

Minutes of Telford Town Deal Board
Friday 18 February 11.30 -13.00
Held via Microsoft Teams

Attended:

Board Members

Graham Wynn OBE (GW)	Chair
Lucy Allan MP (LA)	MP for Telford
Mark Pritchard MP (MP)	MP for the Wrekin
Cllr Lee Carter (LC)	T&WC
Will Westley (WW)	Telford Business Board
Julie Mellor (JM)	Chief Officer Group (T&W Community & Voluntary Sector)
Claire Skidmore (CS)	Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin CCG
Felicity Wingrove (FW)	Zen Communications
Tim Steele (TS)	University of Wolverhampton
Paul Gascoine (PG)	Homes England

Observer

Oliver Hindle	BEIS
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Officers

David Sidaway (DS)	T&WC
Angie Astley (AA)	T&WC
Katherine Kynaston (KK)	T&WC
James Dunn (JD)	T&WC
Deb Byle (DB)	T&WC
Nicola Woodley	Minute taker

1. Welcome

Actions

Special welcome to Paul Gascoine and Cllr Lee Carter, who has taken over from Cllr David Wright and will be attending these meetings going forward.

2. Apologies

Cllr Shaun Davies
Graham Guest
Maria Machancoses
Mandy Thorn MBE
Guy Beaumont
Karl Tupling – TBC

3. Declarations of Interest - None

4. Notes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising

JW

One amendment in list of attendees: Claire Skidmore representing Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin (ST&W) CCG.

Notes were agreed.

5. Business Case Development Timetable

KK provided an update on the programme for submission of business cases to DLUHC:

	Station Quarter	Wellington	Oakengates
Business Case completion & submission	28 Jan 22	22 April 22	22 April 22
Submission of final assurance report	18 Feb 22	13 May 22	13 May 22
Scrutiny and sign off by S151 Officer	7-11 March 22	16-18 March 22	16-18 March 22
Town Deal Board: Business Case Approval	25 March 22	10 June 22	10 June 22
Submission of Summary Docs	1 April 22	27 June 22	27 June 22

6. Station Quarter masterplan update

JD gave a brief update on Station Quarter. This will create a new town centre community and academic “campus” linked by high quality public realm.

JD then ran through the floor plans for the Skills & Enterprise Hub.

JD confirmed that the current focus for work includes -

- Skills Hub – main planning application due to come forward in the Summer
- Nuplace Apartments and Nuplace/L&G Townhouses
- Developing Public Realm Concepts:
 - Ironmasters Way visual
 - Lawn Central

Key Dates for Station Quarter:

- Submit Enabling Works Planning Application – Spring 2022
- Submit Hybrid Planning Application – Summer 2022
- Enabling Works to start - Summer/Autumn 2022
- Construction Phase 1 – Winter 22-Winter 24

JD concluded his update by running through the Comms and Engagement strategy, which includes website, public exhibition, social media campaigns and stakeholder sessions.

7. Wellington and Oakengates project update

KK gave a brief update on Wellington and Oakengates projects.

The Oakengates scheme is focussing on the redevelopment of Limes Walk and enhanced public realm including space for events, strengthening the theatre setting. Landscape architects have been commissioned to do public realm designs and the costings and plans are being prepared for both the residential and retail elements of the works.

With reference to the Theatre, AA advised that the Council is looking closely at what can be done to regenerate the theatre through this scheme and to improve the frontage and confirmed that the business case will come to the Board for approval at a future meeting.

In Wellington KK confirmed we are engaging with property owners to determine options for purchase or co-investment. The building surveys are underway on selected buildings and there is a focus on improving facades to ensure the character of the area is retained.

KK confirmed there is ongoing engagement with the Wellington Regeneration Board.

Mark Pritchard MP expressed his thanks for the update and asked whether we are on schedule and in touch regularly with the Town Council.

KK ran through the timetable and assured that the project is on track and a more detailed update will be given at the June meeting. She also confirmed that there is regular contact with the Town Council, businesses and local stakeholders.

GW asked whether there is anything that we can foresee that could knock us off track.

DS responded that we are monitoring the impact of cost inflation but we are confident that the plan and our aspiration is deliverable - and will be delivered.

LA gave her congratulations to everyone involved in getting us to this stage. She is being approached by members of the public who are concerned about the impact of inflation hitting them hard and asked whether we can keep within budget on this scheme.

DS agreed that the scheme is under pressure, but that we are doing all we can to mitigate cost increases and will continue to do so.

8. AOB

None.

9. Town Deal Board Terms of Reference

GW referred to the updated Terms of Reference which had been circulated with the papers and asked for any comments. None were made and GW confirmed that he would sign off.

Date of Next Meeting

10th June 2022