



## Chesterfield Town Board

**12<sup>th</sup> of February 2026**

5:00 pm, Chesterfield College, The Board Room, Infirmary Road S41 7NG

Minutes

In attendance:

<b>Attendee's:</b>	
Dominic Staniforth, Chair	Barber Harrison and Platt
Cllr Amanda Serjeant	Chesterfield Borough Council
Cllr Robert Reaney	Derbyshire County Council
Emily Bowman	Junction Arts
Simon Wright	Banner Jones
Andrew Kelly	Parkside School
Jacqui Willis	Derbyshire Voluntary Action
Simon Davidson	Cheese Factor
John Croot	Chesterfield Football Club
Gavin Grainger	Bottle and Thyme
Laura- Jo Owen	Adorn Jewellers
Dave Kirby	Derbyshire Constabulary
Toby Perkins, MP	Chesterfield Labour Party
Julie Richards	Chesterfield College
<b>Officers In Support</b>	
Christine Durrant	Chesterfield Borough Council
Lynda Sharp	Chesterfield Borough Council
Katy Marshall	Chesterfield Borough Council
Rebecca Bland	Chesterfield Borough Council

Theresa Channell	Chesterfield Borough Council
Karl Apps	Derbyshire County Council
<b>Apologies</b>	
Huw Bowen	Chesterfield Borough Council
Angela Stansfield	Job Centre Plus
Nicolle Ndiweni- Roberts	Police and Crime Commissioner
Cannon Patrick Coleman	Chesterfield Parish Church
Hannah Leaton	Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Matt Snowden	University of Derby
Neil Johnson	Chesterfield Borough Council

Item No.	Item	Action (by whom)
1.	<p><b>Welcome, apologies and introductions</b></p> <p>All apologies were noted and a round of introductions undertaken.</p> <p>DS updated the Board that Nicole has had a baby boy.</p> <p><b>Action: Town Board to contact NDR to express congratulations.</b></p> <p>DS thanked the College for hosting the meeting.</p>	RB
2.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>Declarations of interest received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EB in relation to item 6a</li> <li>• JW in relation to item 6b</li> </ul>	
2.	<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting (20-11-25)</b></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025 were reviewed and accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p><b>Matters arising</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the matter arising related to car parking would be considered outside of the meeting. CBC to liaise with GG.</p>	

	<p>It was noted that further to the submission of the Regeneration and Investment Plan in November 2025, MHCLG had requested additional information with regards to the engagement activity that had been delivered to support the development of our plans. Additional information was submitted to MHCLG in January 26, this paper has been circulated for the Board to note.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Review of Governance</b></p> <p>The Councils section 151 officer TC presented the papers to review the programme governance arrangements.</p> <p>The papers had been circulated in advance of the meeting, and an overview was given on the Terms of Reference document, Declaration of Interest and Code of Conduct forms. It was highlighted that these documents have been updated since the last time they were presented to the Board, these updates include changes to reflect the change in programme name to Pride in Place. The papers will be issued to Town Board members annually to update and to ensure good governance.</p> <p>The Board approved the updated documents.</p> <p><b>Action: Governance documents to be circulated to the Board members to be completed and returned by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, so they can be uploaded onto the website by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026.</b></p> <p>A detailed presentation was delivered by TC on the Assurance Framework. It outlined the roles of the Accountable Body and the Town Board, and clarified how both parties are expected to operate, govern and deliver the programme effectively.</p> <p>All Board members approved the Assurance Framework</p>	<p>RB/ALL</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Project Update</b></p> <p><u>Update on Makers Space Feasibility Study</u></p> <p>A presentation was given on the conclusion of the Makers Space feasibility study by Oliver Goodhall (OG) who is the director/ partner from 'We Made That' consultants appointed to deliver the feasibility study.</p>	

OG gave a high level overview including recommendations and next steps.

‘We Made That’ have:

- Explored the case for a creative Makers Space through looking at the demand, reviewing spaces and what impact this would have on the creative sector and surrounding area.
- Explored evidence-based research, insight gathering and engagement with the sector. This informed the vision for Chesterfield.
- Reviewed operational and spatial needs and developed a model for appraising potential sites.
- Reviewed the impact that a Creative Makers Space could bring to the town in terms of added value.
- Created a technical brief and operational brief.
- Gave recommendations that they believe there is a clear demand in Chesterfield that would create wider positive impacts.
- The former Derbyshire Times building has been identified as the most suitable current space within the town to fulfil the vision.
- Actions have been identified for the next steps and conditions for success should the Chesterfield Town Board wish to progress with this project. This also included seeking funding from other sources such as the Arts Council and the East Midlands Mayoral Combined Authority.

It was noted that at the same time the feasibility study was taking place Junction Arts, and a number of creative businesses were required to relocate from their existing premises at West Studio. During this time CBC is in the process of completing the purchase of the Derbyshire Times building. CBC have been working with Junction Arts and have now offered a short-term lease on the property. This was highlighted to the Board as it poses a unique opportunity to test the recommendations of the feasibility study on an interim basis.

It was also confirmed that the feasibility study was conducted as a stand alone study and that the move by Junction Arts and other creatives into the Derbyshire Times building happened in tandem rather than by design.

The Board asked for further clarity on the process on concluding the Derbyshire Times Building as the preferred location within the feasibility

study. OG gave detail on the sifting process that they had been through to enable them to come to this conclusion.

Questions were raised around the rationale for funding from Pride in Place particularly as the organisations within the sector are now already accommodated. Information was given on the current state of the building and how it wasn't DDA compliant or currently fit for purpose as it doesn't have the facilities needed to support creatives from all sub sectors, including the digital industry. It lacks the necessary technology and spatial adaptations required to function as an environment where creatives could grow and thrive. Whilst Junction Arts and some creative businesses have moved in and are using the space, it is not representative of the type of space it could evolve to be.

OG described the benefits of growing the creative sector in Chesterfield. Board members highlighted the film industry, tech industry and music industry and how there was a shortage in a supply network and how the Makers Space given the fit for purpose space would encourage existing and younger generations of creatives to develop. Future opportunities were also highlighted as the College were expanding their T Levels to include film and music and the proximity to the Derbyshire Times building was seen as an advantage.

It was also noted that there would be further reports brought to the Town Board setting out the recommendations on how to progress the projects..

#### Community Hub Feasibility Update

A presentation was given to the Board to update them on the interim position of the Community Hub feasibility study. PC and LM from KADA, the consultants appointed to deliver the feasibility study, gave a presentation on progress to date.

KADA have:

- Reviewed best practice looking at provisions across the country that also includes a health provision.
- Highlighted early themes that are emerging including that there is an appetite for the co-location of services.
- Reviewing wider government funding pathways and highlighting that short term funding takes away from operational capacity.
- Looking at the benefits of creating a vibrant offer would have on an area.
- Contacted key stakeholders and have started a process of engagement.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highlighted the next steps that include public consultations and the Board were asked to support by helping KADA to reach forums through the Boards wider networking groups.</li> </ul> <p>Comments were raised that the study felt broad in scope, but Board members who had direct experience of working in the VCSE sector highlighted from their experience that there was a great need for services to support the general public in Chesterfield. It was also highlighted that opportunities to expand services such as social prescribing and diagnostics were emerging but the lack of space to expand was currently an issue of which potentially leads to opportunities.</p> <p>Clarity was given on how government are wanting us to test projects through feasibility and engagement with stakeholders and through KADA conducting stakeholder and further public engagement it will help inform what demand there is for a Community Hub and what services it would need to deliver based on evidence.</p> <p>It was also noted that KADA would be invited back to the future Town Board meetings to present the concluded study.</p> <p><b>Actions: If the Board have any points to raise to share any concerns with RB via email</b></p> <p><b><u>Project Updates report</u></b></p> <p>DS advised that the project update paper had been shared with the Board papers to provide an overview of the progress of all projects.</p> <p>This paper was noted.</p>	ALL
6.	<p><b>Regeneration Plan, Project Approvals</b></p> <p><b>Early project approvals</b></p> <p>LS presented information on two appraisals that have been brought to the board for the Events project and Community Safety Projects, the CBC Internal Programme Board had reviewed the two outline business cases submitted for the projects and appraisals have been prepared. The appraisals recommended approval of the projects subject to recommendations highlighted in the papers.</p> <p>In line with governance arrangements, CBC Internal Programme Board, as Accountable Body for the programme has recommended that these</p>	

	<p>projects are approved for delivery from April 26 onwards, when the overall Pride in Place programme commences.</p> <p>DS asked the Board to vote based on the recommendations for each project outlined in the project appraisals highlighting certain conditions. Both projects were approved.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Comms and Engagement group update</b></p> <p>JR as Chair of the Communications and Engagement group provided the Board with an update on the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026.</p> <p>JR advised that MHCLG has shared a new Pride in Place programme logo for all places to adopt as part of communications. This logo is to be placed in the top right hand corner of all correspondence and advertising going forward.</p> <p>JR advised that the locally designed logo that was prepared by a pupil at Parkside School has been updated and given some colour. This design was recommended by the Comms and Engagement subgroup to be approved by the Town Board.</p> <p>All Board members approved the updated local Chesterfield Pride in Place logo</p> <p>The Board noted the update on activity at the Communications and Engagement Group.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Community Project Grants proposal</b></p> <p>KM from CBC presented a discussion paper on proposals to deliver a Community Grants project as part of Pride in Place activity.</p> <p>The paper and presentation highlighted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the grants could align to the Pride in Place interventions.</li> <li>• How Pride in Place funding could be integrated with other grant programmes to maximise impact</li> <li>• Reviewed the opportunities for delivery, including CBC having the capacity to deliver over the next 12mths.</li> </ul> <p>DS asked the Board to clarify if they were supportive of having a Community Grants Programme and how they would like to go about delivery.</p>	

	<p>The Board confirmed that they would support the delivery of a Community Grants Programme. The Board agreed to fund the project for an initial 12-month period. It was also agreed that it should be delivered by Chesterfield Borough Council to ensure alignment with existing partnership structures within the community sector.</p> <p>In line with governance arrangements an outline business case will need to be prepared, and the Internal Programme Board will carry out an appraisal.</p> <p><b>Action: CBC will prepare an Outline Business Case for consideration by the Board and IPB for the next meeting.</b></p>	KM
8.	<p><b>Pride in Place programme update</b></p> <p>DS advised that the paper provide an update for the board on the Pride in Place prospectus that was issued in December 2025 by MHCLG.</p> <p>The paper also included a Programme budget update that included two tables.</p> <p>Table 1 showing the Capacity funding. Table 2 showing the main Programme funding for the next four years.</p> <p>Due to time constraints in the meeting, DS asked Board members to note the report.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>A discussion took place around the opportunity for Chesterfield to bid for the Town of Culture 2028. The Council expressed that they were keen to be part of a Bid. The closing date is the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2026. Board members expressed that they were happy to support and would be interested</p>	CD
10.	<p><b>Date and time of future meetings</b></p> <p>Next meeting date: <b>16<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>, Committee Room 1, Chesterfield Town Hall.</p>	

\* Paper circulated