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Newark Town Funds Board

Monday, 29 April 2024 at 10.00 am

**Holy Trinity Community & Partnership Centre
Boundary Road
Newark
NG24 4AU**

**You are hereby requested to attend the above Meeting to be held at the time/place
and on the date mentioned above for the purpose of transacting the
business on the Agenda as overleaf.**

If you have any queries please contact Helen Brandham on
helen.brandham@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk.

AGENDA

	<u>Page Nos.</u>
1. Welcome	
2. Apologies for Absence	
3. Minutes of Last Meeting - 27 March 2024	1 - 6
4. Newark Town Board Projects	Verbal Report
5. Newark Long Term Town Investment Plan Update	7 - 12
6. Newark Town Board Communications	Verbal Report
7. Any Other Business	

Agenda Item 3

Newark Town Board

Minutes of the Meeting of the Newark Town Board Meeting held on Wednesday, 27 March 2024 at 11.00 am, at Newark College, Friary Road, Newark.

PRESENT: Tony Asbury, Asbury Planning
Linny Beaumont, Canal and River Trust
Steffen Benbow, YMCA
Michael Bingwa, The Futures Group
Jane Buxton, Cllr. Balderton PC
Louise Casey-Simpson, N&S CVS
Rowan Cozens, NSDC
Neil Cuttall, NSDC
Joelle Davies, NCC
James Daykin, Daykin Marshall
Andrew Fearn, St Mary Magdalene Church
Simon Gabbitas, My Future Prospects
Jenny Garbis, Gustos
Keith Girling, Cllr. NCC
Matthew Gleadell, Clerk – Newark Town Council
Susan Gray, Office of Robert Jenrick MP
Jane Harrison, Newark Civic Trust
Peter Hill, Rt. Rev. – Chair of Transforming Notts. Together
Dan Howitt, representing Caroline Henry, Notts. PCC
Clare Janes, Inspire
Matt Lamb, NSDC
Tom Marsden, Lincoln College
Lee Marshall, Viridisbsl
Cate Martin, BeanBlock Café
Paul Peacock, NSDC
Andrew Phillips, NSDC
Elaine Poon, NSDC
Abi Rhodes, Savills
Ben Robinson, Historic England
John Robinson, NSDC
Neil Ross, Newark Town Council
Liam Searle, Nottingham Forest
Penny Taylor, Lincoln College, representing Town Centre Partnership
Anna Tsartsari, Be Design Group
Dave Williams, DWP
Steff Wright, Gusto

1.0 Welcome

Matt Lamb welcomed members to the meeting, Tom Cartledge sent his apologies and it was agreed that Tony Asbury would chair the meeting.

2.0 Apologies for Absence

Fiona Anderson, Nottingham Trent University
Alex Ball, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire
Darren Burke, Masdings of Newark
Nikki Burley, Newark Emmaus Trust
Tom Cartledge, Benoy
Louise Creswell, Environment Agency
Hollie Drake, RSPB
Charlotte Ellam, Notts Police
Paul Gascoine, Homes England
Salim Hadjoudj, Barcode Warehouse
Paul Holmes, Wirtgen Group
Bernadette Hunter, Headteacher Rep
Jackie Insley, S&N Citizens' Advice
Kate Milne, RSPB
Will Morledge, D2N2/EMCCA
Melanie Phythian, DBT
Jayne Saunders, Farndon PC
Louise Sinclair, Beaumont House
Sam Thompson, The Duck
Kevin Vasey, Lincolnshire Co-Op

3.0 Minutes of Meeting held on 1 March 2024

It was agreed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting.

4.0 Newark Towns Fund Projects Update

The report updated the Board on current progress of Newark Towns Fund existing projects.

The Newark Town Investment Plan (TIP) was developed in Spring 2020 and from which, ten priority projects were identified, including:

- Newark Construction College – a full report on delivered outcomes will be presented to the Board later this year.
- YMCA Community & Activity village – a full report on delivered outcomes will be presented to the Board later this year.
- Air & Space Institute – expecting students to be able to use the facility after the Easter break and is intended that an opening event will be undertaken in Summer 2024.
- Newark Southern Link Road – the project is expected to be open to traffic in November 2025.
- Relocation of Newark Police Station (subsequently withdrawn)
- 20 minute Cycle Town – a full report on delivered outcomes will be presented to the Board later this year.
- Newark Cultural Heart – is now being delivered by Newark & Sherwood District Council, having taken the lead from Newark Town Council, the capital ask due to be captured in a Full Business Case in Summer 2024.

- 32 Stodman Street Redevelopment – demolition expected to complete in June 2024 and construction expected to complete in October 2025.
- Newark Gateway (Smart Innovation Supply Chain & Logistics Enterprise Zone - SiSCLog) – is a challenging project, impacts of A46 Newark bypass, need to relocate the lorry park, before the Gateway Development can be delivered. If the project is paused it will be necessary to re-divert the committed Towns Fund Grant, the Board were advised that a Council decision is expected shortly on the relocated Lorry Park.
- Castle Gatehouse - Newark Castle Gatehouse has progressed to a Full Business Case (FBC) stage, and an urgent decision was granted on 12 March 2024 by the Chair of the Town Board to approve the FBC following an assurance report by Quod. The urgent decision was required due to the need to confirm Towns Fund funding prior to the National Lottery Heritage Funding (NLHF) panel on 13 March 2024, which seeks an additional £1.59 million from NLHF to fund additional elements to the scheme, including:
 - Creation of step free access to the Gatehouse
 - New interpretation to tell the story of the site through interventions such as architectural fragments, information boards, and play trails; and
 - External lighting.

A decision is expected to be received from NLHF shortly, the outcome of this will be reported to the Town Board.

Agreed that the Newark Town Board:

- Noted the progress to date on Newark Town Fund projects;
- Noted the Full Business Case approval for Newark Castle Gatehouse; and
- Delegated authority to the Chair of the Board and the NSDC 151 Officer to approve any Project Adjustment Requests (PAR) to divert funds from the Newark Gateway (SiSCLog) Project to one of the other Towns Fund projects as detailed at paragraph 3.10 and 3.11 below in the report.

5.0 Long Term Plan for Towns Funding (LTPfT)

The report updated the Board on the LTPfT funding opportunity and to seek permission to request a LTPfT boundary change to the Government proposed Boundary before the 1 April 2024 deadline.

The Board will be aware from the meeting on 1 March 2024 of the Long Term Plan for Towns (LTPfT) opportunity for an additional £20m of grant funding over a 10-year period for Newark. The Board were informed that the Newark Masterplan Vision and consultation had engaged over 1,500 responses and that the Masterplanning Team would be providing a Vision for submission on the 1st August 2024. Further to the Vision the Government have asked for the Board to submit a 3 year Investment Plan for 2024/25-2026/27 for use of the grant funding by August 1st 2024.

The Board have had an opportunity to review the membership to ensure that it is inclusive of stakeholders that are keen to drive forward the regeneration and development of the Town. The Government have recently provided guidance to establish strong local Board representation and community involvement. The

membership of the Board must comprise a number of mandated parties including all tiers of government, community leaders, employers, local authorities, educators, and the local MP. All Board members will be required to complete various governance requirements that align with the Nolan Principles, and include declaring interests and signing a conflict of interest statement.

The Newark Town Board has been in place since January 2020 and a refreshed Board met on 1 March 2024, the minutes having provided a full list of organisations who were in attendance.

Future meetings leading to sign off were proposed:

- Monday 29 April 2024 10.00am, at Holy Trinity Community & Partnership Centre
- Thursday 30 May 2024 8.30am, at Barcode Warehouse
- Thursday 27 June 2024 3.30pm, at Newark College
- Thursday 25 July 2024 3.00pm, at the Palace Theatre

Agreed that the Newark Town Board:

- Noted the progress to date on the LTPfT Fund Vision (Newark Masterplan & Design Code); and
- Supported an amendment to the current LTPfT boundary pending preparation and prioritisation of projects and programs as part of the LtpfT Investment Plan (Town Investment Plan).

6.0 Board Governance and Future Meetings

The Board understood that it needed to be in place to make decisions, with a Constitution and Terms of Reference. It was decided that as well as the Board everybody would be invited to attend future meetings including all those in the room at today's meeting.

Forms were provided for completion with reference to the Code of Conduct including adhering to the Nolan Seven Principles of Public Life:

1. Selflessness
2. Integrity
3. Objectivity
4. Accountability
5. Openness
6. Honesty
7. Leadership

Also required for completion and return was the Newark Town Board Member Register of Interest form. Board Members are asked to return these documents to Elaine Poon, Town Programme Manager, Elaine.Poon@Newark-Sherwooddc.gov.uk as soon as possible.

The Chair highlighted the requirement of flexibility back to Governance, as well as funding, skills, digital, sustainable and accountability to get people actively engaged.

7.0 Any Other Business

The Chair requested to keep on the agenda the A617 passing the Rugby Club and the need for a new bridge at Kelham. The second point for an upgrade to the Nottingham/Lincoln train line.

ML noted, advising that a Kelham Bridge proposal to bypass at a possible cost of £16m. The Castle line crossing the East Coast main line estimating the cost at £700m a few years ago, and will be substantially more now.

8.0 Date of Next Meeting

29 April 2024

Meeting ended at 12.35pm.

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NEWARK TOWN BOARD MEETING

29 APRIL 2024

Newark Long Term Town Investment Plan Update

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To update the Board on current progress of the creation of the Long Term Town Investment Plan (referred to at the previous Board as the Town Investment Plan 2, TIP2), including opportunities to engage in shaping and influencing the priorities and interventions for investment.

2.0 Recommendations that the Newark Town Board:

- a) **agree the route to delivery of the Newark Long Term Plan for Town Vision and the Newark Long Term Town Investment Plan; and**
- b) **agree to complete (where relevant) and share the ‘call for projects’ pro forma with stakeholders, partners, community groups and other active parties within the proposed Newark LTPfT fund area for consideration as part of the Long Term Town Investment Plan.**

3.0 Long Term Town Fund & Newark Masterplan

3.1 Board Members will be aware of the November 2023 announcement that Newark was one of 55 towns to be offered the opportunity to apply for a £20m Long Term Town Fund. This fund provides funding every year for 10 years through to 2033/34 to drive ambitious locally set visions for their Town. To secure this investment Newark Town Board will develop a Long-Term Vision for the Town, based on the priorities of the community and put to local people for consultation. This will be accompanied by a 3 year Investment Plan for 2024-2027. A further Investment Plan would need to be created in 2026/27. The District Council have been provided initial capacity funding to support the development of the Long Term Town Investment Plan, and will be accountable body for the funding programme. The Long Term Plan for Town guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/our-long-term-plan-for-towns/our-long-term-plan-for-towns>

3.2 Newark has established a Town Board in January 2020, and has been successful in securing a £25m Town Fund in 2021 for the planned period 2021-2026 with 8 identified projects. Further a Levelling Up Fund One 2021 grant has been provided of £20m to support the delivery of the Southern Link Road. Newark has also started the development of the Newark Masterplan in September 2023 with Historic England & Newark & Sherwood District Council leading the initiative, with the aim of creating a long term vision for the Town, identified objectives, a design code, and opportunity projects for investment. The Newark Masterplan undertook a first stage consultation in October 2023-January 2024 that secured over 1,500 responses from the community, and involved active discussion, planning for real exercises, an online survey and in person questionnaire, as well as community involvement with the local college and community groups in the area. Targeted consultation took place with under-represented groups such as students and the gypsy and traveller community. The Newark Masterplan is therefore not simply a spatial document, but an active, inclusive,

community driven set of principles and priorities that has been comprehensive shaped by the Newark communities. The proposed draft Vision, Masterplan, and Long-Term Town Investment Plan will be consulted on in spring 2024. For awareness, the Newark Masterplan website can be found here and provides detailed of the active consultation undertaken;

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/3a52b75f45164e32ad4a241c51d6d960>

4.0 Preparing the Long Term Plan for Towns Vision & Investment Plan

4.1 As agreed previously it is important to harvest data and opinion to understand the Towns challenges – the ‘why’ for a focus for future priorities. A data pack from Government has been provided ([Long-Term Plan for Towns: data packs for 55 towns - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/long-term-plan-for-towns-data-packs-for-55-towns)) which sits alongside the raft of data sets already captured through the Towns Fund-led Town Investment Plan 1, the Council’s Community Plan, Board Members own published priorities, and the aforementioned emerging Masterplan & Design Code work.

4.2 Data will be presented to the Board for comment and will form an important evidence-base for the Long-Term Town Investment Plan and any identified principles, priorities, projects, and programs. A suggested methodology for assessing Long Term Town Investment Plan priorities and understanding how to develop a long-list to a short list of inventions will also be presented.

4.3 The Long Term Town Investment Plan has to be submitted by 1 August 2024, and it is proposed that the Town Board Meeting in May 2024 provides an agenda items for key partners to pitch proposed projects to the wider board for inclusion in the Long Term Town Fund appraisal process.

5.0 Newark Town Board

5.1 As accountable body the Council has also sought to ensure that in the facilitation of the Town Board good representation from the community is ensured. The Council have discussed the guidance with government, the Chair of the Town Board and other partners and the first new Town Board met on the 1st March 2024.

5.2 The Council would recommend that, given the Town Board has representation in excess of 40 members that the terms of reference and assurance framework are reviewed to ensure members are still engaged and represented and decisions can be made quickly.

6.0 Next Steps in the delivery of the Long Term Town Investment Plan

6.1 The collated projects identified through the process at 3.6 will form the long list which will be assessed against an agreed methodology. This will include assessment against deliverability, addressing our challenges, viability and a Benefit Cost Ratio. The short to medium terms projects will form part of the 3 year investment plan 2024-2027. It is important to note that all projects will be captured and even if not identified in the Long Term Town Investment Plan submitted to government may continue to be developed. This was the case with the original Town Investment Plan where the 9 priority projects funded were supplemented by multiple other projects that were still delivered as key priorities for the Town.

- 6.2 The Long Term Town Investment Plan draft vision will be shared with the Board on 29 April 2024 at the meeting to be discussed and shaped by the Town Board members.
- 6.3 It is expected that in the next identified Town Board meetings, the Board will set the direction for:
- 30 May 2024
 - A draft of long and short listed projects
 - An update on the programme of community engagement alongside a recommended Towns Toolkit for ongoing Community Engagement.
 - 27 June 2024
 - A final short list and 3 year investment plan draft will be presented for discussion and assessment.
 - 25 July 2024
 - The Board will be asked to agree the Long Term Town Investment Plan for submission on 1 August 2024.

Lead Officers:

Matt Lamb, Director - Planning & Growth

Sanjiv Kohli, Deputy Chief Executive & Director - Resources

Neil Cuttall, Business Manager Economic Growth & Visitor Economy

Elaine Poon, Town Fund Programme Manager

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Long Term Plan for Newark - Project Capture Form

The Government's Long Term Plan for Towns Prospectus sets out a new plan to put local people at the centre of their town's success and give them the long-term funding to change its future. Drawing from experiences delivering the Levelling Up Fund, Towns Fund and Levelling Up Partnerships, and listening to the feedback from local authorities and delivery partners, the Government wish to put local people at the centre of their towns' development, with long-term, flexible funding to respond to the priorities of local people.

In exchange for long-term, flexible funding, each town in England will be required to develop a 10-year **Long-Term Plan for their town**, setting out the town's vision and **priorities for investment and regeneration**, aligned to themes of **1) safety and security, 2) high streets, heritage and regeneration, and 3) transport and connectivity**.

Through the Long-Term Plan, Newark Town Board are looking to identify the measures that matter most to local people, providing significant flexibility to make a range of improvements under 3 broad investment themes, driven by the needs and wishes of local communities. Further details on the type of interventions under each of the three themes are set out [here](#). The Town Board are now providing the opportunity for the community to submit a proposal, which will be included within a long list of 'potential' projects. This long list will then be assessed for the positive impacts they will have for the community, and chosen and agreed, projects raised will form part of the overall Long Term Plan for Newark.

Please fill in the table below if you wish to submit a proposal, along with providing which theme the you believe the project aligns with. The table also includes the key themes that have emerged from previous consultation undertaken across Newark, please circle which theme is most applicable to the proposed intervention (if applicable). Your proposal will be captured as part of the Long Term Plan for Towns Town Investment Plan.

Long Term Plan Theme (please circle)	Alignment with Stakeholder Engagement Themes (please circle)	Project Name & Ownership	Brief Description of Project	Estimated Cost (if known)	Estimated Timescales (if known)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and security High streets, heritage and regeneration Transport and connectivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Place /Community Heart Thriving Economy Skills/ Creativity Safe/active travel Green Space Strong Town Brand NA/Other 				
Example Intervention:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and security High streets, heritage and regeneration Transport and connectivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Place /Community Heart Thriving Economy Skills/ Creativity Safe/active travel Green Space Strong Town Brand NA/Other 	<p>Newark Castle Station Wayfinding /signage NG24 1FW</p> <p>Newark and Sherwood District Council</p>	<p>Consistent and clear signage linking from both Newark Northgate to the Town Centre and from Castlegate to the town centre.</p>	<p>Circa £30k</p>	<p>Summer 2024</p>

If possible, please include:

- Description of key benefits of the project
- If revenue ask, long term impact of the project
- Any potential delivery partners
- The amount of private/ public sector funding leveraged

Your Name:

Organisation: Page 12