

Millom Town Deal Board

Thursday 16th May 2024 14:00-16:00

MS Teams

MINUTES

Item									
1	<p><u>Welcome / Apologies</u></p> <p>Attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Savage (Chair)• Wendy Devlin (WD)• Cllr Bob Kelly (BK)• Mike Graham (MG)• Matthew Savidge (MS)• Sarah Taylor-Howe (ST-H)• Marion Giles (MG)• Robert Docherty (RD)• Debbie Kavanagh (DK)• Samantha Aly (SA)• Elizabeth Fitzsimons (EF)• Nick Lancaster (NL)• Simone Faulkner (SF) <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Jo Lappin, Neil Tindale, Simon Bremer</p> <p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>No new declarations of interest.</p>								
2	<p><u>Review of minutes & actions from previous meeting</u></p> <p>Previous minutes approved.</p> <p>Previous actions:</p> <table><tr><th>Action</th><th>Status</th></tr><tr><td>The Chair proposed a simple FAQ approach to providing information in a consistent manner. J Meek to pick this up with the Comms team (JM) Town Deal Board to put questions forward for inclusion (ALL)</td><td>Q&As collated by DS and submitted to the Delivery team to address the questions.</td></tr><tr><td>Simon Bremmer be formally invited to join Millom Town Deal Board (Chair)</td><td>SB formally invited and is now a member of TDB.</td></tr><tr><td>Write to J Meek reinforcing the importance of Communications and offer Town Deal Board support (Chair)</td><td>Letter sent to JM. RD liaising with JM regarding response.</td></tr></table>	Action	Status	The Chair proposed a simple FAQ approach to providing information in a consistent manner. J Meek to pick this up with the Comms team (JM) Town Deal Board to put questions forward for inclusion (ALL)	Q&As collated by DS and submitted to the Delivery team to address the questions.	Simon Bremmer be formally invited to join Millom Town Deal Board (Chair)	SB formally invited and is now a member of TDB.	Write to J Meek reinforcing the importance of Communications and offer Town Deal Board support (Chair)	Letter sent to JM. RD liaising with JM regarding response.
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	Draft a letter of support and share with TDB (Chair)	Letter shared with TDB.
	Schedule informal board meetings (WD)	WD has sent out meeting invites.
	Schedule quarterly board meetings (DK)	Meetings scheduled to February 2026.
	ST-H explained that Millom PCN has now been approved meaning that health services can be brought closer to the community. The news was welcomed by the board.	
3	<u>Programme Performance Report</u>	
	WD provided an update in each of the projects.	
	<p>Iron line:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning application has been submitted and a decision is expected in June 24. • No further site investigation scheduled until September 24 due to nesting birds. Work is ongoing with Natural England. • An open tender for a D&B contract will be posted on the national chest portal. • There is currently a funding gap of £1.5-2 million and value engineering work is required. • A construction contract will not be awarded until an operator is in place. There have been positive discussions with Groundworks who operated a similar site in the North East and a soft market testing questionnaire will be created to understand the interest from operators. 	
	<p>MS asked about the funding gap and WD explained that there will be a value engineering process but that the project team are mindful that changes may impact planning.</p> <p>BK asked about timescales and WD explained that there was a change in governance after LGR which initially slowed some processes, but things are now moving forward. WD and RD are awaiting clarification from DLUHC about possible extensions beyond March 2026. MG stressed that the community need confidence that the project will happen.</p>	
	<p>Activating Community Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D&B contract awarded to Thomas Armstrong who are undertaking review of designs and costs. • WD will set up a meeting for the board to meet with Thomas Armstrong to look at the designs. • Decision for construction contract expected at end of year with construction Jan 25-Jan 26. • A Health & Wellbeing workshop has been arranged for next week with health partners. No leisure operators have been invited to this workshop but they will be to a future event. A rep from the school has been invited due to the location, including the Mayor – Simone Faulkner and Bob Kelly as the Ward Councillor. The meeting will be chaired by Colin Cox. 	
	<p>MS highlighted that the school need to be involved in conversations regarding construction as it may cause disruption. RD explained that the school will be included in the design process and that there is an awareness of construction constraints relating to the school site.</p>	
	Meeting to be set up for board to meet Thomas Armstrong team and review designs (WD).	
	<p>Reactivating Heritage Buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract awarded to Day Cummins who are looking at designs. • Planning approved April 24. • Building conditions surveys ongoing. • Soft market testing required for operator. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Development team to manage grants process. Eol submissions have been contacted and updated. <p>Connected Millom & Haverigg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement event March 24 – responses have been collated. Project team working with Highways and Lighting colleagues to amend designs. Charlotte Carlin is no longer working on the project and has handed over to Robbie Brown. The board wished to express their thanks to Charlotte for her excellent work on the project and DS requested what ways our performance can be formally recognised. RD to follow up on this request Funding that has been allocated to works as the station is currently not able to be spend as the team are awaiting a decision relating AFA from DfT. DfT/National Rail are to be contacted to highlight the time pressures of spend within the programme (WD). Date to be decided for when decision is needed before change control is considered (WD/RD).
4	<p><u>Year End DLUHC Monitoring Return to 31 March 2024</u></p> <p>SA explained that the information in the Update Report that had been circulated to the board is reflected in the DLUHC return. The board approved the contents of the report and the DLUHC spreadsheet will be sent to the Chair for signing.</p> <p>DLUHC return to be sent to the Chair for signing prior to submission (SA/Chair)</p>
5	<p><u>Communications Update</u></p> <p>RD explained that there is a comms strategy in place. 32 West are no longer supporting comms for the Deal and this is now being arranged by the Cumberland Council comms team.</p> <p>RD highlighted that engagement will be very important going forward to gather local knowledge and input from the community. MG noted that community feedback needs to be processed and RD explained that this is why engagement is now crucial as well as comms.</p> <p>It was suggested that a Comms sub-group is required.</p> <p>Comms sub-group to be set up (RD).</p> <p>The Chair has asked the board for suggestions for the naming of the Arts and Enterprise Centre. The board are asked to provide their top 3 choices to create a shortlist that can be used for a public vote. Board members to provide top 3 choices for naming of Arts and Enterprise Centre (All).</p> <p>The Chair expressed that the Millom Town Deal website needs to be updated. The Chair has collated Q&As which need to be updated and uploaded to the website. WD will speak to project leads to get the answers updated. Answers to Q&As to be updated (WD).</p>
6	<p><u>Appointment to the Board</u></p> <p>Chair: David Savage re-elected as Chair.</p>

	<p>Vice-Chair: Nick Lancaster appointed Vice-Chair.</p> <p>New Board Member: Board have been sent profile of Paul Skelton from Nuclear Waste Services who are a funder for the programme and a significant local employer. The board agreed for Paul to be formally invited to join the board.</p> <p>Paul Skelton to be formally invited to join Millom Town Deal Board (Chair/DK).</p>
7	<p><u>Next Steps & AOB</u></p> <p>Meeting to discuss leisure designs: 6th June (Wendy organising) Next informal board meeting: 17th June. The focus of this meeting will be comms and engagement. Next formal meeting: 12th September 2-4pm (Teams).</p>
	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting to be set up for board to meet Thomas Armstrong team and review designs (WD). • DfT/National Rail are to be contacted to highlight the time pressures of spend within the programme (WD). • Date to be decided for when decision is needed before change control is considered (WD/RD). • DLUHC return to be sent to the Chair for signing prior to submission (SA/Chair). • Performance recognition to be addressed (RD) • Comms sub-group to be set up (RD). • Board members to provide top 3 choices for naming of Arts and Enterprise Centre (All). • Answers to Q&As to be updated and published on the Town Deal Website (WD). • Paul Skelton to be formally invited to join Millom Town Deal Board (Chair/DK).