

Thornaby Town Deal Board

Minutes of Meeting held on 28th July 2023

Present:

Mark White – Chair
 Cllr Nigel Cooke
 Iain Robinson
 Lesley Graham
 Jonathan Gilroy
 Jonathan Kibble
 Matt Vickers MP
 Steve Walmsley
 Grant Sellars (Ryders)

Cllr Sylvia Walmsley
 Leon Jones
 Helen Dixon
 Angela Lockwood
 Cllr Mick Moore
 Cllr Ian Dalgarno
 Cllr Ray Godwin
 Sam Dixon
 Laura Buckley

Apologies:

Karen Graham
 Mike Baum

Jane Edmends

Item	Comment/Action	Owner	Deadline
1	<u>Housekeeping and Chair’s remarks</u> The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone		
2	<u>Review of Minutes from 24th March 2023</u> Minutes not circulated in advance of meeting. To follow.		
3	<u>Progress Update</u> Update provided on the 4 workstreams: Skills (Iain Robinson) Work is ongoing to refine stage 2 design in the background whilst awaiting confirmation of funding allocations. Etc. currently have £5m loan application in with DfE. SBC has Cabinet approval to lend up to £5m (to bridge gap) if no response received from DfE. Total funding package is £14.7m Chair thanked Matt Vickers MP for arranging Michael Gove’s visit to SRC, which was very well organised and received. Looking to start Feb’ 24 – current spend deadline is March 2025. Planning application would need to be submitted around October ‘24. North Thornaby (Sam Dixon)		

	<p>A community engagement session was held 4th July which was well attended. Leaflets have been distributed to residents within the target areas as well as in local businesses.</p> <p><u>Workstream 1</u> Community Park refurbishment complete 3rd July 2023 and has been handed over to Thornaby Town Council who will manage the building going forward. Play equipment within the park is due to be finished within the next couple of weeks (mid August). Community Garden to be included within the park. MUGA Upgrade will take place towards the back end of the project. Additional playground marking to take place (hopscotch etc.)</p> <p><u>Workstream 2</u> 4 new CCTV cameras have been installed and 25 alley gates have been upgraded/refurbished with new keys issued. A dedicated handyman has been appointed and to date 235 property surveys have been undertaken with 2,646 measured installed (such as padlocks, security cameras, clasps and security lighting). Work is ongoing with Thirteen to try and encourage interventions within their properties. AL to discuss with new Chief Executive of Thirteen Group</p> <p>Area walkabouts have taken place with housing providers and enforcement officers. Jobs have been passed to CFYA (Handyman) and the Fire Brigade (Home Safety Checks).</p> <p><u>Workstream 3</u> Empty property purchases – Aim to buy 10 empty properties and bring them back in to use through NorthStar. 3-5 Stranton Street has been excluded as transferred to another landlord who is working to bring back in to use. Proposal to do empty homes grants to landlords to bring properties back in to use. Board in agreement.</p> <p><u>Workstream 4</u> Energy Efficiency measures – 75 retrofit services to date. Installation examples will increase energy ratings to C or D rating. On average the individual household saving would be £800 per annum.</p> <p>Sam also noted that they have received a lot of commendation about the handypeople and how much safer residents feel in their homes.</p> <p>Nigel Cooke commented – making some excellent progress thanks to Sam and the team! Frustrating and disappointed at the vandalism of equipment. Anything other agencies can do to help remedy/mitigate would be most welcome.</p> <p>Councillor Mick Moore commented – nice to see strands come together and the impact on peoples lives. Small changes make a big difference.</p> <p>Active Travel Mode (Jonathan Kibble) Outline designs have been developed for network of cycleway and walking improvements and outline costs have been received which is slightly above the envelope for the programme. Move forward with and take through detail design and see where we end up with</p>	<p>AL</p>	
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<p>costs with the potential to explore other funding streams. Visuals shown at the last Board meeting will be used in engagement from end August for approx.. 3 weeks. Twin track detail design to compress programme of works to keep within March 2025 deadline for spend. Further consultation will take place later in the year with those directly affected. Works will be procured around March '24.</p> <p>Councillor Sylvia Walmsley commented – Where do we stand if people start objecting. Jonathan responded – There are very few areas where people will be directly impacted. Looking at how to mitigate impact whilst keeping scheme strong. Engagement has taken place with active Travel England who have given feedback on the outline designs and praised the scale of intervention. Discussions with TVCA to see about any additional funding options.</p> <p>Lessons learnt from other schemes – Engagement is key.</p> <p>Iain Robinson commented – There are a number of schemes across the Borough and we're considering the impacts across the broader network and procurement options.</p> <p>Councillor Ray Godwin commented – will that create an issue with timescales? Jonathan responded – no, we will prioritise the schemes with the tightest funding deadlines. TVCA have other schemes and will do higher level engagement across the Tees Valley. Councillor Ray Godwin – Fully in support, but continue to be realistic and produce something that works.</p> <p>Town Centre (Iain Robinson) The Golden Eagle – Nothing further to report at this stage though negotiations are progressing. Fire Brigade were called out to a blaze last week and the building has been secured in a much more robust way this week.</p> <p>Phoenix House – Good progress has been made and the building is now down. A Buckler (demolition contractor) are due to be off site next week (early August). All went very smoothly, with the exception of a few hour power outage.</p> <p>Pavillion Pool (Grant Sellars, Ryder Architects) Grant provide an overview of the brief – tasked to look at a hierarchy of priorities including the introduction of a new swimming pool on the site - 25m, 5 lanes, changing village and service provision. Bridge link to be formed from existing Pavillion to new building. Additional elements to be integrated if funding available include Pavillion refurbishment works and a learner pool.</p> <p>Initial Concept is new building on the former Phoenix House site with a bridge link across. Looking to maximise parking provision on site and provide opportunity to expand if funding became available in the future.</p> <p>Currently 4 weeks in to initial feasibility. Kier are working the programme back from the funding deadline and we expect a rough start on site Spring 2024.</p> <p>Leon Jones commented – Thornaby Pool was built 85 years ago at a cost of £17,000. The Pavillion is 50 years old. TAL have a string</p>		
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	<p>portfolio of facilities across the Borough. Pavillion welcomes the investment and is a really exciting project.</p> <p>Councillor Sylvia Walmsley commented – it is important that we don't end up with a new swimming pool tacked on to the existing tired building. Funding need to be allocated for Pavillion refurb.</p> <p>Councillor Nigel Cooke commented – progress is good. Phenomenal opportunity for Thornaby. The change this is going to make for visitors driving down Trenchard Avenue – such a key site.</p> <p>Councillor Ray Godwin commented – look at what we've done in Stockton. We know that town centres need to repurpose themselves. More important than ever to make this more than just a swimming pool.</p> <p>Steve Walmsley commented – people have always preferred to come to Thornaby Town Centre. Always had loyalty but needed a 1 or 2 extras. This will bring more footfall into the town centre.</p> <p>Grant Sellars commented that he would like to hear more about the fears and aspirations of the board.</p> <p>Matt Vickers MP commented – What are we thinking about security and anti-social behaviour Grant Sellars responded – given its position, we want it to appear open and be bright and inviting. There are options for really robust glass in newer construction.</p> <p>Matt Vickers MP commented – What are the plans for disposal of the current pool. Iain Robinson responded – the asset is Council owned so will sit in the boarded Council asset management and disposal plan.</p>		
<p>4</p>	<p><u>Q&A</u></p> <p>Nothing further.</p>		
<p>5</p>	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>October 2023 – could SRC host?</p>		
<p>6</p>	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Chair to Matt Vickers MP – What are your observations.</p> <p>Matt Vickers MP responded with the following: Thank you again to Lesley, SRC for the Michael Gove visit. It was absolutely seamless. New Chief Executive of Thirteen is very accommodating and will approach about coming to a site walkaround, North Thornaby. One of the good things about the Town Deal Board is that it gets key stakeholders around the table. Would it be of value to ask Cleveland Police to put somebody on the board? Board responded – Would need to be somebody with a base in Thornaby in between PCSO and Inspector level?</p>		

	<p>A general discussion around Board members and attendance levels took place. Iain Robinson suggested writing to all members to acknowledge time pressures of the commitment and perhaps they could nominate a new representative.</p> <p>Councillor Sylvia Walmsley asked whether we would be able to have our own Town Deal facebook page. Iain Robinson responded that we would make some enquires with our internal Communications Officer.</p> <p>Councillor Nigel Cooke commented – There is a lack of presence at the Board and we need to contact organisations to get somebody to the board meetings. Nigel also agreed with the need for a police presence on the Board and suggested it would need to be an officer at a higher level who knows the area and community well.</p> <p>Chair to Matt Vickers MP – After next General Election the area will have two MPs. Matt confirmed that 2/3 will move into Middlesbrough constituency and in present terms, the Board would be served by Matt Vickers and Andy McDonald.</p> <p>Chair thanked all for time. Board came to a close.</p>		
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