

ACTION MINUTES

THURSDAY 16TH MARCH 2023 (MS TEAMS)

PRESENT: Board Members:

Wayne Wild, Chair of the Board,

Cllr Phil Riley, Leader of Blackburn with Darwen BC
Cllr Kevin Connor, Leader of Darwen Town Council,
Glenda Brindle, Chair of Governors, Aldridge Academy,
John Wilkinson, Regional Director of Suez Recycling,

Support Officers:

Clare Turner, Andrew Barrow, Paul Conlon, & Natalie Banks,

Also Present:

Charlotte Schofield

	ITEM		Key Action
1.	Welcome, Introduction and Apologies	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, apologies were noted from Steve Waggot, , Gary Aspden, Cllr John Slater, Martin Kelly, Fazal Dad, and John Sturgess	Noted
2.	Minutes of the last meeting held on 8th December 2022	The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.	Approved
3	Declarations of Interest	There were no Declarations of Interest Received	Noted
4	Chairman's Report.	The Board were informed that the skate park continued to go from strength to strength and had recently featured on BBC news. The work	

		<p>at the Cricket club was underway with an April Target date for completion. Work at Darwen FC was also progressing.</p> <p>The Chair gave an update on the Youth Zone who had now 16 Business contributors and had raised over half a million pounds with £100k coming from John Lewis Partnership. He stated that this would not have progressed as well if this board had not existed. The Board were updated on the bid which was being worked up for government funding for an improved youth facility based at the current Knott Street Building. A detailed report would be given later in the meeting.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted.</p>
5	Programme and Projects Update.	<p>The Board were updated on progress on the development and delivery of the projects of the Town Deal.</p> <p>In response to a question relating to reviewing costs of projects these are all being reviewed in light of ongoing inflationary pressures and an uncertain economic environment..</p> <p>A detailed presentation was given to the Board on each of the projects. Highlights include:</p> <p>The Board were informed that a bid had been made to the Arts Council Library Fund to support the Town Deal investment. Although we were not successful, we have been asked to re-submit in the next round in June when the project is more developed.</p> <p>Balle Mill and Chapels South schemes are progressing well and the AMRC Unit design at Chapels South is being finalised.</p> <p>Perspex proposals are progressing well with preparations were being made for gateway approval from their Board.</p> <p>Destination Darwen detailed design is underway with specifications and procurement routes for delivery being progressed into a detailed delivery plan. A member of the Board suggested that discussions be held with the West Pennines Advisory Committee to add value.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

		<p>Further feasibility work has been commissioned on Project Golf Costings were being put together and discussions were taking place with Architects and civil engineers.</p> <p>The Board asked about the procurement rules relating to projects and in response were informed that the procurement route depended on the project being undertaken.</p> <p>The Board were updated on the Youth Investment Fund and proposals for the development of the Knott Street Youth Centre. The proposals are to add another floor and initial concepts had been put together. The proposals has been submitted for approval to DCMS and the works targeted to be completed by December 2024. A planning application would be submitted in June and pre-planning discussions are ongoing. The Board would be updated on progress at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Noted</p>
6	Communications.	<p>The Board were updated on progress to date and the work that had been done. The latest issue of The Shuttle contained a number of articles relating to Darwen and the work of the Board.</p> <p>Work on the web site was discussed and it will be updated with no news as the programme develops.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted and agreed</p>
7	Any Other Business.	<p>The Board requested that the next meeting be held at Darwen Cricket Club to enable members to see the new facilities supported by the Town Deal and hear about their plans for their future development. The Chair asked if all members could ensure that if they were unable to attend it would be helpful if apologies could be submitted in advance to enable the meetings to start promptly.</p> <p>Next Meeting 13th July 12pm – 2pm at Darwen Cricket Club.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

