

Staveley Town Deal Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 March 2024 (10:00 – 12:00)

Environment Centre, Markham Vale

Attendance

Board Members		
Ivan Fomin (Chair)	MSE Hiller	
Huw Bowen	Chesterfield Borough Council	
Lee Rowley (MP)	Member of Parliament, North East Derbyshire	
lan Wingfield	Springwell Community College	
Cllr Carolyn Renwick	Derbyshire County Council	
Toby Perkins MP	Member of Parliament, Chesterfield	
Angela Stansfield	Department of Work and Pensions	
Amanda Baxendale	University of Derby	
Cllr Elaine Tidd	Staveley Town Council	
Geoff Walker	Chesterfield Canal Trust Ltd	
Mervyn Allcock	Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society Ltd	
Julie Richards	Chesterfield College Group	
Observer		
Adam Holmes	Department of Business and Trade	
Officers in support		
Lindsay Wetton	Chesterfield Borough Council	
Craig Busby	Office of Toby Perkins	
Helen Brightmore	Chesterfield Borough Council	
Lynda Sharp	Chesterfield Borough Council	
Joe Battye	Derbyshire County Council	
Presenting for the Construction Skills Hub		
Matt Malkin	Chesterfield College	
Terry Brickles	Chesterfield College	
Gavin Varley	Chesterfield College	
Student - Brianna	Chesterfield College	
Student – Brandon	Chesterfield College	
Andrew Byrne	Devonshire Group	

Apologies

Theresa Channell	Chesterfield Borough Council
Karl Apps	Derbyshire County Council
Peter Jones	Derbyshire Constabulary



Dr Peter Scriven	Divisional Director, Royal Primary Care (East)
Cllr Tricia Gilby (Vice Chair)	Chesterfield Borough Council

1. Welcome and apologies (IF)

IF welcomed all to the meeting and introduced Amanda Baxendale from the University of Derby as the new board member to represent the University. He thanked the students from Chesterfield College for attending to contribute to the presentation on the Construction Skills Hub.

It was noted that Laura Wilkins from D2N2 LEP had resigned the position. The LEP is to focus on supporting the EM Combined Authority. The contrition of the LEP is recognised.

Apologies are noted above.

2. Declarations of Interest (All)

There were no Declarations of Interest, other than non pecuniary interests as part of project updates.

3. Minutes & matters arising of the Board meeting held on 8 December 2023 (IF)

Minutes were approved and Matters Arising from the previous meeting were discussed.

The Business Case for SMWFC Skills Academy project, Plan B is progressing, with all relevant preparatory work for the £60,000 funding completed. Funding Agreement is in place and works have commenced.

DCC are preparing a Full Business Case for the Rail Station project, and this should be completed by the end of April 2024.

4. Project Presentation – Construction Skills Hub (CBC, Chesterfield College Students & Devonshire Group)

During the presentation, Chesterfield College confirmed that 12 students had started the course and there was currently 100% retention. 8 students are from the Staveley area, 2 of which are female.

The project is working closely with the Careers Made in Chesterfield (CMiC) programme. Pupils who have been involved in the programme did not see a career in the Construction industry but following the activities the awareness of the different types of occupation in the sector this has increased.

For cohort 2 of the Construction Skills Hub there have, to date, been 28 learner applications.

Questions were invited from Board members.

ET enquired whether pupils from the local Primary School (Norbriggs) were going to have engagement opportunities, to raise aspirations, as the Headteacher regularly reinforces the opportunities presented and the importance of having ambition. EW confirmed that there has been engagement with Secondary age pupils so far, but there is a plan to run a hoardings design project with the school. Devonshire Group have offered a site visit for later in the year.

LW confirmed that there is a lot of community level engagement taking place through the Town Deal team, projects and CEC Group. These include social value and community projects, which involve



schools and other community groups. The Town Deal is looking for long-term benefits and impact as a result of the Towns Fund investment.

JB commented that she saw the potential to scale this partnership model up beyond the Staveley and Chesterfield area as there is long-term sustainability in it.

IW commented that the CSH attracting students from Staveley postcodes is good, as it provides more hands-on opportunities for secondary age students. He requested that the statistics of learner demographics be reported to Board.

IW also offered to facilitate conversations with Primary Heads about any engagement opportunities.

CR commented that the practical, on-site nature of the learning is better for students whose learning style does not suit a classroom environment. Typically the CSH operates half a day in the classroom, with the rest of the time on-site doing project based learning. MM assured the meeting that industry standards and work readiness are paramount, alongside the qualifications. The course tutor is very experienced in industry and knows what prospective employees need. This style suits learners who would not want to just do classroom based learning at college.

AS asked about the learners becoming student ambassadors. It was confirmed that the learners on the CSH project will be asked to be spokespeople as often as possible, and have already attended ATE (Apprenticeship in Technical Education) events as speakers.

TP commented that a huge need for construction apprentices and asked what the capacity of the CSH is. It is expected that the Hub will be able to have 120 learners over the next 5 years. The site can also offer 6 week courses, work experience and taking in older learners. There are apprenticeship opportunities through the Harran Homes supply chain on the site too. This would primarily be through work experience leading to apprenticeship.

JR gave a thank you from Chesterfield College. She said that it is a unique project, with only one other similar in the UK at present. Initiatives like this are what are needed to combine practical skills and learning for all and she wished all the students the best in their chosen careers.

Action: LW proposed that a ministerial visit is requested. She will liaise with AH.

5. Project Presentation – Waterside (JB)

JB informed the meeting that the Staveley Waterside project has been out to tender as a Design & Build contract. Tenders have been returned and are going through appraisal.

6. Programme and Project Update Report (LW) - Exempt item under Local Government (Access to Information) Act

LW updated the meeting on the project progress made to date.

The EIA (Equalities Impact Assessment) has been updated and approved by Policy. This is providing a springboard for Social Value discussions with projects. IF confirmed that there had been a good discussion and direction about Social Value at the Project Sponsors meeting on 1st March.

The EIA was approved by Board and shall be uploaded on the Town Deal website.



7. Any Other Business (IF)

MA informed the meeting that there was good news around the DRIIVe project. A company has approached DRIIVe with a view of using the facility as a Centre of Excellence. This will ensure that DRIIVe achieves its ambitions as an R&D and training centre.

LR asked the meeting when the Board needs to have an overview of spend and potential costs, and look at the bigger picture.

Action: the next Board meeting will focus on finances. A paper will be produced to show the current position and the agenda will be kept open to allow in-depth discussion.

8. Date and time of Next Meetings:

Friday 14 June 2024 (10-12) at Chesterfield College

The meeting closed at 11:40