

Minutes of the Chesterfield Plan for Neighbourhood's Town Board 6pm on Thursday
24th July 2025, Assembly Rooms, Market Hall, Chesterfield.

| Board Members : | |
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| Dominic Staniforth, Chair | Barber Harrison and Platt |
| Cllr Amanda Serjeant, Chair | Chesterfield Borough Council |
| Cllr Robert Reaney | Derbyshire County Council |
| Laura Jo Owen | Adorn Jewellers |
| Jacqui Willis | Derbyshire Voluntary Action |
| Toby Perkins, MP | Member of Parliament |
| Nicole Ndiweni Roberts | Police and Crime Commissioner |
| Angela Stansfield | Job Centre Plus |
| Julie Richards | Chesterfield College |
| Simon Davidson | Cheese factor |
| John Croot | Chesterfield Football Club Community Trust |
| Emily Bowman | Junction Arts |
| Mahmud Nawaz | Chesterfield Royal Hospital Foundation Trust |
| Dave Kirby | Derbyshire Police |
| Gavin Grainger | Bottle and Thyme |
| Matt Snowden | University of Derby |
| Simon Wright | Banner Jones |
| Officers in support: | |
| Neil Johnson | Chesterfield Borough Council |
| Rebecca Bland | Newly appointed PfN Programme Manager (observing) |
| Ellie Chapman | Office for Toby Perkins, MP |
| Juliet Grace | North Derbyshire Voluntary Action |
| Michael Rich | On behalf of Chesterfield Borough Council |
| Karl Apps | Derbyshire County Council |
| Alan Marsden | Derbyshire County Council |

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| Karen Johnson | Chesterfield Hospital, NHS Trust |
| Lynda Sharp | Chesterfield Borough Council |
| Andy Bond | Chesterfield Borough Council |
| Richard Foster | Chesterfield Borough Council |
| Joe Rhodes Owen | Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner |
| Apologies: | |
| Canon Patrick Coleman | Chesterfield Parish Church |
| Huw Bowen | Chesterfield Borough Council |
| Christine Durrant | Chesterfield Borough Council |
| John Croot | Chesterfield Football Club |
| Simon Wright | Banner Jones |
| Andrew Kelly | Parkside School |

| Item No | Item | Action (by whom) |
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| 1. | <p>Welcome, apologies and introductions</p> <p>Apologies were noted.</p> <p>DS introduced the Board to Rebecca Bland who following a recruitment process has been appointed to the role of Programme Manager for the Plan for Neighbourhoods programme. Rebecca has agreed to attend the evenings meeting to meet the Board and observe proceedings.</p> <p>DS shared the news that Mahmud would be moving on from his role at Chesterfield Royal Hospital to take on a role of Chair of Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Trust. This will be his last Board meeting. DS thanked Mahmud for his time on the Board and noted his passion, energy and enthusiasm.</p> | |
| 2. | <p>Declaration of Interest</p> <p>No declarations of interest were received.</p> | |

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| 3. | <p>Minutes of the previous meeting (05/06/2025) and matters arising</p> <p>DS reviewed the mins of the last meeting. They were confirmed to be a true and accurate record. Completed actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications and Engagement group has been re-arranged for 14th August 2025 • Slides from previous meeting have been circulated to the Board. • The Programme Manager role has now been appointed to, with RB in attendance. DS thanked Board members who had promoted the role. • Details of the Shop in Chesterfield Awards have been shared with the event happening immediately prior to the evenings Board meeting. <p>DS advised that there were outstanding actions in relation to the Board Members completing and submitting Declaration of Interest forms. A few Board members need to complete this task and were urged to do so as soon as possible.</p> <p>LS confirmed that the planned visit to Barnsley to visit the healthcare hub needs to be finalised. It is proving more complex to plan as numbers are restricted for visits.</p> <p>DS advised that the planned visit to Chesterfield from DHCLG officials referred to on page 10 of previous minutes has been rearranged and will now go ahead on 4th August 2025.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Project Development Update</p> <p>Gateways and Connectivity</p> <p>KA and AM from Derbyshire County Council attended the meeting to present on the potential to improve gateways and connectivity. They also updated the Board on connectivity between the Town Centre and the Royal Hospital.</p> <p>TP queried whether a sustainable travel plan for Chesterfield would include electric vehicles. KA confirmed that this would be separate but that it could be considered as part of the review. TP advised that in terms of supporting the hospital, EV charging would be helpful.</p> | |

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| | <p>MN queried the update on connecting the hospital. He advised that the original discussions were around how a plan for connectivity could drive footfall in the Town Centre. KA responded that moving car parking to the Town Centre could cause issues for town centre vitality as car parks would be full of cars but people wouldn't be accessing the Town Centre. The key is to move health services into the Town Centre. The facilities will drive the Town Centre footfall.</p> <p>MN commented that there had been an ask to look at the potential for a shuttle bus, connecting the Town Centre. There are already issues with shifting the community diagnostic service to Walton Hospital as bus services have been reduced to the area. JW advised that she would have preferred to have the slides before so she could have considered the contents particularly given the technical terms used. She highlighted that the relevance of the study should be about supporting the Town Centre, not supporting the Royal Hospital and active travel. She highlighted the likely costs of some of the interventions being suggested. KA confirmed that there is no ask for funding at this stage.</p> <p>JW queried whether all of the activities highlighted in the plan need external funding. KA confirmed this would be the case but that it wouldn't be an ask exclusively of PFN. DCC would be approaching EMCCA as part of developing a business case. DK stressed the opportunity to move health provision into the Town Centre, this would change people's behaviours and increase footfall in the Town Centre. TP agreed and said that whilst he supported active travel and sustainable travel encouraging people to come into town to get a bus to the hospital wouldn't benefit the Town Centre.</p> <p>AS suggested it would be helpful to bring Derbyshire ICB to a future meeting. She highlighted the investment at Walton has already happened and whilst welcome she highlighted that in some areas of Chesterfield car ownership is low with 20/30 % per cent of households having no access to a car and there are households with health conditions. She highlighted the need to learn more about the newly published NHS 10 Year Plan and suggested that health provision should be where the people are, not where it suits us.</p> <p>LJO asked whether CBC has data on car parking to establish if there is capacity for additional parking use in the Town Centre. AB confirmed that we have spare capacity in the system.</p> <p>Action: Slides from presentation to be shared with the Board</p> <p>Community Hub</p> | |
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| | <p>EB advised that she had facilitated a group session with stakeholders to discuss the potential for a community hub. The session had highlighted the next steps for the commissioning of a feasibility study to look at a community hub. GG commented that he thought this was a great idea but that the scope of the project would be governed by the size of the building it is to be located in. JW advised that a building hasn't been identified as yet but that there is potential to look at a range of sizes and explore how a hub could be sustainable and aligned with various services such as health. EB advised that a focus on health and well being was evident from the facilitated session she had delivered.</p> <p>NJ advised that there was potential to explore locating a hub within the Pavements Shopping Centre, whilst also looking at other options for how the centre might be repurposed. He highlighted the ask of the Board for £10k capacity funding to commission some initial design work to explore how a community hub and any wider uses could be brought into the space.</p> <p>JW advised that there was merit in this approach as the Pavements Shopping Centre is well located and accessible for all. MN suggested that a conversation with health leads is key and that it would be important to change mindsets. The Trust is currently looking for space to deliver CAMHS and if there is potential to located as part of this we need to get together and build a plan.</p> <p>DS asked the Board whether they supported the recommendation to allocated £20k funding to the development of a feasibility study for a community hub. This was agreed.</p> <p>DS also asked if they supported the allocation of £10k capacity funding to facilitate design scoping for use of Pavements shopping centre. This was agreed.</p> <p>DS referred the Board the paper circulated that provided an update on the other feasibility projects. He highlighted that there was good progress with no burning issues and that the report should be taken as read.</p> | |
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| 5. | <p>Developing a Regeneration Plan</p> <p>MR presented the paper on the development of a Regeneration Plan. Guidance has now been issued by DHCLG and EB has recently attended a Chairs meeting, hosted in Parliament on behalf of the Chair who had been unable to attend.</p> <p>MR advised that there were a number of recommendations within the paper for Board to approve. These are detailed below:</p> <p>Recommendation A:</p> <p>That an allocation of £40k of the capacity fund is set aside for additional engagement to support the project development work currently underway. Spend proposals of up to £10k would be delegated to the Comms and Engagement Group, with any proposals over £10k coming to the full Board.</p> <p>Recommendation B:</p> <p>That the Regeneration Plan is produced by a review and update of the previous vision document, rather than starting again or commissioning substantial new work.</p> <p>Recommendation C:</p> <p>That the existing design-led vision document is updated and used as the basis for the Regeneration Plan.</p> <p>Recommendation D:</p> <p>That the Board approve an allocation of up to £3k from the capacity funding for the design work to revise the vision document.</p> <p>Recommendation E:</p> <p>That the Board receive a revised vision document and draft investment plan at its September meeting and a final version of both at its November meeting, prior submission in line with the government timetable.</p> <p>DS asked the Board to indicate approval of each recommendation. This was agreed.</p> <p>Following the presentation of the paper the Board had general discussions around the evolving regeneration Plan. MN commented that we might need to consider re-purposing the</p> | LS |
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| | <p>Regeneration Plan around the Labour Government missions and look for gaps around areas such as health. As responded confirming that we need to align the emerging plan with NHS 10 Year Plan, highlighting local health inequalities that show a clear need to provide accessible health services. JG confirmed that health is a golden thread that cuts across many of the proposed projects and interventions, the community space as an example being able to provide benefits to health.</p> <p>TP reminded the Board that we have already undertaken a lot of consultation and engagement to inform our plans. We need to carry on with what we are doing and continue to engage to be certain that we are scoping the correct interventions. He highlighted that we can't seek to solve all the towns issues with the funding that is available but that if a new opportunity presents we should be willing to consider it, all in the balance. MR advised that there has been a lot of change in the last year from a policy perspective (new PFN guidance, NHS 10 Year Plan, Combined Authority etc.). At the Board meeting in March, we took time to review the emerging guidance and policy platform and established that the projects we have in development already align well with changes in guidance and government policy. Further engagement will bring in new project ideas and there will be opportunities for new projects as we progress the programme.</p> <p>EB highlighted that in earlier meetings the Board had talked about the importance of engaging and listening to young people. She suggested that we needed to re-focus on this. She added that this was an area highlighted at the Chair's event at Westminster. LS advised that there might be an opportunity to engage with local young people through the Chesterfield FC Youth Panel.</p> <p>Action: LS to explore with Chesterfield FC engagement of Youth Panel (to be considered by Comms and Engagement Group).</p> <p>NNR reminded the Board of the importance of community safety in the Town Centre when finalising the plan. She advised that as the PCC she is lobbying the Housing and Planning Minister to ensure that the Police are consulted as part of formal planning process. Currently this isn't the case and policing is often an afterthought rather than something considered in resources terms when growth is considered.</p> | |
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| 6. | <p>Project Approval Process</p> <p>MR presented the paper on proposed project approval processes. The report was welcomed by the Board. MR highlighted two recommendations:</p> <p>Recommendation A: The Board is asked to comment on and approve the process as outlined in the paper for awarding programme funding.</p> <p>Recommendation B: The Board is advised to keep the process under review and consider any revisions and improvements as necessary as the programme develops</p> <p>DS asked the Board to approve the recommendations. They were agreed by all.</p> | |
| 7. | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>The Board were asked to approve the revised Terms of Reference that were circulated on 1st July 2025. The only change being reference to Plan for Neighbourhood's as a programme title rather than Long Term Plan for Towns. This was agreed.</p> <p>GG raised car parking as an issue. He queried whether the Board should be considering a feasibility to look at interventions and incentives it could offer to encourage footfall and support businesses. LS advised that this would require careful consideration and that a study might be required to explore options. CBC to take away and consider what information would be required to inform the Board and report back to a future meeting.</p> | LS |

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| 8. | Date and Time of future meetings September 25th @ 5pm November 20th @ 5pm (venues tbc) | |
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