

Morley Town Deal Board

Minutes

Tuesday 15th March 2022

10:00 – 12:00

Morley Town Hall, Large Banqueting Suite

Attendees

Gerald Jennings (Chair)	<i>Director, G.R. Jennings Properties Ltd</i>
Councillor Robert Finnigan	<i>Morley Town Council – Chair of Greener & Connected Sub-Group</i>
Dawn Ginns	<i>Morley Resident</i>
Matthew Winn	<i>Communications Manager, Office of Andrea Jenkyns MPs</i>
Rachael Kennedy	<i>Morley Town Centre Manager</i>
Stephen Foster	<i>Director, Land Securities</i>
Judith Furlonger	<i>Head of Housing, WYCA</i>
CLlr Jane Senior	<i>Morley Town Council</i>
Mark Goldstone	<i>Head of Policy and Business Representation, West and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce</i>
Christine Hirst	<i>Morley Resident</i>
Lalit Suryawanshi	<i>Morley Resident</i>
Dan Merrick	<i>Morley Resident</i>
Mukesh Patel	<i>Morley Resident</i>

Apologies

Andrea Jenkyns MP	<i>MP for Morley and Outwood</i>
Martin Farrington	<i>Director of City Development, Leeds City Council</i>
Lorraine Coates	<i>Area Lead, West Yorkshire, Cities and Local Growth Unit</i>

Sonia Midgley	<i>West Yorkshire Combined Authority</i>
Reverend Anthony Lee	<i>Leader, Morley Community Church</i>
Cllr Andrew Hutchison	<i>Leeds City Council Morley North ward member – Chair of Town Centre, Placemaking and Culture group</i>
Councillor Helen Hayden	<i>Executive Member, Climate Change, Transport and Sustainable Development, Leeds City Council</i>

In Attendance

Adam Firth	<i>Office of Andrea Jenkyns MP</i>
Adam Brannen	<i>Head of Regeneration, Leeds City Council</i>
Jess Ashton	<i>Senior Regeneration Officer, Leeds City Council</i>
Daniel Broadbent	<i>Regeneration Officer, Leeds City Council</i>
Jane Walne	<i>Head of Projects and Programmes, Leeds City Council</i>
Cameron Musgrave	<i>Career Grade Project Support Officer, Leeds City Council</i>
Miriam Browne	<i>Senior Project Manager Leeds City Council</i>
Martin Gresswell	<i>Senior Asset Management Officer, Leeds City Council</i>

1.0 Introductions and Apologies

1.1 Introductions were made.

2.0 Declaration of Interests

2.1 None.

3.0 Minutes of the last Meeting and Matters Arising

3.1 The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record with all action points addressed.

4.0 Public Engagement Update

4.1 RK gave an update on Town Hall consultation work which took place between November 2021 and January 2022. The exercise reached 290 face-to-face respondents. Key findings were that Morley Town Hall is underused and underutilised with a need for greater accessibility, a café, a community feel and an improved events programme. The Phase 1 approach being undertaken on the Morley Town Hall project reflects these findings. An independent analysis of the consultation work produced by Locality was shared with Board members.

4.2 MB gave an update on the Greener and Connected Morley consultation work. An event at Morley Town Hall has held in November, with an online survey following into January

consulting on the masterplan, with 468 unique respondents online. The response was largely positive with particular support for improving connections between the station and the town centre as well as for existing park improvements, key gateways, greener streets and safer streets. There was less support for significant cycle interventions and strong feedback against using car parking provision for a pocket park. This feedback has fed into the Greener and Connected Business Case. Further engagement will be carried out at the next stage of design. An independent analysis of the consultation work produced by Locality was shared with Board members.

- 4.3 RK stressed the importance of the Communication team following up on this work and suggested focussing on the Jubilee weekend for further engagement. GJ suggested the St George's Day weekend for additional engagement. GJ noted the high level of response to the consultation exercises. Cllr Finnigan noted positive feedback to the leaflet to all households.
- 4.4 GJ and RK have had constructive follow-up conversations with Morley Market following their concerns about the pocket park proposal. There was a discussion around the desirability of further research and analysis relating to car parking within Morley. **Action: SL/DB to follow-up on car park audit and survey proposal.**
- 4.5 MW raised the heritage feel of the town in relation to the greener and connected report and noted strong concern about some of the street furniture images in the consultation exercise and particularly the more contemporary street lighting included within the images. CH felt that Morley should have a 'market town' look. It was confirmed that changes to street lighting on Queen Street are being delivered by the Town Council and fall outside of the remit of the Town Deal Board. The images included in the Greener and Connected consultation were just early visualisations and do not reflect the street lighting scheme being delivered by the Town Council or the street furniture that will be included in the final project, which will be determined through the design process. RK gave an update on the Town Council street lighting upgrades. Current lampposts need replacing with LED lights which is not possible with current structure and the budget isn't there for direct replacement hence the move to a more contemporary design. **Action: RK to follow-up with MP's office.** MB and JW stressed that design of street furniture for the greener and connected scheme has yet to be undertaken and that the Town Council street lighting project is outside of the Town Deal Programme
- 4.6 CH asked about an ongoing maintenance budget on new tree planting. LS and MP raised safety issues around Parks, particularly Springfield Mill Park. JW reported that the Greener and Connected Business Case is proposing to bring Springfield Mill Park into LCC ownership so safety issues would then be picked up through Parks and Countryside. An additional revenue stream will be created for ongoing maintenance. Cllr Finnigan reported on ongoing work to try to introduce CCTV in park locations in Morley.

5.0 Project Updates

5.1 Heritage Investment Fund

- 5.1.1 DB gave an update. The Heritage Investment Fund Summary OBC has been signed-off by central government allowing the project to move to the next stage of project development. It was clarified that the intervention rate is anticipated to be 80% grant funded. **Action Cllr Finnigan to put DB in touch with interested building owner.**
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5.1.2 The Board approved recommendations to recruit a dedicated heritage officer and to procure support for an updated Conservation Area Management Plan, shopfront design guidance and further project development and feasibility work. GJ requested that future approvals go first through the Town Centre, Placemaking and Culture working group. **Action: press release to be circulated for information and sharing.** GJ requested that press releases are shared with the MP's office.

5.2 Morley Town Hall

MG gave an update. Work is ongoing to develop a deliverable scheme within budget. The focus of interventions will be on a new entrance at the front of the building, a café, lift access and improvements to the Alexandra Hall. The deadline for submission of the Summary OBC is 14 April. AF requested a tour of the Town Hall be set up. **Action: CM/MG to arrange tour of the Town Hall for Board Members.**

5.3 Update Report

5.3.1 AB gave an update on the Leeds City College Education and Skills Campus project and positive progress towards developing this scheme.

5.3.2 The summary Business Case for the White Rose Innovation Hub is to be submitted by the 24 March 2022.

5.3.3 DB advised that the Station Gateway Project Adjustment Form is to be submitted to central government, this formalises that the Station Gateway project minus the car parking proposal from the TIP will be incorporated within the Greener and Connected OBC. £2.4million has been ring-fenced within the Greener and Connected budget to deliver targeted improvements connecting the train station to the wider town. This change brings a consistency and efficiency to the delivery of public realm and connectivity projects through the Morley Town Deal.

5.3.4 There was a discussion about the need for clarity on timescales from Network Rail on their work at Morley Station. **Action: JF to contact Network Rail for details of their programme.**

6.0 Business Case Progress

6.1 JW gave an update on the Greener and Connected Business Case. It has been through the appraisal process and an OBC Summary is being drafted. Conversations are ongoing on the potential need for a Project Adjustment Form as cycling and woodland planting elements have changed from the original TIP proposal.

7.0 AOB

7.1 GJ fed back on ongoing conversations with Morley Rugby Club.

7.2 MP asked how long-term sustainability elements of projects had been considered, particularly around options for solar panels. MB reported that this has been incorporated where possible across the projects. JW reported that the LCC Decarbonisation Programme Board is looking at retrofitting solar panels across Leeds.

7.3 LS raised working groups as new Board Members are keen to get involved in these meetings. **Action: JA to contact working group leads to arrange meetings.**

8.0 Date of Next Meeting

8.1 TBC in May

Action: DB to set up future meetings for the year
