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ACCRINGTON
TOWN CENTRE
PARTNERSHIP
BOARD
MEETING
MINUTES

June 6
2024

Date, Time & Location
Thursday 6th June 2024
10:00am – 11:30am
HBC Offices / Microsoft Teams

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Attendees

Board Members Present

David Sanderson	(DS)	Independent Chair
Richard Hooper	(RH)	Adventure Hyndburn
Miranda Barker	(MB)	East Lancs Chamber of Commerce
Sharon Hendrie	(SH)	Ynot Aspire
Lyndsey Sims	(LS)	Hyndburn Leisure
Steph Armes	(SA)	Lancashire Police
Purves Ali	(PA)	Accrington Stanley Trust
Kath Gregson	(KG)	Hyndburn Chamber of Trade
Cllr Zak Khan	(ZK)	Leader of the Opposition Hyndburn Borough Council

Apologies

Edward Matthews-Gentle	(EM-G)	Lancashire County Council
Elaine Barker	(EB)	Hyndburn Community Voluntary Support Group
Steve Burns	(SBu)	Lancashire County Council (Deputy below)
Tom Lees	(TL)	Bradshaw Advisory (Deputy below)
Andrew Parkin	(AP)	Nelson Group (Accrington and Rosendale College)
Cllr Munsif Dad	(MD)	Leader of Hyndburn Borough Council

Advisors to the Board

David Welsby	(DW)	Hyndburn Borough Council
Steve Riley	(SR)	Hyndburn Borough Council
Jess Simkin (minute taker)	(JS)	Hyndburn Borough Council

Guests attended:

Matthew Brighty	(MBr)	Bradshaw Advisory
David Gordon	(DG)	LCC
Vladimir Pejcinovic	(VP)	Culture & Heritage Investment Panel (CHIP)
Frances McGeown		Jon Matthews Architects – Lead Masterplanning Team
Andy Roberts		Planit (Urban Design Group)
Rhian Davitt-Jones		CBRE

N.B. Actions in this document are detailed in blue and preceded by [ACTION]

Appendices references are indicated with green text

Item 1 Welcome and Apologies

DS welcomed attendees to the meeting and JS confirmed apologies received.

Item 2 Introductions

Intros carried out.

Item 3 Review of last Minutes

Last minutes approved. No comments.

Item 4 ATC Masterplan/Development Framework

JMA shared their presentation with the panel. **To be shared with Minutes.**

DW thanked the team for their presentation and the insight. DW is mindful that as a board of stakeholders it will be tough to all be aligned. Discussions re the benches/seating in the town centre, as they have sometimes received negative feedback due to attraction from people abusing the town centre. DW added that public toilets are even an issue due to them being abused by a small number of individuals even though these are providing a specific purpose in the town centre.

SH agreed adding that the perception needs to be changed first.

ZK added his agreement with DW re the dynamic of the TC, that it's different to other town centres. Adding that he feels it will need more work than some other towns. Vlad added that ASB doesn't tend to occur during events, usually when the TC is quiet.

Rhian added that this is part of the longer-term plan.

LS thanked the team for their presentation. Interested to discuss the KPI's further from a C&H perspective. LS added she has also seem consultation fatigue in the past.

DG followed on from, DW and ZK's comments. Reiterated that LCC are on board in terms of Highways. Added that Lancashire Skills Hub has a social officer who may be of use, to have an initial conversation with.

SH added that she is from St Helens and had no idea what is going on in and around her area, asking how the public would be updated about the plans going forward.

DS thanked the team on the Boards behalf.

Item 5 Culture & Heritage Update

Vladimir Pejcinovic provided intros. RH explained the background on the C&H and the recent Alumni partnership. Part of the LTPfT, is dedicated to C&H. A recent appointment of a C&H manager. Partnerships have been created with Pennine Lancashire, Hyndburn communities. We have also

instructed CT Consults to create a C&H strategy, with the help of the Culture and Heritage Investment Panel (CHIP).

VP added the reasoning for the C&H push in Hyndburn. He noted that the way people were using the town centre had changed, people did not use Accrington as a town centre. Creativity and culture haven't become a core energy of the future plans. It doesn't compete with existing retailers/businesses, it contributes to wealth. The perception of Accrington is slowly changing.

The huge investments being put into Market Chambers, Burtons Chambers and the Market Hall. Engaging with culture has shown to improve wellbeing, mental health and educational attainment but also noting it has economic benefits. Vlad added that they want to achieve the goal of getting the community involved. Workshops have been started and will take place over the coming 12 months.

VP added his thanks for this being added as a standing item to the Agenda. DS added that this will be a regular item for this board meeting to hear about the progress being made.

SH added that the individuals she works with are very pleased to discuss the history for the town/borough and when asked what they see in the future, they want tradition and history. Vlad added that Market Chambers.

Item 6 LTPfT 1st August Submission

MBr provided update and explained we are hoping to receive more guidance soon around a specific template for submission. The LTPfT submission requires a 10 year overall vision but also a more detailed initial 3 year spending plan through this template. MBr confirmed that "on menu" suggested spend interventions will be subject to far less scrutiny if chosen. "Off menu" i.e. interventions not listed, will require more work due to the fact we would need to produce individual business case/s.

DW highlighted the 3 year plan, adding that the first year needs to have much more details, with the 2 years being slightly less detailed. DW added that it would be good to submit this prior to the deadline to check we are on the right track. Note: a change in Government could change the funding guidance or even the funding itself. MBr agreed and also said he wouldn't be surprised if DELUC pushed the 1 August deadline further away. DS conscious of the short timescale given we haven't yet received the 3 year template.

SA asked for the documents to be re shared, the guidance. MBr share with JS so she can circulate with minutes [\[ACTION\]](#)

Item 7 Community Chest

SR provided an update on a proposal for creating a community chest funding pot. A document has been circulated for comments from the Board. Some comments were made at the meeting and members were asked for any final comments to be received before 10th June.

DW confirmed that DS needs to remain impartial with any suggested interventions.

DW added that all aspects have to agree, the Board, the Council and the MP. At the moment, the MP is currently not in a position to agree until after the General Election. The new MP will have to be briefed ASAP following the elections.

Item 8 Project Funding Submissions

Please see item 6 for a combined update. A further reminder for return of suggestions to Bradshaw by close of play Monday 10 June 2024.

Item AOB

DW added that there has been a range of H&C activities funded through UKSPF and funding for this may need consideration in the future such as LTPfT. The Combined Authority plan didn't complete due to the recent dissolution of government and as such if this funding were to continue in the same format the Council could receive this funding in 25/26 and 26/27, which if correct would form part of LTPfT plan.

SR added that the Master Planning kick off meeting will take place later today.

Next Meeting

Date: Thursday 27th June at 10am - Teams only