

Meeting Notes

Project: Warrington Stronger Town Deal

Subject: Housing and infrastructure discussion group

Date and time: 06 July 2020 at 9:30

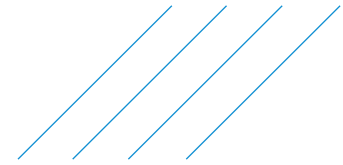
Minutes by: Phoebe Annett

Present: Ben Wakerley, Warrington's Own Buses (BW)
Gary Pemberton, Belvoir (GP)
Steve Coffey, Torus (SC)
Jason Graham, Network Rail (JG)
Jo Taylor, Warrington Borough Council (JT)
Stephen Hunter, Warrington Borough Council (SH)
John Laverick, Warrington and Co (JL)
Cllr Judith Guthrie (Cllr JG)
Cllr Maureen McLaughlin (Cllr MMcL)
Jonathan Smith, Warrington and Co (JS)
Katheryn Green, Warrington and Co (KG)
Stephen Fitzsimons, Warrington and Co (SF)
Steve Park, Warrington Borough Council (SP)
Lisa Knowles, Atkins (LK)
Phoebe Annett, Atkins (PA)

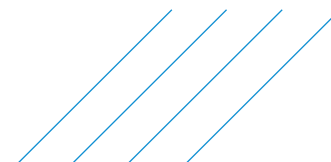
ITEM	DESCRIPTION AND ACTION
1.	<p>Funding Update (SP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The LEP were asked by central government to submit 'shovel ready' projects, that could be delivered by March 31st 2021 for a new funding opportunity. The following three projects were chosen from the list:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A sewer project that brought forward regeneration opportunities- Alderley Park- Warrington Bus depot relocation project- (costing £21.8 million in total) <p>The amount of funding available has been allocated based on population, these three projects have been given a total of £15.5m, £5.1m of which has been allocated to the bus depot. This effectively leaves an additional £5.1m of the Town Deal funding to support other projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In addition, we have been allocated £1m from the Accelerated Towns Fund. This money is in addition to the expected up to £25m Town Deal fund.

NOTE TO RECIPIENTS:

These meeting notes record Atkins understanding of the meeting and intended actions arising therefrom. Your agreement that the notes form a true record of the discussion will be assumed unless adverse comments are received in writing within five days of receipt.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Warrington therefore has access to up to £6.1m out of the £7.5m needed for the bus depot project. The council will underwrite the funding gap in lieu of further funding in order to get the project into motion. - A decision is expected in a few weeks on funding for electrification of the bus station.
2.	<p>Aiming for submission (pending board endorsement) on 31st July. For the submission we need to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The overall vision and strategy - Key projects, for each: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Costs and benefits - Funding profile - Outcomes of engagement with stakeholders and the public
3.	<p>Aim of today's session is to refine the longlist and confirm between 1 and 3 projects related to this workstream to be taken forward. The longlist is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Career support/STEM training (concerns that this may be duplicating work being carried out by Primary Engineer amongst others) 2. Career improvement and training opportunities (again, this is being done successfully elsewhere, which we can support rather than compete with) 3. Digital infrastructure support 4. Health & Social Care Academy 5. Integrated/sustainable bus depot (Phase 1 will be regeneration and improving the transport network, Phase 2 will be electrification) 6. Walking & cycling improvements 7. Green trail & waterfront 8. Bus priority & treatments 9. Construction training hub 10. Bioscience training hub (Alderley Park already has a strong offering in this area so these resources may be better put into other projects) 11. Health services in the town centre 12. Cycle hub to encourage active travel 13. Digital & creative hub
4.	<p>The projects we plan to take forward as part of this workstream are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bus Depot 2. Walking and Cycle improvements, incorporating green trail, cycle hub etc <p>These plans link to work that has already been done on Bus Priority and first/last mile (SH). We will also incorporate work that has already been done on the Central 6 Masterplan.</p>
5.	<p>Queries/comments relating to these projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We must be able to demonstrate that these projects will bring economic prosperity (JS). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrate that by initiating improvements to the town centre, we are making it a more attractive place to live and invest in. As a business owner and investor both these projects would be fantastic for the town (GP). - Recognise that fewer people, especially young people, are wanting to drive and are therefore attracted to housing where they can access jobs/retail/leisure by walking or cycling (JL) - By providing housing, we are putting more people in the town centre which will help to stimulate retail and leisure in this area (SH)



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are many positive externalities associated with removing traffic from the town centre, noise/air pollution etc. which make it more attractive for investment (SF) - Other transport modes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As there are micro-mobility trials about to begin in the UK, it seems inevitable that e-scooters will be on our roads soon. We need to consider how these will fit into existing plans (GP) - Also consider electric bikes (JG) - The newly formed Youth Cabinet are consulting with young people at schools in Warrington on their needs for cycle facilities in the city. (JG)
6.	<p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project definition document to turn these concepts into clearly defined projects with quantified costs and benefits - Board meeting on 10th July to review project definition document - Round of workshops to finalise outcomes, these will then be embedded in the IP - Final board meeting for approval on 24th July - Final submission on 31st July