

City of Preston Town Fund Board

City of Preston Town Fund Board 28 May 2024

Present: Mr J Chesworth in the Chair; Councillor Brown, Councillor Wise, Mr M Flemming, Mr R Binns and M Close

Also in attendance:

Mr A Phillips	– Chief Executive
Ms J Wilding	– Director of Resources & S151 Officer
Mr C Hayward	– Director of Development and Housing
Mr C Blackburn	– Assistant Director (Head of City Growth and Regeneration)
Miss L Bilsborrow	– Member Services Officer

CD76 Minutes

Resolved - The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2024 were agreed as an accurate record.

CD77 Declaration of Interests

There were none.

CD78 Implementation Update Report

Mr Matthew Cowburn gave a presentation on the implementation of the Towns Fund projects. He reported Amounderness House Stage Three had been completed, and that the scheme was currently over budget. Stage Four design was now underway with a look to reduce the current over budget position, and are hopeful that the project is deliverable within the constraints of the Towns Fund redlines. The tree removal from the Youth Zone project had been completed, an application to discharge pre-commencement planning conditions had been submitted. The next steps for the project is to erect fencing within the next month and archaeological works to begin. Similarly, the Animate project continued to make good progress, the façade was progressing well, despite the contractor losing significant time over the last few months due to the very wet weather. The internal partitioning to the cinema and restaurants was also progressing well.

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A request was made for another tour around the facility close to the end of summer to see the progress that had been made.

In relation to the Your Harris project, the internal scaffolding had been removed and the electrical upgrades had been completed, the next steps was to complete the staircases. Hopefully another site visit could take place later on in the year.

Finally, Mr Cowburn gave an update on Educate Preston, he reported that the website/ online platform was ready to go live, bar final partner content sign off, the addition of Privacy Statement and inclusion of agreed TF branding. The launch date is still looking to be June/ July 2024. Mr Cowburn also noted that the Monitoring and evaluation meeting took place with the team on 8 May 2024, and that the information would be sent to Central Government on 31 May.

Resolved – (i) approved the decision of the Chair on the M&E Submission
(ii) Confirmed deep dive presentations on both Harris quarter and the Youth Zone projects to be given at the next meeting
(iii) Noted the TIG updates