvia Walmsley enquired as to the old Rocket building which overlooks the station and is in a poor state, giving a bad impression when exiting the station and asked if this could be demolished.		

	Richard to pick up with colleagues looking into ownership etc.	RMc	
5	Date of Next Meeting		
	Friday 24 September @ 2.00pm		
6	Any Other Business		
	Cllr Sylvia Walmsley promoted Thornafest, a live music event showcasing local talent which is being held in Thornaby on Saturday 14 August, 11.30am until 11.30pm. Tickets are £10 each from Eventbrite.  Dianne to circulate the link to Board Members.	DB	10.08.21
	In closing the meeting Mark expressed his thanks to the Board for the trust they are placing in Cllr Cooke, Richard, lain and himself and the good work to date.		