

DARLINGTON TOWN DEAL BOARD
TEAMS
Tuesday 1 April 2025

Present :

Angela Howey (AH) (CHAIR)	Seth Pearson (SP)
Naomi Jenkins (NJ)	Sarah Bentley (SB)
Yvonne Richardson (YR)	Brett Nielsen (BN)
Rose Rouse (RR)	Joe Passman (JM)
Cllr Harker (SH)	Hilary Bevan (HB)
Brett Nielsen (BN)	Sarah Everett (SE)
Sarah Small (SS)	Lucy Simms (LS)
David Gartland (DG)	Gordon Pybus (GP)
Kay Sandham (KS)	Stephen Fenwick (SF)
Mike Poulter (MP)	Graham Hall
Shaun Campbell (SC)	Ant Hewitt (AH)
Janine Brown (JB)	Yvonne Beattie (YB)

No.	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS
	Apologies: Adam Sulieman, Chris Farlow, Cllr Garner	
1.0	Minutes of previous meeting – 19 February 2025 Agreed that the minutes are an accurate record of the previous meeting	
2.0	Towns Fund Update	
2.1	Finance and Reporting: - Towns Fund revenue received to date: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £438,965 Programme development (budget allocation is £446,000) £243,029 Capacity funding Plan for Neighbourhoods £50,000 received	
2.2	Project progress updates 156 Northgate	

	<p>Planning and Listed Building consent in place, and tender for a contractor has been completed. Works commenced 3 March 2025.</p> <p>Edward Pease House</p> <p>Planning and Listed Building approvals have been obtained, and a design agreed for number 142. Target to start on site date May/June 2025, completion target Autumn 2025.</p> <p>Northgate House Progressing with planned CPO</p> <p>MP to check the status of the masts being relocated</p> <p>Linear Park An Artist has been appointed and has commenced research and development, and a community engagement is to be undertaken by artist April/May 2025.</p> <p>Historic England – Northgate Stage 1 application currently underway with support from HE. To be brought back to the board when there is more information/project developments.</p> <p>Skinnergate & The Yards Updated before and after photographs to be shown at the next board meeting.</p> <p>Comms to be done about exiting/finishing this project.</p> <p>Coniscliffe Road Before and after photos to be shown at the next board meeting.</p> <p>Comms working on an update to clarify steps that have been taken with this project as there is a lot of misinformation going around.</p> <p>Need to make sure the pavement cafes still allow access for disabled people to get past.</p> <p>Victoria Road On going problems with contacting owners and the condition of properties.</p> <p>Need to come up with an exit plan.</p>	<p>MP</p> <p>NJ</p> <p>NJ</p> <p>SE</p>
--	--	---

	<p>Bank Top Briefing note was circulated to the board before the meeting</p> <p>Negotiations with TVCA nearing completion, and we anticipate TVCA to commence demolition works to properties at the Western end Summer 2026.</p> <p>Northern Echo Building College facilities likely to be operational by early 2026, and full completion of building anticipated by end 2026</p>	
4.0	<p>Neighbourhood Board</p> <p>Name has changed from Long Term Plan for Towns to Plan for Neighbourhood</p> <p>Prospectus to be circulated to the board</p> <p>April 22 to confirm membership and any proposals to alter the 'default' area boundary for spending</p> <p>Spring 2025 to Winter 2025 Neighbourhood Boards to submit their 10-year Regeneration Plan and a 4-year Investment Plan</p> <p>April 2026, first programme delivery funding payment to be made</p> <p>Plan for Neighbourhoods is to drive growth by improving the physical and social infrastructure of their community and deliver tangible improvements to the everyday lives of these communities</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thriving places • Stronger Communities • Taking back control <p>Meeting needs to be scheduled for a visioning session</p> <p>Eight pre-approved interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regeneration, high streets and heritage • Housing • Work, productivity and skills • Cohesion 	<p>SP/LS</p> <p>SP</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and wellbeing • Transport • Safety and security • Education and opportunity <p>Can move outside of these pre-approved interventions but it could take longer to be approved.</p> <p>SP recommends the chair to attend the next VCSE (Voluntary and Community Sector Engagement Group) meeting</p> <p>Board in agreeance of this</p> <p>Context of what the VCSE group is to be circulated to the board</p> <p>Community mapping is raised as an issue and it is suggested a mapping exercise should be done to help with demographics of areas</p> <p>Proposal from SP that the existing board continues but subgroups are established</p> <p>Subgroups just recommend and do not make any final decisions.</p> <p>The board is okay with this proposal</p> <p>SP to circulate boundary map to the board.</p> <p>It has been requested that the boundary map is changed to include South Park.</p> <p>The Board agrees with this.</p> <p>Actions before next board meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to confirm they want to continue as a member of the board • Declaration of interest forms completed • AH (Chair to attend VCSE group meeting before the next board 	<p>SP</p> <p>SP/LS</p>
--	---	--------------------------------------

5.0	AOB	
6.0	Future meeting 13 May 2025 – Meeting to be changed to be in person.	LS