



Cleator Moor Town Deal Board

17 Nov 2025, 14:00 – 16:00

Via Microsoft Teams

Draft

Action	Owner
Provide indication on spend so far on consultants at the next Town Deal Board meeting.	WD/AS

Decision	Owner/Date

No.	Item
1	<p>Welcome and introductions / apologies / declarations of interest Steven Robinson chaired the meeting in Bob Metcalfe's absence.</p> <p>Board members were happy with the request to record the meeting for note taking purposes.</p> <p><u>In attendance</u> Ellie Richardson (ER), Ruth Ollis (RO), Robert Docherty (RD), Bernard McDowell (BMc), Dave Banks (DB), Gary McKeating (GM), Paul Rowe (PR), Debbie Kavanagh (DK), Victoria Kelsall (VK), Andrew Sproat (AS), Liz Fitzsimons (LF), Andrew Harper (AH), Wendy Devlin (WD), Steven Robinson (SR), Steven Richardson (SRi), David Farrell (DF), Joanne Crowe (JC).</p> <p><u>New</u> Gary McKeating (observer).</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Bob Metcalfe (BM), Tracey West (TW), John Bamforth (JB), Peter Burns (PB), Steven Morgan (SM).</p> <p><u>Stepped down</u> Jim Youdale (JY), Rev Nicki Pennington (NP).</p> <p>No conflicts of interest were declared.</p>
2	<p>Review of minutes The Board approved the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes will now be uploaded to the Cleator Moor Town Deal webpage.</p>
3	<p>Actions from previous meeting No. 18 – In Progress – Still working on proposals. AS will liaise with Joanne at PEC. No. 22 – In Progress – Discussions had with Andy from NDA. Discussions on funding profiles had with Tracey from Sellafield. DF queried what this action point refers to. WD clarified it is to ensure regular communication with our funders, so they are aware of the programme for delivery and when we anticipate drawing down their funds, and to make sure they are happy with our proposals. No. 27 – to carry forwards.</p>

	<p>No. 28 – Complete – Guidance can be found in the Town Deal Update Reports. Covered by DK in item 5.</p> <p>No. 29 – No informal board meetings have been held since the last Town Deal Board due to the chair being unwell.</p> <p>No. 30 – No update at this time.</p> <p>No. 31 – In progress – RD has spoken to Andrew Higgson and escalated to Barbara. Tom Lydiate has taken over from Andrew who has now left the organisation. PR explained a 'holding email' has been received from Tom to let them know Andrew has left and he will get back to them with the information, but nothing further has been received yet. To be followed up on.</p> <p>No. 32 – Has been queried with Lewis who is the project manager on the scheme, but no response yet.</p> <p>No. 33 – In Progress – Stage 3 design complete. Next stage is to appoint consultant for stage 4 design. Plans to be presented following stage 4 design for the whole scheme at an informal board next year.</p> <p>No. 34 – No updated schedule of accommodation yet. Will be able to clarify next year.</p> <p>No. 35 – No informal board meetings have been scheduled/held since the last formal Town Deal Board meeting as BM has been unwell. SR suggested establishing whether there is anything to be discussed before the next Town Deal Board that would warrant arranging an informal board meeting.</p>
4	<p>Briefing paper summarising explanation of MHCLG RAG ratings</p> <p>Covered as part of item 5.</p>
5	<p>MHCLG 6 monthly report</p> <p>DK presented the report covering the period 1 April to 30 September 2025, which had been circulated to the board in advance. While this report would ordinarily be submitted to MHCLG at this stage, recent changes in guidance from the Towns Fund to the Local Regeneration Fund mean submission is not currently required. The report was presented to the board to maintain business continuity.</p> <p>DK provided an explanation on the RAG rating system and highlighted the guidance provided within the report to assist board members in interpreting ratings applied to Town Deal projects. It was noted that project managers provide a commentary on these ratings in the 'Progress To Date' section of the reports.</p> <p>The report confirmed there is good contractually committed spend. The risk register for the programme and its projects is up to date, with programme level risks improving overall. However, the Enterprising Town project is scoring major; commentary on this is included in the report.</p> <p>DF reiterated a query from the previous meeting regarding the accuracy of the baseline financial figures in providing true reflections on the situation, and whether revised baselines would be provided.</p> <p>It was explained that to re-baseline, change controls must be submitted for each project. A change control for Enterprising Town is in progress to reflect changes in profile, which will enable re-baselining and provide a more accurate reflection of progress.</p> <p>An update can be expected on Enterprising Town at the next board meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: Provide indication on spend so far on consultants at the next Town Deal Board meeting. (WD/AS)</p>
6	<p>Project Updates</p> <p>WD presented the update.</p> <p><u>Revitalised Town</u></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PEC phase 3 building due to complete November 2025. Official opening event 16 December 2025. • Planning application for Cleator Moor Community Hub reactivated October 2025. • Next stage is to tender for a contractor in January 2026 using the Cumberland Council Capital Works Framework. • COSC Group have temporarily relocated from the Community Hub to Cockermouth Day Centre, before moving to the Healthy Town Activity Centre at the end of March 2026. • Library will be temporarily housed in the newly refurbished PEC building to enable works to start on the library building around January 2026. <p>Positive feedback was provided from JC on the works on the PEC phase 3 building, explaining that they are very happy with the result and also noting that the contractors have been very helpful and mindful of other tenants in the building. Will be opening in January 2026 with expected occupancy of around 65-70%.</p> <p><u>Healthy Town</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Armstrong on site and works are in progress. On track for completion end of March 2026. • GLL are still onsite so they can continue to use the 3g pitch. • Once complete the building will be handed over to the new leisure operator. <p><u>Connected Town</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 3 design complete. • Technical review is underway with internal highways team to check they are happy with the design. • Consultant needed to do stage 4 design. • Intention to hold informal board/workshop to run through the design with board members. • Looking to deliver the scheme internally through Cumberland Council highways. <p><u>Enterprising Town</u> presented by Andrew Sproat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brannan's demolition costs finalised. Contract award imminent. • Working with Morgan Sindall to agree the design, programme and costs for the revised hub. Hope for further updates on hub designs to be provided at the next board meeting. • Activity still ongoing with NOR Architects to refine the Riba 2 proposal for the hub. <p><u>Communications</u> Over the past few months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Town construction updates have been published on social media. • Press release for re-submission of planning application for the Revitalised Town community hub. <p>Upcoming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PEC phase 3 completion and opening – December 2025. • Activity Centre completion – end of March 2026.
7	<p>Any other business / next steps</p> <p>Query regarding recent resignations and whether these vacancies will be recruited to. It was suggested that board members consider replacements in the Faith sector that can be discussed with the Chair when he returns.</p> <p>JC shared a message from BM stating that he hopes to return to his duties as chair in a few months. The board send their best wishes to BM.</p> <p>SR closed the meeting at 14:56.</p>