

Morley Town Deal Board Minutes

Monday 12 April 2021

13:00 – 15:00

Zoom Meeting

Attendees

Mark Goldstone *Head of Policy and Business Representation, West and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce*

Councillor Robert Finnigan *Morley Town Council*

Gerald Jennings (Chair) *Director, G.R. Jennings Properties Ltd*

Rachael Kennedy *Morley Town Centre Manager*

Reverend Anthony Lee *Leader, Morley Community Church*

Cameron Stephenson *Constituency Office Manager, Office of Andrea Jenkyns MP (Sub)*

Martin Farrington *Director of City Development, Leeds City Council*

Councillor Neil Dawson *Morley South ward member*

Councillor Andy Hutchison *Morley North ward member*

Dawn Ginns *Morley Resident*

Apologies

Councillor Helen Hayden *Executive Member, Climate Change, Transport and Sustainable Development, Leeds City Council*

Steven Foster *Director, Land Securities*

Councillor Wyn Kidger *Morley South Ward Member*

Andrea Jenkyns *Member of Parliament, Morley and Outwood*

Rebecca Greenwood *Policy Officer, West Yorkshire Combined Authority*

In Attendance

Adam Brannen	<i>Head of Regeneration, Leeds City Council</i>
Jessica Ashton	<i>Senior Regeneration Officer, Leeds City Council</i>
Christopher Brown	<i>Regeneration Career Grade Officer, Leeds City Council (Minutes)</i>

1.0 Introductions and Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Andrea Jenkyns, Rebecca Greenwood, Lorraine Coates, Steven Foster, Cllr Helen Hayden and Cllr Wyn Kidger

2.0 Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 No interests were declared.

3.0 Minutes of the last Meeting and Matters Arising

- 3.1 The Chair requested a change of wording on the minutes. Item 7.2 to be amended as follows 'the Chair would recommend there should be a minimum of two or three individuals and no more than ten for management purposes.'
- 3.2 Cllr Neil Dawson noted he was not present at the last meeting and should be removed from the attendance list.
- 3.3 Minutes of last meeting agreed subject to the above amends.

4.0 Project Updates

- 4.1 The Board were presented a series of slides which provided a brief update for Stage 2 of the Towns Fund application process and an overview of the estimated key outcomes, outputs and challenges for each project.
- 4.2 The Towns Fund Heads of Terms were signed and returned to the government on 24 March 2021, thereby accepting the Town Deal.
- 4.3 The Chair raised a question surrounding the deadline for submitting the full business cases (March 2022) and queried the estimated government response time to approve the business case and release the funding. It was noted that a delay to the assessment of a business case could cause a potential delay to a project commencing.
- 4.4 The March 2022 is the deadline for project business cases and not a target. It is anticipated some project business cases could be submitted before the March 2022 deadline and the team would seek to work with government advisors to ensure that the risk of delays are minimised and that any potential issues regarding release of funding are raised in a timely manner.
- New Pavilion**
- 4.5 Cllr Finnigan asked to what extent are Leeds City College have been involved in this project to date and what discussions have taken place surrounding the offer of the potential new campus.
- 4.6 It was confirmed that the Council are working closely with the Luminate Group, of which Leeds City College is a part, to develop the project. It was noted that the project is still in the very early stages and significant work is still required to bring this complex project forward.
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Luminate has indicated that the educational offer is still to be developed but is likely to include vocational and skills training and be for those aged 19+.

Morley Town Hall

4.7 A question was raised around how the indicative match funding figure had been derived.

4.8 Council officers advised that the indicative match funding figure is made up of a contribution from an existing budget focused on rationalising the Council's existing office estate, backlog maintenance liability and the potential for further investment from within Leeds City Council. A full breakdown of the match funding assumptions can be provided to support a discussion at the working group meeting.

Morley Station Gateway

4.9 It was noted that the ownership and management of the potential car park is a key decision to be made under this project.

Heritage Investment Fund

4.10 Cllr Finnigan raised the issue of building owners not being cooperative and there could be a need to issue section 215 notices to ensure progress of the project.

A Greener Town

4.11 It was raised that Springfield Park should be a focus point for this project as it is in need of enhancement.

4.12 The Chair shared a link to [ParkPlay](#) which could be useful to incorporate into this project.

White Rose Innovation Hub

4.13 This project has potential to progress forward at a quicker rate compared to others.

4.14 The Chair noted how discussions with Elliott Hudson college and exploration of links between the two providers, including learning pathways, may be beneficial for this project.

Connecting Morley

4.15 The Chair updated on a discussion with Capitol Park and how they are looking at improving footpaths and way finding from their site into Morley Town Centre as part of their planning application proposals.

Action: Jessica Ashton to facilitate meeting between the Chair and Mark Jackson, the Case Officer dealing with the planning application for the extension to Capitol Park.

5.0 Programme Support

5.1 The board were updated on the application submitted by the Council for further capacity funding to support project development work. Leeds City Council bid for the maximum of £120,000 but only received £40,000. It was noted that £40,000 remained from the first capacity funding.

5.2 The Board were supportive of the intention to extend Mott Macdonald and Localities contract to support the project development work over the next year.

5.3 The Board was advised that project development costs are usually up to 15% of overall project costs and that the scale of work and resource commitment required would far

exceed the remaining capital budget. The Council will need to take a formal decision to commit significant cost in advance of full government approval, with these costs being recovered upon confirmation of the Full Business Cases.

Action: To scope what technical and consultancy support is required for the programme in order to budget and programme relevant commissions and technical inputs.

6.0 Communications and Public Affairs

- 6.1 Rachael Kennedy provided an update regarding discussions around communication and marketing for the Town Deal and suggested the drafting of a Board Communications Plan.
- 6.2 Cllr Finnigan noted that now lockdown is beginning to ease there should be potential to do face to face consultation in Morley so everyone can have an opportunity to be engaged with the process.
- 6.3 It was agreed that it would be helpful if the plan included a communication protocol regarding the respective roles of the Morley Town Deal Board and Leeds City Council as the accountable body.

Action: Rachael Kennedy and the Chair are to produce a draft Communications and Marketing plan to present at the next meeting

7.0 Any Other Business

- 7.1 Andrea Jenkyns office to be added to the transport sub group.
- 7.2 Sub Group leads to meet up and once Terms of Reference are shared.

8.0 Date of the Next meeting

- 8.1 Tuesday 18 May 2021 15:00-17:00
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