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CHADDERTON TOWN BOARD Minutes

Date Monday 9 September 2024

Time 12.00 pm

Venue South Chadderton Methodist Church, Chadderton

Item No

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Minutes

MEETING: Chadderton Town Board (Long-Term Plan for Towns)

DATE: 9 September 2024

VENUE: South Chadderton Methodist Church, Chadderton

TIME: 12:00

PRESENT	Ashraf, Kashif	Oldham President, Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
	Bailey, Abigail	Graduate Management Trainee, Oldham Council
	Chapman, Dom	Director, Thrive Economics
	Clifford, Paul	Director of Economy, Oldham Council
	Jordan, Simon	Principal and Chief Executive, Oldham College
	Lockwood, Stuart	Chief Executive, Oldham Community Leisure
	McLaren, Colin (Vice-Chair)	Chair, Chadderton Together Community Group
	Nugent, Martin	Senior Policy and Partnership Officer, Safer and Stronger Communities, Greater Manchester Combined Authority
	Partington, Ian	Chief Inspector, Greater Manchester Police
	Penn, Jennifer	Town Centre Business Manager, Oldham Council
	Shuttleworth, Councillor Graham	West District Community Lead and Councillor for Chadderton South, Oldham Council
	Stachnialek, Jowita	Graduate Management Trainee, Oldham Council
	Taylor, Catherine	Oldham Partnership Manager, Department for Work and Pensions
	Taylor, Councillor Elaine	Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Decent Homes, and Councillor for Chadderton Central, Oldham Council
APOLOGIES	Aldred, Sarah	Director of Customer Experience, First Choice Homes Oldham
	Mathieson, Estelle	District Commander Oldham, Greater Manchester Police
	McMahon, MP Jim	MP, Oldham West and Royton
	O'Connor, Nicki	Group Partnership Manager, DWP North-West
	Popplewell, Grace	Greater Manchester Deputy Area Lead, Cities and Local Growth Unit
	Shah, Councillor Arooj	Leader, Oldham Council
	Windsor-Welsh, Laura (Chair)	Oldham Director, Action Together CIO

1. Welcome (Vice-Chair)

Housekeeping matters were covered, and members were welcomed.

2. Introductions and apologies for absence (Vice-Chair)

Introductions were made and apologies noted.

3. Notice of any urgent business to be accepted onto the agenda and reasons for that urgency (Vice-Chair)
<p>None received.</p>
4. Procedural business and any items accepted as urgent business (Vice-Chair)
<p>i) Declarations of interests</p> <p>Board members were thanked for declaring their interests before the meeting to enable Oldham Council to develop a register of interests for oldham.gov.uk. No additional interests were declared by those present.</p> <p>ii) Review of minutes and action updates from 26 July 2024</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings (proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Kashif Ashraf). Board members were encouraged to check the action tracker shared before the meeting for updates on the actions from July.</p> <p>ACTION: Jennifer Penn to publish the minutes of the meeting on 26 July at oldham.gov.uk.</p> <p>iii) Review of capacity-building budget</p> <p>As lead local authority for the Long-Term Plan for Towns, Oldham Council has received £250,000 in capacity-building revenue (£50,000 for FY 23/24 and £200,000 for FY 24/25). At the next meeting, there will be a breakdown of spend to date on items including professional appointments, meetings, and staff time.</p> <p>ACTION: Jennifer Penn to obtain a breakdown of spend to date by the time of the next meeting.</p>
5. Vision and Investment Plan (Dom Chapman)
<p>i) Revisions since previous meeting</p> <p>The Long-Term Plan (LTP) for Chadderton includes challenges, opportunities, town vision, objectives, priorities, and intended outcomes. The draft has been updated since July to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and wellbeing in vision and objectives 2. Town history (Lancaster Bomber and Lydia Becker) 3. Atom Valley gateway narrative 4. Population growth impacts on housing (<i>further work still required</i>) <p>There are new sections for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation findings - Future engagement strategy - Objective alignment to local priorities (straplines from consultation evidence) - Route to market (focusing primarily on projects for years 0-3) - Delivery programming (<i>Gantt chart still in development</i>) - Toolkit powers and policy levers - Photos/images

ACTION: Jennifer Penn to circulate Dom Chapman's slides after the meeting.

ii) General review / discussion

The Board needs to translate broad ambitions into specific proposals for years 0-3 and beyond. Given that the programme can only address certain opportunities and challenges because of its fixed budget and end date, it should be used and promoted as a catalyst for other investment.

The Government has yet to confirm the submission deadline for the investment plan or provide further programme guidance. The delay will likely impact on the Board's ability to spend the allocation for FY 24/25.

6. Project Selection (Dom Chapman)

Board members agreed that the nine projects shortlisted for years 0-3 reflected community priorities established during engagement in July but would need to be costed and scoped fully before being considered for final submission. Current costs were noted to be a "starter for ten".

ACTION: Dom Chapman to share early cost estimates for projects, including the quote for town centre CCTV.

i) Short-term projects for three-year investment plan

Board members would like to append project summaries to the three-year investment plan as a way of confirming project leads, scopes, headline costs including capital/revenue splits and possible match-funding, delivery mechanisms, timescales, outputs and outcomes relating to programme objectives, and more.

ACTION: Jennifer Penn to coordinate the development of proformas for shortlisted projects by 4 October, for a review during the next Board meeting.

ACTION: Board members to join sub-groups/sub-meetings to work up relevant project proformas by 4 October.

The shortlisted projects were discussed in turn:

Project 1 - Foxdenton Hall: arguably the most advanced of the projects but with lead(s) TBC. In November there will be a bid to Heritage Lottery Fund for feasibility studies (stage one) and hall refurbishment/park improvements (stage two). The bid will be supported by a three-year programme of events and activities, to be informed by forthcoming engagement with businesses and community groups to determine hall end use(s). If investment is to benefit all residents of Chadderton, there may be a requirement for better local transport/connectivity.

Project 2 - town centre management role: details TBC include salary with on-costs, contract duration and specifics (e.g. principles around social value and the living wage), host employer (e.g. Oldham Council), and outcomes e.g. possible job creation. Recruitment could take time.

Project 3 - business capital grants scheme: businesses to help shape sub-categories to maximise interest/impact. Board suggestions are environmental sustainability, kit/equipment, and shopfronts. Will need a simple and transparent application/shortlisting process.

Project 4 - community capital grants scheme: possible extension to One Oldham? Standalone scheme, separate from business grants scheme. Should be informed by lessons from previous grant schemes, and open to new and existing groups. Some factors/principles

should be desirable rather than essential e.g. private match. Will need a simple and transparent application/shortlisting process.

ACTION: Paul Clifford to share details of existing support for local businesses.

Project 5 - cultural identity: undefined but could include murals on buildings and “quick wins”.

Project 6 - high street improvements: chance to align with the “Reimagining Chadderton” masterplan from 2023 e.g. transport study to assess connectivity and access to green spaces like Berriesfield Park, and new pedestrian crossings. Could link with phase two of the Bee Network. Must remember that Oldham Council is the highways authority but does not own certain assets in Chadderton e.g. the shopping precinct.

Project 7 - town centre CCTV: estimate is £160k per year for live monitoring of new cameras along Middleton Road, at the precinct and beyond, in addition to capital outlay (unsustainable / unaffordable?). There are multiple options e.g. fixed cameras (possibly requiring new lampposts), mobile cameras (sometimes hard to position if there are sporadic crime sprees in unusual locations), AI, live monitoring (full/part-time) and use of pre-recorded footage. Success largely dependent on camera type and location, with just a single camera having potential to improve safety and reduce rather than displace crime. Could cameras be added into the borough CCTV network, in consultation with GMP and GMCA? GMP typically accesses Oldham Council cameras one at a time e.g. following intelligence reports. Could the Board learn from other live link systems e.g. Ramsbottom to Prestwich, and grant GMP quick and easy access to footage through QR codes? The Board should remember that some people find CCTV intrusive rather than reassuring. Anything new must be compatible with the GM Digital Strategy and complement existing patrols by security firm Clearwatch and Neighbourhood Watch volunteers.

Project 8: youth provision - could this include education and skills, business/enterprise, leisure/sports, culture/arts, other? Need to engage colleagues in the youth sector to determine aims/objectives and target outputs/outcomes linked to existing youth provision/priorities. Might build on the status of Chadderton (Middleton Road) as a gateway to Oldham College.

Project 9: monitoring and evaluation – find ways to monitor the success of the programme and comply with requirements for regular monitoring returns.

ii) Long-term projects for future investment plans

The needs of local people and membership of the Board will evolve over the next decade, so the investment plan must be responsive to change. The Board and its partners should be able to add to the list of projects and scale up some projects if extra funding becomes available.

It is not possible to know if the shortlisted and longlisted projects align with some or all programme objectives because the projects have not yet been costed/scoped.

The Board might wish to consider adding the skills agenda into the LTP and making more of Chadderton’s young and growing population.

The Board needs to sell the vision and see what response comes from local people e.g. possible match and links with businesses’ own employment, skills and growth strategies. Not all inward investment is local so the Board should cast its net far and wide.

The Board must work with local organisations and partners to understand what investment is already planned e.g. pitch improvements at Chadderton F.C. The LTP could provide match for

local projects pre-dating the start of the programme. The Board's projects should dovetail with existing projects as appropriate.

The Board might consider adding targets for leverage to be secured for projects from local people, using the investment plan as the basis for early discussions.

If the LTP for Towns budget is reduced or withdrawn, the Board will still have an investment plan against which other funding can be targeted to address identified challenges and opportunities. Should the budget remain £20m, the Board will still need to target match.

When planning future engagement work, the Board might consider replicating the mobile consultation event by Upturn Social Enterprise and Muse outside Oldham Athletic F.C. on a recent match day. Events such as Chadderton F.C. match days, school opening evenings, and mosque events could be useful for engaging adults and young people simultaneously.

ACTION: the Board to firm up projects for the three-year investment plan by mid-October, and then firm up the remaining projects for subsequent investment plans from mid-November.

7. Action review / next steps (Vice-Chair)

ACTION: Jennifer Penn to publish the minutes of the meeting on 26 July at oldham.gov.uk.

ACTION: Jennifer Penn to obtain a breakdown of spend to date by the time of the next meeting.

ACTION: Jennifer Penn to circulate Dom Chapman's slides after the meeting.

ACTION: Dom Chapman to share early cost estimates for projects, including the quote for town centre CCTV.

ACTION: Jennifer Penn to coordinate the development of proformas for shortlisted projects by 4 October, for a review during the next Board meeting.

ACTION: Board members to join sub-groups/sub-meetings to work up relevant project proformas by 4 October.

ACTION: Paul Clifford to share details of existing support for local businesses.

ACTION: the Board to firm up projects for the three-year investment plan by mid-October, and then firm up the remaining projects for subsequent investment plans from mid-November.

8. Any other business (Vice-Chair)

None.

9. Time and date of next meeting (Vice-Chair)

The Vice-Chair thanked Dom Chapman and Board members for their contributions.

Future meetings will be held in October and November (dates and venues TBC).

The meeting closed at 13:50.

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