

**DARLINGTON TOWN DEAL BOARD**  
**TEAMS**  
**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Present :**

Angela Howey (AH) (CHAIR)	Cllr Riley (AR)
Naomi Jenkins (NJ)	Sarah Bentley (SB)
Yvonne Richardson (YR)	Stephen Fenwick (SF)
Mark Ladyman (ML)	Sarah Small (SS)
Cllr Harker (SH)	Hilary Bevan (HB)
Brett Nielsen (BN)	Sarah Everett (SE)
Graham Hall (GH)	Ant Hewitt (AH)
David Gartland (DG)	Noel Walecki (NW)
Chris Mains (CM)	Katy Tate (KT)
Adam Suleiman (AS)	

No.	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS
	<p><b>Apologies :</b>            Andrea Petty            Chris Farlow            Gordon Pybus            Ian Williams            Joy Allen            Katy Sandham            Seth Pearson            Lola McEvoy MP            Jasmine Robson</p>	
1.	<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting – 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b></p> <p><b>Minutes of the meeting were agreed.</b></p> <p>GH – Updates on crime surveys and the outcomes are being actioned.            Works on properties to remove graffiti adjacent to Hopetown is being carried out.</p>	

<p>2.</p>	<p><b>Communications update (Sarah Everett – DBC Communications)</b></p> <p>SE gave an update on the various communications throughout the year. Focusing on NEB, Skinnergate and Coniscliffe Road and Victoria Road.</p> <p>Approx. 85,000 people have been made aware of the work of TF through social media.</p> <p>Up and coming – Film with Cllr McEwan on works along Victoria Road. Series of comms. on Skinnergate and the Yards and the work along Coniscliffe Road.</p> <p>NEB – works and media coverage has been arranged Press releases 156 Northgate and Edward Pease House also being arranged.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p><b>CM shares update presentation to the group</b></p> <p>An update on the budget position for each project area was shared. Approx. £12m has been spent so far.</p> <p>Update on each of the project areas and progress to date was also shared.</p> <p>Some Main Points Included:</p> <p><b>156 Northgate.</b> Commercial space development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning and Listed Building consent in place</li> <li>• Tender documentation in preparation, aim to issue tender week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024</li> <li>• Subject to satisfactory tender returns the aim is to start on site early in 2025, with a construction period of up to 12 months</li> </ul> <p><b>Edward Pease House.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase 1 scheme (Number 142) – design agreed. Refurbishment of ground floor, new external frontage to ground floor. Make safe and watertight upper floors.</li> <li>• Planning and Listed Building applications have been submitted in October 2024</li> <li>• Procure contractor, with target start on site date February 2025, completion target summer 2025</li> </ul> <p><b>Northgate House.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Outline Planning application has been submitted</li> <li>- Independent valuation has been completed</li> <li>- Ongoing discussions with building owners progressing</li> </ul>	

<p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update regarding telecommunication masts received for consideration</li> <li>- ML gave update on the valuation which had come back with a figure of £470k for the building. Board agreed ML to put forward a figure of £500k for the acquisition of the building to the current owners.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coniscliffe Road.</b> Improvements include the widening of existing pavements, a new pocket park with seating and the installation of trees and planters, which will support local businesses, and the developing pavement café offer between the Larchfield Street and Grange Road.</p> <p>Planning approval in place Communications ongoing with stakeholders and community Commenced on site 7th October 2024 Completion target is March 2025</p> <p><b>Required Monitoring &amp; Evaluation return:</b> A return to Government for the period <b>1 April 2024 and 30 September 2024</b> is due. <b>The deadline for return is 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024.</b> A final draft of the return will be provided to all members of the Town Board in advance of this date, with opportunity for comment. The return is required to be signed by the Council S151 Officer and the Chair of the Town Board.</p> <p><b>Northgate cycle options</b></p> <p>NW gave an update of the options that are being appraised for the cycle options. Various desktop exercises have been carried out. All options were above the funding available. However, Option through Garden Street would appear to be the most appropriate option at this stage, but North Road option delivers the greatest up lift. Further funding options need to be explored.</p> <p><b>Bank Top Update.</b></p> <p>CR from TVCA gave comprehensive update on the Bank Top Rail Station Improvement project. Outlined the rail enhancements and the improvements to the eastern entrance to the station together with MSCP.</p> <p>Western gateway will be public realm improvements and highway enhancements. Preliminary design has been progressed.</p>	<p><b>ML</b></p>
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	<p>Additional funding secured. Spring/Summer 2025 demolition to be completed. Highway work to be completed in winter 2025.</p>	
6.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p><b>Lucy to arrange a meeting to visit NEB in the New Year for all Board members.</b></p> <p><b>SC – Raised the possibility of a National Athletics Museum. He will continue to pursue the development of the project.</b></p>	LS
7.	<p><b>Future meeting:</b></p> <p>November 26th, 2024, 2:30 – 4pm</p>	