

Thornaby Town Deal Board

Minutes of Meeting held on 30th January 2025

Present:

Chair, Mark White CBE DL
 Cllr Nigel Cooke
 Cllr Ray Godwin
 Leon Jones
 Cllr Mick Moore
 Cllr Sylvia Walmsley
 Cllr Ian Dalgarno
 Matt Vickers MP (Teams)
 Jonathan Gilroy
 Cllr Nathan Gale
 Emma Speight
 Amanda Ellwood

Iain Robinson
 Rachel Haycock
 Helen Dixon
 Jonathan Kibble
 Steve Walmsley
 Angela Corner (for Chris Smith)
 Cllr Richard Eglington
 Andy McDonald MP
 Ian Davies
 Siobhan Callaghan
 Martin Wade (Teams)
 Phil Hastie

Apologies:

Julie Gilhespie
 Jane Edmonds
 Mike Baum
 Sharon Thomas

Sam Dixon
 Paul Gibson
 Chris Smith

Item	Comment/Action	Owner	Deadline
1	<u>Housekeeping and Chair’s remarks</u> Welcome and introductions from all.		
2	<u>Review of Minutes from 5th September 2024</u> Agreed as accurate record.		
3	<u>Progress Update</u> Andy McDonald gave an overview of joining the board and Thornaby, he said he was staggered that its such a small geographical area with so many good things going on. Skills, transport and leisure improvements are great and he feels privileged to be joining. Update provided on the 4 intervention areas: Thornaby Town Centre (Iain Robinson)		

<p><u>Pavilion Pool</u> – tender process has been delayed due to a legal challenge so we are going back out to tender. Sport England funding may come available to support.</p> <p>Andy McDonald MP – will this go to the same contractors – yes Cllr Sylvia Walmsley – will others also tender this time – yes Steve Walmsley – can we put something out to the public to explain the delay? Cllr Nigel Cooke – an unwelcome development but the Council have acted appropriately. Agree we should be proactive about comms Cllr Sylvia Walmsley – when does the money need to be spent – Town Deal money has to be spent by March 2026 but the council funds of £5million can be spent past that date.</p> <p><u>Golden Eagle</u> – The building will be sealed in the next few weeks and pre-demolition surveys are ongoing. We should appoint a demolition contractor in the Spring. Bat surveys will be done in May time – if there are bats we will need a bat licence. Discussion on the different approaches that may be taken to demolition Discussion around the plans for the area once the Eagle is demolished.</p> <p>Martin Wade – gave an overview of the Food and Beverage offer and what options they envisage. Conversations around the drive thru element which could be a smaller coffee shop or large operator</p> <p>Steve Walmsley – asked for clarification on the contribution to the evening economy. Martin – we are looking at an operator to bring a modern new feel. There is enough parking provision to accommodate this</p> <p>Cllr Sylvia Walmsley – any issues planning wise with another food use in Thornaby as some hadn't been approved recently. Martin – we don't envisage any issues with planning as this would be an alcohol and food licence rather than a takeaway which was oversaturated in the town. Drive thru would be a coffee shop and drive thru.</p> <p>Cllr Mick Moore – we do need a new pub in the town centre to bring in footfall. Concerned about a drive thru near the roundabout.</p> <p>Cllr Nathan Gale – Night time provision is essential and is untapped. Ideas look good. Drive thru also good but agreed need to consider traffic on Allensway.</p> <p>Andy McDonald MP – really exciting. Initial response is the same – impact of traffic on drive thru. Nighttime economy, keep an external eye on public transport on an evening. Mixed uses, health and education good to consider too. Vibrant town centre with good rates of occupancy and footfall. Exciting.</p> <p>Cllr Nigel Cooke – echo the other views. Thanks to Martin Wade for sharing the early thoughts on the plans. Need to use opportunity to increase the footfall in the day and the evening to</p>		
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	<p>include the leisure and food/drink offer on a night. Traffic impact assessment should be picked up in the planning process and pre-planning advice would be good for this.</p> <p>Steve Walmsley – Need to cover all bases to attract to the centre. Agree people to want a night time offer.</p> <p>Cycleways (Jonathan Kibble) Jonathan confirmed that a further £1.5million of funding has been secured from TVCA to enable a greater proportion of the scheme to be funded. Revision to the programme with construction now to start July 2025, this is due to the need for further amendments to the design and still allows for the consultation with residents. The project is expected to complete in the Spring of 2026 Jonathan also confirmed that Thornaby Station is going well and they are looking at various options to make it more accessible.</p> <p>Andy McDonald MP – bus services operating changes to improve bus services through enhanced partnership. Amanda Ellwood – Residents need safe transport links to the town centre support offers Cllr Mick Moore – some residents are concerned about flooding in some areas of the scheme – Jonathan said these concerns have been picked up.</p> <p>North Thornaby (Sam Dixon) Sam has had to give apologies for the Board but will provide a written update to go out with the minutes.</p> <p>Emma Speight – all is going really well. 5 properties are occupied and a further 2 are with legal. 4 are getting viewed next week. Lots of demand for these properties. They are brought up to a high energy performance. Angela Corner – raised the social value aspect. Iain confirmed that the Council contracts include social value commitments.</p> <p>Skills (Ian Davies, Education Training Collective) Ian confirmed that the new car park is due to be completed and contractor vacating end of February so that it will be open to students and staff starting back after half term. For the new build NETA building the stage 2 Tender period is ongoing with mobilisation of contractor March 25 and completion in April 2026.</p> <p>Mark White (Chair) asked if they have vacated their old premises okay – yes Cllr Nigel Cooke – great progress and will be a phenomenal facility. Mark White (Chair) agreed it will be transformative Cllr Sylvia Walmsley – When will it be completed – early to Mid 2026.</p> <p>Site visit The meeting was followed by a site visit to the location of the new NETA building and the almost completed car park.</p>		
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4	<p><u>Q&A</u></p>		
5	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Around Easter 2025 – date and venue to be confirmed</p>		
6	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Jonathan Gilroy – attends a few Town Deal Board meetings and the positive spirit and joint working is exceptional in this one despite the hurdles. Progress is very good. Board is chaired exceptionally well and Stockton Borough Council administer it very well too.</p> <p>Cllr Nigel Cooke – strengths of the Board is working together with different elected Members and the partners around the table. Joined up thinking about the different phases of Town Deal projects. We need to promote accessibility to all the sites for our residents.</p> <p>Chair asked Steve Walmsley to sum up;</p> <p>Steve likes looking after the area / people where he lives. Been many regenerations over the years. The Board have pulled something together for the town which is quite incredible. Neta is a god send for the whole area. Teesdale needs work and would benefit from better connectivity. The Town Centre improvements will be great. Buses and connectivity positive too. The Board have pulled it all together by working together without ego and wanting the best for Thornaby on Tees!</p> <p>Chair thanked all for attendance and brought the meeting to a close.</p>		