

## Minutes of Telford Town Deal Board

Friday 27 October 2:00pm - 4.00pm

Held at Darby House

### Attended

#### Board Members

Graham Wynn OBE (GW) Chair  
Graham Guest (GG) Telford College  
Janet Stephens (JS) Telford College  
Ken Sloan (KS) Harper Adams  
Felicity Wingrove (FW) Zen Communications  
MP Mark Pritchard (Virtualy)  
Sonia Roberts (SR) LEP Chair  
Maria Machancoses (MM), Midland Connect  
Alan Olver (AO) (standing in for Julie Mellor T&W Voluntary Sector)  
Cllr Nathan England (standing in for Cllr Lee Carter)

#### Observers

Alex Collins (AC) DLUHC  
Govin Aujla (GA) DLUHC

#### Officers

David Sidaway (DS) T&WC  
Angie Astley (AA) T&WC  
James Dunn (JD) T&WC  
Deb Byle (DB) T&WC  
Amy Smith T&WC Minute taker

	Action
<b>1. Apologies</b>  Cllr Shaun Davies Cllr Lee Carter Julie Mellor MP Lucy Allan Will Westley Katherine Kynaston Claire Skidmore Guy Beaumont John Mather	
<b>2. Welcome new members</b>  Ken Sloan – Harper Adams Janet Stephens – Telford College Alan Olver – stand in for Julie Mellor Cllr Nathan England – stand in for Cllr Lee Carter	

<p><b>3. Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>No new declarations of interest.</p> <p>GW advised that Declarations of Interest forms will be circulated to Board members in November as part of annual update and requested that members complete.</p>	
<p><b>4. Notes of the last meeting and matters arising</b></p> <p>Notes were agreed as accurate record of meeting. No Actions.</p>	
<p><b>5. Revised Terms of Reference</b></p> <p>GW – Terms of Reference reviewed and are fit for purpose – no further changes agreed by the Board.</p>	
<p><b>6. Programme update</b></p> <p><b>Oakengates</b></p> <p>Morris Properties (Shrewsbury) has been awarded contract for the works. Work commenced on site 25.09.23. Agreed all relocations from Phase 1.</p> <p>Continued negotiations with traders in Phases 2 and 3 - mainly agreed.</p> <p>Currently small market (3 traders) which will be maintained during works. Looking to extend that offer following the completion of works. Dialogue between traders and contractor/TWC for continued support throughout the process.</p> <p>Project delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase 1a – Unit 22 to Unit 6 – canopy now removed and internal works have commenced.</li> <li>• Phase 1b - 1b - Unit 43 – Unit 4. This will follow phase 1a</li> <li>• Phase 3 will commence with the demolition of the central block of retail units and the creation of public realm/ public square. Creating an area that can be used for public events.</li> </ul> <p>GW and FW - commented on the positive message on the hoardings and positive comments being made about the investments.</p> <p>FW - Clarification on the unresolved unit? JD advised that notice has been served.</p> <p><b>Wellington</b></p> <p>Focus on targeted investment to restore historical buildings.</p> <p>1 Walker Street - Acquisition now completed. Planning application being finalised. Tender pack is being prepared for issue. Current tenant on the ground floor (Age UK) being supported to relocate. Plan shared showing the layout of flats – maintaining historical features.</p> <p>2 Walker Street and 15 Crown &amp; Duke Street – Acquisition of 2 Walker St complete and contracts exchanged on 15 Crown/Duke Street (directly behind) – subject to owner getting vacant possession of flats upstairs. Currently reviewing options.</p>	

4 Market Street – continuing to work towards investment in improving specifically in the ground floor improving façade.

Public realm improvements – design continues.

GA – What arrangements have been made for parking for the flats? JD advised of the use of long-stay car parks in the town which are in close proximity – no allocated parking planned.

### **Station Quarter**

Completed the enabling works for the site.

Planning consent granted. 3 phases outlined.

Advancing on site with the Skills Hub. Week 30 of 72 – all substructure works complete, finalising work.

On target to open Sept 2024 with an earlier handover to University and College to ensure smooth transition.

Telford College update on curriculum for the Skills Hub:

- Provision for both young people and adult – now an expanded offer. Additions include Engineering and Digital.
- Currently mapping curriculum to enable a smooth transition for students into Higher Education. Focus on Maths as it links so well with Digital. The continuous learning of maths being of such high importance with any career that students may move into.
- Suggestion of a Transition Officer role – to work with students as they progress into Higher Education. This investment works well for both the College and Harper Adams University.
- Telford College have joined Black Country & Marches Institute of Technology – opening up another opportunity, particularly for digital. This offers possibility of branding for this building, partnership building and flexible qualifications (higher level qualifications, levels 4 and above).
- Focus on seamless progression for students through their education. Also invested in Employer Engagement Team – expand digital employer hubs. Strengthen work with schools – treating digital as priority alongside Maths and English learning.

Harper Adams university update on curriculum for the Skills Hub:

- KS – looking forward to working in partnership with Telford College and being part of this development. The aim being to provide a seamless route for students through their higher education.
- Currently designing new programmes – designed specifically for the Hub. Delivery model will differ from the main campus.
- These programmes will aim to embed industry experience in each year of the programme – accumulating experience over the course of the programme. A continuation of industry engagement but being delivered in a different way.
- Experienced success of the existing model - currently delivering over 99% of students with employment shortly after leaving the University.
- Possible phased introduction of programmes in 2024 – they include Applied Data Science, Robotics, Automatician & Mechatronics, Engineering Business Management, Digital Manufacturing. This is a starting point that will adapt over time.

<p>AA - The Skills Agenda is a focus for the next ten years for the Vision 2032 Partnership. This partnership and mapped curriculum will help deliver that wider vision.</p> <p>GA – How many student intakes will there be for Higher Education courses at the Hub? KS advised - intake 30-60.</p> <p><b>Public Realm</b> Removal of the bridge and new crossing to the Town Centre.</p> <p>Bridge removal will commence Spring/Summer 24.</p> <p>Residential element of the public realm to complete Spring 26.</p> <p>GW – Will the ramp be installed before or after the bridge is removed? JD advised after bridge removal. Temporary access to the town from the train station will be past Darby House and across Lawn Central</p> <p><b>Residential</b></p> <p>Low rise element aiming to be on site 2024.</p> <p>Apartments - separate tender package. Awaiting WMCA funding approval – due Dec 23.</p>	
<p><b>7. AOB</b></p> <p>No items raised, meeting ended and went on tour of the Station Quarter development.</p>	
<p><b>8. Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>19 April 2024.</p>	