

City of Preston Town Fund Board

City of Preston Town Fund Board 15 February 2024

Present: Mr J Chesworth in the Chair; Councillor Brown, Mr R Binns, M Close, Mr P Thomas and Mr A Phillips

Also in attendance:

Ms J Wilding	– Director of Resources & S151 Officer
Mr M Flemming	– TIG
Ms Palmer	– Regeneration Manager
Mr M Cowburn	–
Mr Z Bapu	– Senior Member Services Officer

The Chair asked for the Boards thanks to be recorded for the work by Councillor David Borrow as a valued Member of the Board. The Board thanked Councillor Borrow for his time and effort.

CD73 Minutes

Resolved - The minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

CD74 Declaration of Interest (if any)

There were none.

CD75 Towns Fund Implementation Report

Mr Matthew Cowburn gave a presentation on the implementation of the Towns Fund projects. He reported that it had been a busy period and there had been significant progress on a number of projects. Amounderness House Stage Three, the design stage, was now complete and was over budget. Fundamental decisions would need to be taken at Stage Four. Youth Zone was progressing with final minor legal elements to be completed. There were no issues to report, and a contractor had been selected. Similarly, the Animate project was making good progress and there were no issues to report. The Illuminate and Integrate project was progressing and due to be completed in October 2024. Part two work on the Harris quarter lighting being progressed through LCC approval process.

In relation to Your Harris project the Board was informed that work was progressing well. The indoor scaffold was worth looking and had been

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nominated for Great Indoor Scaffold of the Year Award. There were costs challenges faced and were being worked through mainly due to external scaffold and inflation costs. Once the exact costs are ascertained the team would go back to funding partners.

Mr Mark Flemming provided an update on Educate Preston. The Exhibition stand had been branded and set up, uniforms and equipment were sorted and the website was ready to be published. Overall, the project was on track and making good progress. Monitoring and Evaluation Group met in November for the Quarter Four submissions. The feedback had been positive, queries on risk items were answered. Now awaiting dates of future submissions to be confirmed before next meeting of the Board can be scheduled.

The Board received an update on GFA and Legal and were informed that there were no issues to report as all was progressing well. An update on Comms was provided to the Board and data in relation to communications activity was highlighted to the Board.

The Board Members made the following comments and observations: -

- Asked if there was an opportunity for Board Members to have a look inside Amounderness House, this could be tied in with BEIS visit.
- In relation to the Youth Zone, it was asked that the Comms in respect of trees being removed be shared with Board Members and responses be in place.

Resolved – That the Board

- (i) Noted the January Monitoring Updates; and
- (ii) Confirmed that a deep dive on Amounderness House project be presented at the next meeting.