

**DARLINGTON TOWN DEAL BOARD**  
**Microsoft Teams Meeting**  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**Present**

Kate Roe (Chair)	Chris Mains
Adam Suleiman	Mark Ladyman
Cllr Heather Scott	Yvonne Richardson
Ian Williams (attended until 11am)	Julie McCartney (attending obo Alison)

**Apologies:**

Angela Howey, Adrian Green, Gavin Peace, Peter Gibson MP, Mark Pickering, David Robinson, Julie Wallin, Alison Fellows

**Officer Completing Log:** Sandra Scott

No.	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS
1.	<b>Apologies:</b> Angela Howey, Adrian Green, Gavin Peace, Peter Gibson MP, Mark Pickering, David Robinson, Julie Wallin, Alison Fellows	
2.	KR welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that she was standing in as Chair.  <b>Actions from Previous Minutes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ML confirmed he had contacted Thinking Place.</li> <li>• Communications Protocol – CM said this still needs to be finalised.</li> <li>• The Yards - Business Cases are on today's agenda.</li> </ul> <p>The minutes were agreed.</p>	CM
3.	<b>Sub-Groups</b> CM reported that sub groups are now in place.  <u>Education &amp; Skills Sub Group</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terms of Reference has been drawn up.</li> <li>• Key actions for Adult Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stakeholder list to be drafted</li> <li>○ Design brief – tender to be prepared.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• KR suggested a site visit be arranged to the Northern Echo building.</li> </ul> <p><u>Urban Regeneration</u> Site visit has taken place</p> <p><u>Heritage and Culture</u></p>	CM

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Original site visit was postponed but now rearranged for 12 August.</li> </ul>	
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Update Presentation</b></p> <p>Kate Roe wanted to record that she has expressed a declaration of interest in the T Levels project and the Adult Skills Centre.</p> <p>CM shared his presentation on Forward Funding covering the 4 projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Yards Phase 1</b></li> <li>2. <b>Lighting Enhancement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <b>Town Centre WiFi</b></li> <li>4. <b>Acquisition of Northgate Property</b></li> </ol> <p><b>Engagement Event - North Lodge Park</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well attended by various members of the community.</li> <li>• Flyers were handed out at the local school.</li> <li>• Ad hoc engagement with the local police who were also there on the day.</li> <li>• Journalist from the Northern Echo attended and an article appeared in the newspaper.</li> </ul> <p>CM to send the presentation with the link to the Board.</p> <p><b>Town Deal</b> CM run through the various deadlines.</p> <p>Annex C summaries - deadline this week.</p> <p>3 projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• T Levels</li> <li>• Adult Learning</li> <li>• Skinnergate/Yards</li> </ul> <p>A business case has been prepared for each of the projects.</p> <p>CM then recapped on each of the remaining 6 business cases.</p> <p><b>Adult Skills</b> ML informed the Board that the purchase of the Northern Echo building is ongoing and currently with the legal teams.</p>	

	<p>IW said this is strategically the right thing to do for this part of Darlington and has got his full support. The area he would like to see progress quickly is the lease terms</p> <p><b>Skinnergate and the Yards</b> CM gave an update. A planning application has been submitted for improvements to 3 properties.</p> <p>HS asked what are the plans for lighting in Buckton's Yard. CM confirmed the same lighting will go in Buckton's Yard as that for Clarks Yard.</p> <p>IW gave his full support of the improvements and is pleased the business case has come out positive for Skinnergate.</p> <p><b>T Levels</b> CM gave an update on the key risks.</p> <p>Evidence of demand in student numbers. KR explained it is a completely new qualification with no history to go on. Starting assumptions on the low side but the Government expects lots of students to take T levels in time.</p> <p>IW said we have got to engage with young people and make them aware of the opportunities for the future. Employability agenda is particularly important.</p> <p>IW is fully supportive of the 3 cases presented today.</p> <p><b>Town Deal Next Steps</b> CM said the Town Board need to agree that we progress to issue the first three Annex C summaries. Require signatures from AH and the S151 Officer, so they can be sent off to MHCLG with copy to AS.</p> <p>YE and HS are happy to support the Adult Skills going forward.</p> <p>KR suggested that because quite a few apologies had been received for the meeting, it would be useful to circulate the presentation to the other members of the board and ask them to confirm formally are they happy to proceed, especially beneficial to get consent from a couple of members who are not officers of the Council.</p> <p>KR thanked TVCA for their evaluation.</p>	CM
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7.	<b>Future meetings:</b> Wednesday 25 August 2021 at 10.00am Tuesday 5 October at 2.00pm Tuesday 16 November at 10.00am Wednesday 22 December at 10.30am	All
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