

Stocksbridge Town Deal Board

DATE AND TIME: Thursday 2nd March 2023, 10:30am

LOCATION: Towns Fund Office, Stocksbridge Library, Manchester Road, Stocksbridge

CO-CHAIRS: Miriam Cates
Ian Sanderson (Interim)

ATTENDEES:

Board members attending:

- Miriam Cates, MP for Penistone and Stocksbridge (MC)
- Ian Sanderson, SLR Outlets (IS)
- Graham Silverwood, Stocksbridge Training and Enterprise Partnership & Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre (GS)
- Kate Martin, Executive Director City Futures, SCC (KM)
- Neil Curtis, Community representative (NC)
- Yuri Matischen, MD MLSBG (YM)
- Dave Cates, Redemption Media (DC)

Also attending:

- Howard Varns, Programme Manager, SCC (HV)
- Amanda Holmes, Communications Officer, SCC (AH)
- Matt Dixon, Constituency Office Manager for MC (MD)
- Natalia Govorukhina – Finance and Commercial Business Partner (NG)

Apologies:

- Sam Townsend, Sheffield City Region (Cities and Local Growth Unit)
- Cllr Julie Grocutt, Sheffield City Council and Stocksbridge Town Council
- John Crawshaw, Crawshaws Butchers



Minutes

1. **Item:** Welcome and confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting and discuss any issues arising Miriam Cates

Previous minutes agreed with no issues arising.

2. **Item:** Governance Declaration of interest – to declare any interests in items on the agenda Miriam Cates

No interests declared.

3. **Item:** Confirm changes to scheme of delegation
 - Board membership changes
 - Interim Chair arrangements

Howard Varns

The board agreed the changes to the scheme of delegation which were discussed at the last meeting. Board members further agreed to invite Gail Larkin and Kathryn Giles Bowman to the board as representatives of Manchester Road businesses. This follows a call out for new board members specifically representing the town centre businesses. Gail and Kathryn have more than 50 years of experience between them of owning and running businesses on Manchester Rd and they will share the role of acting as a mouthpiece and representative of the business community on the board and rotate their attendance. The board agreed that this is something which will be increasingly important as work starts on the town centre projects.

HV said that he would organise an induction session for the new members. NC added that he would like to attend this also.

Board members discussed the proposal to replace IS on the board. He will remain as a member and sponsor of The Community Hub project but is stepping down as Interim Co-Chair. IS proposed YM as Co-Chair, this was seconded by NC and unanimously agreed by all members.

MC thanked Ian for his commitment and vision as Co-Chair and for his continued work on the board. She also thanked Yuri for stepping into the role.

Action: Contact new board members to update. Update Website and scheme of governance accordingly – AH

4. Item: Project Sponsors

Board sponsors as outlined below were approved and agreed by all members.

- a. Community Hub – Ian Sanderson
- b. Place-making – John Crawshaw
- c. Shop frontage scheme – new board members
- d. Bus project – Miriam Cates
- e. Hydrotherapy project – Yuri Matischen
- f. Post 16 Hub – Dave Cates
- g. Rivers and Flood Alleviation – Neil Curtis
- h. Walking and Cycling Infrastructure – Julie Grocutt & Yuri Matischen
- i. Accessibility project – Kate Martin
- j. Oxley Park – Julie Grocutt
- k. Sports Hub – Graham Silverwood

IS asked how the board sponsorship role will work and HV outlined that he will circulate a briefing note confirming this. Essentially the sponsor will be embedded in their project, have access to the project manager and play a key role in local engagement.

Board members discussed the issue of car parking and better management of the parking. HV and KM agreed they would discuss further outside the meeting.

Action: HV to provide briefing paper re project sponsors role

5. Item: Project Update

HV updated members on each project as per Table 1 in the circulated board papers. Funding has been received for 9 out of the 10 projects and the tendering process is now in progress and well as preparing final business cases.

Community Hub: HV outlined the latest position on the Community Hub, RLB will project manage the development alongside CODA as architects. The project is currently at the pre-app stage and awaiting feedback ahead of the application being submitted. Land acquisition is still to be resolved and

discussions are active and ongoing. Progressing this is vital to progressing the development.

MC said that she understood the necessary processes, but she was concerned about the project dates slipping back and urged caution that there should be no further slippage of dates to ensure delivery of the projects to benefit the local community.

IS asked if it was possible to accelerate the projects so they can be delivered at the earliest opportunity. The investment is going to make a huge difference to Stocksbridge and it important to see the development of Manchester Rd moving forward.

KM said that she understood the issues and would liaise closely with HV to ensure the project has the right support around it to progress to the next stage as quickly as possible.

Board members discussed options around the future of the former Factory Shop building and how it could be enhanced, and all agreed that options should be considered in more detail.

Placemaking (including shopfront scheme): Designs and costings will be worked up for the precinct area. Prioritising different “zones” of Manchester Rd was discussed and HV outlined that regeneration resource is needed to project manage this part of the investment delivery.

Oxley Park: Design work is starting next month, and work is scheduled to start on site in the autumn. The SCLC team will be involved in the process to ensure ideas they have for the infill area between the Leisure Centre and Pool are fed in to the design team (the infill area is part of the Oxley Park project as well as the new skatepark, EV charging points and upgrades to footpaths)

Sports Hub: This is a complex project with a number of smaller projects. Grant agreements are being developed for the Rugby Club and Football Club so their works can start at the earliest opportunity.

Re the 3G pitch, SCC is working with the Football Foundation to obtain match funding to enable delivery of the larger 11v11 pitch which will have a greater benefit to the community. Therefore this element of the project will await the outcome of this bid. If the site is viable after surveys have taken place the funding bid will progress to the next stage.

Work will start in April on the grant agreement for the Cricket Club with a view to construction starting in September when the season ends (a planning application will be submitted for this part of the project)

Hydrotherapy Pool: A meeting has been held with the trustees of the Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre and the business case is currently being reviewed against the latest running / heating costs and potential pricing structure to ensure the long term viability and sustainability.

Rivers and flood alleviation scheme: A tender for this project is currently being developed.

Buses project: A meeting is being held this month and the funding agreement is currently in development. The next step will be to develop the expression of interest document. All data gathered from local engagement

and surveys will be passed on to the operator who will use this background information to determine the routes and timings of the service.

HV confirmed it is hoped the service could be up and running in the summer.

Post 16 Hub: HV reported that a meeting had been held with the SCC team and Northern College around timescales. This project will come on stream in Sept 2025 once the Hub building has been completed and opened. It was agreed that options would be explored for potential interim funding to deliver provision in the town earlier. Venues for delivering adult education ahead would be explored.

Action: Liaise with SCC education lead and Northern College - AH

Cycling and walking trails: the project is currently under review; it is expected that this review will be concluded in July. The board felt strongly that the outputs of the project could be achieved for greater value for money with a greater relevance to Stocksbridge. Options will be considered as part of the review.

Action: HV

6. Item: Financial update (appendix)

Natalia G

As per NGs document – which was emailed to everyone prior to the meeting.

7. Item: AOB ALL

HV updated that the MCA application for additional funding of £1.8m was progressing well and should be determined by July.

8. Item: Date of Next Meeting (Workshop) Thursday 13th April 2023 10:30am
(this workshop is aimed at focussing on Town Centre projects)