

Thornaby Town Deal Board

Minutes of Meeting held on 31st January 2024

Present:

Chair, Mark White CBE DL
 Cllr Nigel Cooke
 Iain Robinson
 Lesley Graham
 Jonathan Gilroy
 Jonathan Kibble
 Matt Vickers MP (Teams)
 Steve Walmsley
 Jane Edmends
 Ian Davies
 Phil Hastie
 Cllr Richard Eglington

Cllr Sylvia Walmsley (Teams)
 Leon Jones
 Helen Dixon
 Sharon Thomas
 Cllr Mick Moore
 Cllr Ian Dalgarno
 Cllr Ray Godwin
 Laura Buckley
 Amanda Ellwood
 Emma Speight
 Paul Gibson

Apologies:

Angela Lockwood

Chris Smith

Item	Comment/Action	Owner	Deadline
1	<p><u>Housekeeping and Chair’s remarks</u></p> <p>The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all. Introductions were made and the chair noted that Councillor Sylvia Walmsley and Matt Vickers MP have joined via Teams.</p>		
2	<p><u>Review of Minutes from 28th July 2023</u></p> <p>Minutes of previous meeting agreed as accurate though the spend deadline noted as 31st March 2025 is now 31st March 2026.</p> <p>Iain Robinson informed the Board that Stockton has been identified as one of a handful of authorities to benefit from all 3 funds and as such, we have entered the Pathfinder scheme which provides additional flexibility and aligns the deadline across all funds (Future High Streets Fund, Town Deal and Levelling Up)</p>		
3	<p><u>Board Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)</u></p> <p>Initial MOU has been agreed but a refreshed version is required to reflect the current delivery phase and role of the Board.</p>		

4	<p><u>Progress Update</u></p> <p>Update provided on the 4 intervention areas:</p> <p>Thornaby Town Centre (Iain Robinson)</p>		
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	<p><u>Golden Eagle</u> – Iain provided an update on the current position and is confident that an agreement can be reached that can be recommended to Cabinet.</p> <p>Cllr Godwin commented that this is positive news for the town.</p> <p>Steve Walmsley commented that with The Golden Eagle still standing, it will put investors off the area.</p> <p>Cllr Cooke added that he is confident that we can get to an agreement relatively soon.</p> <p>Iain thanked the Board for their understanding on what has been a very complex situation and such a sensitive issue locally.</p> <p><u>Pavillion Pool</u> – Iain Robinson shared a presentation showing the emerging design which is now approaching RIBA Stage 2. This sees a 5 lane, 25m pool with changing village and associated parking and entrance point on the site of the former Phoenix House. The new building will link to the existing Pavillion via a bridge link at first floor with some refurb works and internal configuration as required.</p> <p>Ryders to continue with design through to stage 3 ready to submit for Planning early summer 2024.</p> <p>Cllr Godwin commented that the Pavillion is a great facility but not fit for present day. We need to seize the opportunity to invest in the Pavillion and future proof for the next generation.</p> <p>Steve Walmsley added that we need to look for quality that is going to last and pools and gyms will bring people into the town centre on an evening and add to evening economy.</p> <p>Cllr Cooke commented that we're very conscious of the issues raised and would welcome views from Tees Active going forward. .</p> <p>Steve Walmsley observed that there needs to be some flexibility within the funding.</p> <p>Skills (Phil Hastie and Ian Davies, Education Training Collective)</p> <p><u>NETA Relocation</u> – Phil Hastie provided an overview of the current location set up and the key priorities along with a breakdown of funding make-up and timeline. Design works are currently ongoing but it is anticipated that the project will complete September 2025.</p> <p>Ian Davies thanked the Town Deal Board for their support.</p> <p>Chair asked where the proposed new car park is in proximity to the existing SRC Campus – Iain responded that the carpark will be accessed from the existing entrance from Harvard Avenue. The current campus has an open feel and this will be preserved and strengthened. The new NETA facility will be accessed off Princeton Drive.</p>		
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	<p>Matt Vickers MP asked whether the new car park would include any landscaping – Ian responded that the aspiration is to soften the site with trees and shrubs.</p> <p>Matt Vickers MP then asked for further detail on the T Level scheme funding and what this will look like operationally – Phil and Lesley Graham responded that the budget is £2.5m which includes Government funding with the majority committed to the new building to create a range of new facilities in a modern training environment. Lesley then offered to facilitate a visit for Matt Vickers MP to view the facility.</p> <p>Chair asked about connectivity to the site.</p> <p>Jonathan Kibble responded that Teesdale is currently served by public transport along Harvard Avenue and referenced the recent announcement of investment in a transport hub at Teesside Park. The site is well connected with pedestrian access via Infinity Bridge.</p> <p>Cllr Godwin commented that it's great to see a long-term vision for Teesdale as a whole and how the site will be repurposed. Provisions such as this are paramount to the development of the area.</p> <p>North Thornaby (Jane Edmends)</p> <p><u>Community Park</u> – Refurbishment works to hall and play equipment complete with Little Sprouts now running a café.</p> <p><u>Safer Streets</u> – Work carried out in 524 properties to date with a total of just over 6,500 interventions and a number of jobs passed to partner agencies such as CFYA and Cleveland Fire Brigade. An initial area was prioritised but the number of people interested is now slowing down. Will look to widen the project area and bring back to the board for agreement.</p> <p><u>Empty Properties</u> - Priority properties identified and active offers going in to bring back in to use. One problematic empty home not proving successful but now able to pursue alternative legal options and 2 further properties will be going back to auction.</p> <p><u>Energy Efficiencies</u> – Total cost of measures installed to date is £184,284.84 with a total of 69 measures installed.</p> <p>Cllr Mick Moore asked what the uptake in Solar Panels is. Jane responded that 25 properties have received so far.</p> <p>Cllr Nigel Cooke commented that progress is encouraging. There are wider issues across North Thornaby and whilst that sits outside the remit of this board, the Local Authority has a serious ambition to try and tackle.</p> <p>Cycleways (Jonathan Kibble)</p>		
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	<p>Jonathan provided an overview of the proposals which aims to fill in the gaps in the existing infrastructure and provide as much connectivity into the town centre.</p> <p>Engagement sessions took place in September 2023 and included a high level overview of the proposals. A banner and forms were left in Thornaby Pavillion throughout September. 22 responses were received with 55% being of a positive of general nature.</p> <p>Sweco have been appointed to undertake detailed design over the coming months with an intention to go out to tender and start on site late summer. Further consultation to take place with those residents who will be directly affected.</p> <p>Completion of detailed design should be in line with next meeting date and will look to invite Sweco along to talk through design.</p> <p>Cllr Ray Godwin queried how you would get from Lanehouse Road/South Thornaby to North Thornaby and what opportunities there are for getting children involved in cycling. Jonathan responded that TVCA are investing in other networks as well as working with schools through a Public Health England funded post, to get children involved.</p> <p>Cllr Ray Godwin added that the quality of the scheme is promising and good that it's passing by both secondary schools.</p> <p>Helen Dixon highlighted that the proposed TVCA infrastructure across the Borough is available on their website. Walking & Cycling Network - Travel - Tees Valley (teesvalley-ca.gov.uk)</p>		
5	<p><u>Q&A</u></p> <p>Chair asked about the Boards view on the recent announcement of funding for transport hub at Teesside Park. Iain Robinson responded that it's a really positive announcement and whilst it is very early days, details will begin to emerge.</p>		
6	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Next meeting to be scheduled for April/May.</p>		
7	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Chair thanked all for attending. Board came to a close.</p>		