

Meeting Minutes



Meeting of: Rawtenstall Town Board (The Town Board)

Date: 7th June 2024

Time: 11:30am

Location: Whitaker Museum and Art Gallery

Present: Iain Taylor (IT), Alyson Barnes (AB), David Smurthwaite (DS), Rob Huntington (RS), Jan Shutt (JS), Alex McCall (AM), David Gould (DG), Samantha Sandford (SS), Pat Smith (PS), Chris Mckee (CM), Peter Terry (PT), Danii Wohler (DW), Sean Kierans (SK), Deyrick Allen (DA), Andy Schofield (AS), Lynn Smith (LS), Abdul Mannan (AM), Jaid Flatley (JF), Jodie Oatway (JO), Megan Eastwood (ME), Matt Warner (MW)

Apologies: Sean Morley (SM), Scott Smith (SS), Milly Davey (MD), Stephen Anderson (SA), Paul Evans (PE)

	Item	Action required by
1	Welcome and Introductions	
	The Chair Iain Taylor opened up the meeting and welcomed attendees. IT acknowledged the 'town board' rather than naming the individual areas within the boundary (Rawtenstall, Crawshawbooth, Waterfoot) Attendees were invited to introduce themselves	
2	Terms of Reference	
	DS presented the Terms Of Reference and members were invited to feedback. The Council are the accountable body, responsible for submitting claims, ensuring legal compliance, holding the funds, and employing any additional staff if needed. IT- group will ensure that any investments align with projects already ongoing in the area Decision: Terms of reference agreed	
3	Code of Conduct / Declarations of Interest	
	DS presented the Code of Conduct and the importance of the Declaration of Interest. The Code of Conduct is based on Nolan's Principles of Public Life. Board members were invited to feedback and ask any questions. Decision: Code of conduct agreed The declarations of interest form is the standard form used by the Council Action: board members to return their Declaration of Interests Action: JO to update Council website with agenda, minutes etc.	ALL JO
4	Presentation on Long Term Plan for Towns	

	<p>ME delivered a presentation on the Long Term Plan for Towns highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital funding for physical improvements and revenue funding for supportive activities like community events. • A community-led, three-year investment plan based on data and insights. • Encouraging board members to support initiatives within the wider community. • Boundaries set by ONS based on skill levels, deprivation, and healthy life expectancy. • Town was selected by government based on closest population between 20,000 and 100,000 • The presentation also included information on recent projects • Strategic focus: visitor economy, employment and housing development, highway capacity improvements, primary care network. <p>Action: JO to circulate presentation to board members</p>	JO
5	<p>Visioning Exercise</p>	
	<p>MW delivered a presentation on the long term plans for town MW works for Layer- landscape urbanism practice based in Manchester/Newcastle</p> <p>Action: to send round list of policy interventions and off menu interventions</p> <p>IT highlighted how the Town Board work will have a broader impact on other areas in Rossendale.</p> <p>Key points of discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration and communication with established boards in Haslingden and Bacup. • The Town Board's plan will outline annual allocations, balancing immediate actions with longer-term goals over a six-year period. • The plan is ambitious but includes a deliverable three-year segment to demonstrate immediate progress. • Important to align with the two-year leveling-up program in Rawtenstall, supported by capacity funding unlocked through the plan. • Collaboration with existing stakeholder groups, focusing on engagement rather than broad consultations. • A strategy to engage community groups is part of the initial investment plan. • Extensive prior consultation will be integrated into the long-term plan, ensuring continuity. • A data pack from DLUHC, including a policy toolkit and towns taskforce, will be provided. • Investment themes: safety and security, high streets heritage and regeneration, and transport and connectivity. <p>The group participated in an activity with the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe Rawtenstall, Crawshawbooth, and Waterfoot in three words. • What do you love most about living or working in these areas? • For the theme 'safety and security,' what are the main challenges and key opportunities for improvement? • For the theme 'high streets, heritage, and regeneration,' what are the main challenges and key opportunities for improvement? 	JO

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the theme ‘transport and connectivity,’ what are the main challenges and key opportunities for improvement? <p>MW led a presentation on developing the brand/logo. The group considered the following for the logo design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which historical landmarks, symbols, traditions, or events should be represented? • Importance of incorporating historical elements. • Most iconic natural features. • Importance of representing nature and countryside. • Values representing the community. • Importance of community representation. • Colors associated with the area. • Preferences for logo style. • Elements to avoid in the logo design. <p>The group discussed key issues in the area: traffic, public perception of safety and security, youth antisocial behavior, changing negative perceptions, ensuring project longevity, engaging young people, and educating residents about the area's positives.</p>	
6	AOB	
	The Town Board will continue its work after the general election, with reassurance from the government.	
7	Date of next meeting	
	Friday 19 th July 2024 at 11:30am Horse and Bamboo Theatre	