



Walsall Council

ACTION NOTES

Title of Meeting: Bloxwich & Walsall Town Deal Board Meeting

Date: Wednesday 1st May 2024 14:30 – 16:00pm

Venue: Microsoft Teams 'Virtual' Meeting

Quorum - Minimum of 6 voting members, with at least one representative from: Private, Local Government and Communities membership categories, together with Walsall Council.

VOTING MEMBERS – Via Teams

Present:

Manjit Jhooty – Jhoots Pharmacy (Chair)
Tara Simmons (TS) – The Midcounties Co-operative
Robert Judson (RJ) – Homeserve
Dave Brown (DB) – Walsall Council
David Moore (DM) – Walsall Council
David Benge (DB) – OneWalsall
Rupert Fairfax (RF) – Fairfax Saddles / Chair of Bloxwich Advisory Board
Karl Woodward (KW) – Reach All Ltd / Chair of Walsall Advisory Board
Jatinder Sharma (JS) – Walsall College
Ray Flynn (RF) – University of Wolverhampton
Shaun Darcy (SD) – Walsall Council
Mark Lavender (ML) – Walsall Council
Councillor Andrew (CLR A) – Walsall Council
James Norris (JN) – Walsall College
Kevin Davies (KD) – The Vine Trust
Deb Rajania (DR) – Walsall College

MEMBERS – Via Teams

Elizabeth Connelly (EC) – Walsall Council
Alison Guerra (AG) – Walsall Council
Richard Ackerley (RA) – Walsall Council
Kelly Valente (KV) – Walsall Council
Keith Beech (KB) – Walsall Council
Natasha Mann (NM) – Walsall Council
Claire Wills (CW) – Walsall Council
Helen Kirk (HK) – Walsall Council
Eleanor Cooper (EC) – Walsall Council
James Dennison (JD) – Canal & River Trust
Kaye Davies (KD) – Walsall Council
Richard McVittie (RM) – Walsall Council
Isabel Clark (IC) – Walsall Council
Surinder Kaur (SK) – Walsall Council (Note taker)
Phillipa Venables (PV) – Walsall Council
Matthew Lloyd (MLO) – Walsall Council

Recorded & Shared Meeting Sessions – DRAFT VERSION

Apologies Councillor Andrew, David Brown.

Manjit Jhooty stated this part of the meeting would be recorded so that it can be shared with the public through our web site. There were no objections, so this part of the meeting will be recorded.

Town Deal Board Meeting

SHARED SESSION

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

3. Minutes (Public) of the previous meeting and actions update.

Surinder Kaur shared public minutes from the last meeting on 05 March 2024.

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record by Manjit Jhooty and seconded by Karl Woodward.

4. Bloxwich Advisory Board – Chair's update

Rupert Fairfax provided an update:

Since the last Town Deal Board, the Bloxwich Advisory met on the 11 April 2024.

Project Updates

Marketing and Comms: Due to the pre-election period, not much taking place.

Power BI: A brief update at programme level from Verto was presented, covering progress and risks etc. for the year ahead.

Finance; updates, with no concerns over performance during 2023/24 and budgets for 2024/25.

Highways: Road improvements and bus shelter progress updated, all good work taking place budgets were being well managed.

Green Bloxwich: This programme is making satisfactory progress, planning applications were progressing well, with positive development of the Lodge and Pavilion. Liz Stuffins retiring, we thanked her for all the hard work. ML and the team, including Richard M will be continuing with the development of the contents for the programme of works etc. for the Parks.

Incubation Centre: This was on track as per the programme plan, tenders out and progressing well, hope to appoint a contractor in May and start work in June.

Active Travel: Work had stated on junction improvements including road crossings and associated cycling and walking routes. Work had recommenced at the Bloxwich canal improvements.

CSTR: Update of the Dudley fields presented to the Advisory Board, confirmation of support from Cllr Andrew for this project to move forward.

Agreed that agenda items will be rotated for future meetings to enable all projects to better highlight their work and achievements etc.

5. Walsall Advisory Board – Chair's update.

Chair: Deferring the report due to the cancellation of the Walsall Advisory Board meeting which was scheduled for the 25 April 2024 and is now being re-arranged.

Recorded & Shared Meeting Sessions – DRAFT VERSION

Date and time of Next Town Deal Board Meeting 12.06.2024 – @14:30

Shared Session closed at: 14:45

(Exempt information under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act, 1972) (as amended)