

Morley Town Deal Board Minutes

Tuesday 15 June 2021

15:00 – 17:00

Zoom Meeting

Attendees

Gerald Jennings (Chair)	<i>Director, G.R. Jennings Properties Ltd</i>
Councillor Robert Finnigan	<i>Morley Town Council</i>
Rachael Kennedy	<i>Morley Town Centre Manager</i>
Reverend Anthony Lee	<i>Leader, Morley Community Church</i>
Cameron Stephenson	<i>Constituency Office Manager, Office of Andrea Jenkyns MP (Sub)</i>
Martin Farrington	<i>Director of City Development, Leeds City Council</i>
Councillor Andy Hutchison	<i>Morley North ward member</i>
Dawn Ginns	<i>Morley Resident</i>
Stephen Foster	<i>Director, Land Securities</i>
Cllr Wyn Kidger	<i>Morley South Ward Member</i>

Apologies

Councillor Helen Hayden	<i>Executive Member, Climate Change, Transport and Sustainable Development, Leeds City Council</i>
Adam Brannen	<i>Head of Regeneration, Leeds City Council</i>
Sam Lewis	<i>Principal Regeneration Officer, Leeds City Council</i>
Andrea Jenkyns MP	<i>MP for Morley and Outwood</i>
Rebecca Greenwood	<i>Policy Officer, West Yorkshire Combined Authority</i>
Lorraine Coates	<i>Area Lead Leeds City Region, BEIS</i>

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

In Attendance

Jessica Ashton *Senior Regeneration Officer, Leeds City Council*

Daniel Broadbent *Regeneration Officer, Leeds City Council*

Miriam Browne *Senior Project Manager, Leeds City Council*

Jane Walne *Head of Projects and Programmes, Leeds City Council*

Claire Simms *Regeneration Support Officer, Leeds City Council*

1.0 Introductions and Apologies
Introductions and Apologies were made.

2.0 Declaration of Interests
None

3.0 Minutes of the last Meeting and Matters Arising

3.1 The minutes of 18.05.21 were agreed to be an accurate record.

3.2 10.2 Action carried forward - The Chair to meet with the Wakefield Town Deal Board chair for information sharing.

3.3 The Chair brought to the attention of the Board that the Vice Chair should be a private sector member and a Vice Chair or deputy is needed to fill in for the Chair when unable to attend meetings. Awaiting confirmation from Cllr Hayden if she will continue in the role of Vice Chair.

4.0 Working Group Lead Updates

4.1 Town Centre, Place Making and Culture – Cllr Hutchison gave an update. The first meeting was positive with discussions around the future use of the Town Hall. Following this a meeting was held with Matthew Sims, Head of Arts, Events & Venues for Leeds City Council to discuss options. Senior Asset Management Office, Martin Gresswell and Senior Conservation Officer, Kate Newell have joined the project team. The group also discussed creating usable outdoor space at St. Mary’s in the Wood and match funding opportunities.

4.2 The Chair would like to re-engage with Morley Market.
Action: The Chair will contact the market management to discuss.

4.3 **Action:** The Chair to liaise with Leeds 2023 and invite to either the July or August board meetings or the Town Centre, Place Making and Culture working group.

4.4 Transport and Connectivity – At the first meeting a number of projects were discussed including options for the Morley, Cottingley and White Rose Stations, improving connectivity

between the stations and key locations such as Capital Park and the White Rose centre, creating more cycle provision, improving rights of way and new powers relating to buses. The aim is to drill down to 3 or 4 projects over the coming meetings.

- 4.5 The Chair has had a discussion with WYCA and previous discussions have taken place about purchasing the car park at Morley station to remediate but this is no longer the plan.
- 4.6 **Action:** MF will pick up with SL and determine what the scope of opportunities are and what can be promoted to WYCA.
- 4.7 Health, Wellbeing and Greenspace – The first meeting covered items including the green flag standard for parks and what investment had already been made in Morley Parks, social prescribing and how greenspace can be linked with improving mental health. Miriam Browne and Jane Walne are now part of the group and the group would like to invite Groundworks to be a co-optee.
- 4.8 **Action:** LCC to contact Groundworks to discuss being involved with the Health, Wellbeing and Greenspace working group.
- 4.9 Skills, Education and Employment – A detailed update of the work going on in the background was made by SL at the first meeting. The group are having fortnightly meetings with Luminate Group who have been asked to develop a business case for the educational offer. Other providers are also being engaged with to explore what other opportunities can potentially be delivered. There is the potential for Locality to support a workshop around expectations and ambitions.

5.0 Culture and Creative Section: Rachael Kennedy – Morley Arts Festival Director and Sarah Priestly – Leeds City Council Principle Culture & Sports Officer

- 5.1 RK gave an update about the Morley Arts Festival. The Morley Arts Festival has gained charitable status during the last 6 months and the Festival will relaunch in September 21 with a 3 day outdoor festival of activities. As part of the relaunch the Morley Arts Forum has been created. A bid has been submitted for Leeds 2023 funding and if successful this will help to develop the forum further. The newly commissioned Morley Art Trail has really stimulated new interest in community art in Morley and the forum will help to involve lots of local artists in the area. Alongside this a Visionary Officer has been employed to help understand what the people of Morley would like see and be involved with.
- 5.2 SP gave an overview of the Leeds Culture Strategy. The Strategy was developed through a co-production model, involving extensive consultation with the cultural sector and local communities. It places culture at the heart of all policy-making for Leeds with the aim of creating more prosperous, healthier, stronger and happier communities. The strategy enables a more innovative, vibrant, cost-effective and collaborative approach to place making.
- 5.3 The Chair asked if it was a possibility that the route from Morley Train Station via Morley Bottoms to Queens Street could be enhanced with some art installations and if this could be looked at further.

6.0 Communication and Engagement

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- 6.1 There is now an agreed communications strategy for the programme and a meeting needs to be set up to discuss the implementation of the strategy as soon as possible. The meeting needs to include SL or JA, Cllr Hutchison, Locality and LCC Comms.
- 6.2 **Action:** The Communications and Marketing group to meet and an update of the outcomes of the meeting to be given at the July board.
- 6.3 Jeff Scales from Locality gave an overview of the communications and engagement support that Locality will provide over the next 10 months. The consultation exercise undertaken during phase 1 has given a good base for further work and detailed consultation will be undertaken at every stage of the process during phase 2 as projects are designed in detail. The challenge is make sure the specific consultation work required for each of the 6 projects connects with the overall programme without any duplication. This will develop as the business cases are progressed.

7.0 Accelerated Funding Project Update

- 7.1 DB and Chris Way gave an update. The main piece of work outstanding at Morley Bottoms is the addition of the traffic signals.
- 7.2 Cllr Hutchison asked for confirmation of timescales for the completion of the works for Morley Bottoms, Middle and Tops and asked that Highways share the consultation that has been undertaken to date.
- 7.3 RK asked CW to share the artist impressions of the completed works at Morley Bottoms and Tops.
- 7.4 Cllr Finnigan asked for confirmation of completion dates for the work been done by Groundworks at Lewisham Park and an explanation for any slippage that may have occurred.
- 7.5 **Actions:**
- Highways to provide timescales for works and report any slippage.
 - Highways to share consultation undertaken for the works at Morley Bottoms, Middle and Tops with Cllr Hutchison.
 - Highways to share artist impressions of Morley Bottoms and Tops with RK.
 - DB to follow up with Groundworks about timescales for completion of works at Lewisham Park.

8.0 Funding match and access to other funding streams

- 8.1 The ambition behind the Towns Fund is to encourage leverage and access to other funding. An exercise is needed to identify what funding is already available and what gaps remain. Due to limited resources this piece of work will initially align with the current Town Investment Plan and will be brought back to the July board meeting for discussion.

9.0 Consultancy team appointments

- 9.1 Mott MacDonald and Locality have been recommissioned until March 2021 to undertake work to help inform business cases and project development. The contracts are currently with the Chief Officer for approval. The budgets are very tight so need to prioritise the use of consultant time.
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9.2 The Chair asked that names and details of consultant's be provided once due diligence has been done.

10.0 AOB

10.1 Cllr Finnigan asked if the Council's procurement strategy could support local businesses being contracted for works funded by the Towns Fund.

10.2 **Action:** JA to confirm at the July board if the Council's contract procedure rules support this or not.

10.3 Cllr Finnigan asked that the links to the meeting papers be shared with him so he can share when enquires regarding board papers are received.

10.4 **Action:** JA to share the Council's democracy page link.

10.5 The Chair has met with Capital Park to discuss the board's position on the recent planning application. The recommendations from this meeting is that the board remain neutral. The board agreed that it would be useful to formulate some general principles for developments within the Town Fund boundary. These could align with the Town Investment Plan themes.

Action: The Chair will start to draft with JW and bring back to the next board meeting.

11.0 Date of Next Meeting

11.1 Tuesday 20 July 2021 13.30-15.30
