

Thornaby Town Deal Board

Minutes of Meeting held on 28th April 2025

Present:

Chair, Mark White CBE DL
 Cllr Richard Eglington
 Andy McDonald MP (Teams)
 Cllr Sylvia Walmsley
 Cllr Steve Walmsley
 Leon Jones
 Emma Speight
 Angela Corner
 Paul Gibson
 Matt Vickers MP (Teams)
 Cllr Ian Dalgarno (Teams)

Iain Robinson
 Rachel Haycock
 Helen Dixon
 Ian Davies

Jonathan Kibble
 Steve Walmsley
 Phil Hastie
 Emma Speight
 Amanda Ellwood

Apologies:

Cllr Mick Moore
 Cllr Ray Godwin
 Jonathan Gilroy
 Cllr Nathan Gale

Sam Dixon
 Jane Edmends
 Mike Baum
 Julie Gilhespie

Item	Comment/Action	Owner	Deadline
1	<p><u>Housekeeping and Chair's remarks</u></p> <p>Welcome and introductions from all. Chair expressed his thanks to both Cllr Nigel Cooke and Chris Smith for their invaluable contributions to the Board and wished them well.</p>		
2	<p><u>Review of Minutes from 30th January 2025</u></p> <p>Agreed as accurate record.</p>		
3	<p><u>Progress Update</u></p> <p>Update provided on the 4 priority projects:</p> <p>Thornaby Town Centre (IR)</p> <p><u>Pavilion Pool</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IR gave an overview of progress and confirmed that a two-stage procurement has been concluded and Galliford Try, has been appointed. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work will be undertaken on the Stage 4 design with a view to agreeing a construction budget at the end of August and a start on site in September. <p><u>Golden Eagle</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Board discussed the arson attack that took place on Sunday 27th April, the day before the Town Deal Board meeting. IR confirmed that despite the fire, initial indications were that it hasn't caused extensive damage to the building.• An inspection of the Golden Eagle was undertaken on the morning of the Board meeting and no structural damage could be seen.• Steel shutters will be fitted to secure the building.• Demolition contractors were due on site tomorrow as part of the tender process but with recent events this may be delayed.• Tenders have been issued to select a demolition contractor and are due back on 16th May with an appointment expected by the end of May/early June. It is anticipated that a contractor will be on site by the end June and a detailed programme will be shared, once agreed with the successful demolition contractor. <p>Queries raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Andy McDonald MP enquired whether there is any connection with the recent arson attack at Thornaby Football club. IR confirmed that the Council are not aware of any connection.• Cllr Walmsley informed that the football club had been recent targets of ASB.• The Board discussed the social media coverage around the Golden Eagle. It is acknowledged that whilst these comments cannot be removed, positive action taken by the Council to demolish the building will help to change public perception.• The next issue of Thornaby Pride will be published in mid-June. <p>Cycleways (JK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• JK updated on scheme progress. The TRO statutory consultation has now completed, and no major issues were raised.• A flooding issue has been raised and is being considered by the Council's Highways team.• Tenders have been issued to appoint a contractor, and this is expected to complete in June.• The Town Deal grant funding needs to be spent by the deadline of March 2026 and TVCA match funding is available for spend by March 2027. <p>Queries raised: Cllr Sylvia Walmsley stated that the drainage issue had arisen from a beck that historically ran through the site. JK confirmed that this will be mitigated as part of the planning process.</p> <p>Skills (ID - Education Training Collective)</p>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID gave an overview of achievements and scheme progress to date. • The Phase 1 enabling works are now complete and the car park is open and operational. • The main contractor for the NETA new build is being progressed through a Direct Award tender via the Procure Partnership Framework. A PCSA agreement has been revised and agreed. • The contractor is expected to mobilise on-site in June 2025 with construction completing in June 2026. The facility will be ready to open to learners at the start of the 2025/26 academic year. • The Contractor appointed for the Phase 1 enabling works exceeded their Social Value commitment. Activities have included multiple site visits by learners of both Stockton Riverside College and the Skills Academy. • The Board discussed the importance of social value within the projects and ID suggested that the Council provide a social value update on other Town Deal projects where appropriate. <p>North Thornaby (SD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SD gave her apologies for the Board due to illness. A North Thornaby update is included with the meeting minutes. • ES updated that 9 properties have now been purchased and refurbished by Northstar, with several now in occupation. This workstream is progressing within budget. • AC confirmed that they were having ASB issues around the Spring Close area so Thirteen are installing CCTV for additional surveillance. • Thirteen are working in partnership with the Police and other agencies on area walkabouts including St Patricks school. <p><u>Queries raised:</u> Cllr Walmsley noted that the layout of Spring Close and the surrounding area exacerbates issues of crime, drugs and ASB. AC suggested a walkabout with Cllr Walmsley to look at this issue and Chair expressed an invite to join.</p>		
4	<u>Q&A</u>		
5	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>IR suggested the next Board meeting should be held at the end of June / early July as this should align with upcoming milestones on the projects.</p>		
6	<u>Any Other Business</u>		

	<p>Chair asked Cllr Sylvia Walmsley to provide an overview of the Board's progress:</p> <p>Cllr Walmsley stated that it is wonderful how far we have come since the Board was established. Cllr Walmsley commented how frustrating some of the social media posts are and that the public don't appreciate the legalities and complexities involved with delivering the schemes. This makes it difficult to manage public perception and expectations.</p> <p>Chair thanked the Board for their attendance and also gave his best wishes to Cllr Richard Eglington on his new position as Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.</p>		
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