

Libraries Partnership Board Meeting
20th September 2022, 2.30pm till 4.00pm
Central Library
Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

Members

Lynton Green – WBC – Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services
Cheryl Siddall – Livewire and Culture Warrington, People, Performance and Resources Director
Cllr. Joan Grime – Friends of Culcheth Library
Peter Lewenz – SWISH
Eleanor Blackburn - WBC - Head of Inclusive Growth and Partnerships
Rachel Ralston – LiveWire Strategic Library Manager
Rachel Ralston - Livewire

Board Support

Garry D’Arcy (GD) – WBC, Partnership and Commissioning Officer

	Actions
<p>1. <u>Welcome and apologies</u></p> <p><u>Apologies received from</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Cullen – Citizen’s Advice Bureau • Amanda Juggins – WBC - Deputy Head of Business Intelligence, WBC • Gary Borrows – Save Warrington Libraries 	
<p>2. <u>Minutes and Matters Arising</u> Minutes accepted</p>	
<p>3. <u>Library Strategy Refresh</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EB talked through the changes made so far to the Library strategy • JG felt the refresh had been well written. • PL the strategy refresh was a good update on the original and liked the sustainability part of the refresh , but asked if there were any updates from government about support for the energy crisis, which LG indicated that there had been none to this point. PL also talked about the ability to use public buildings as warm places for the public. • Albert Hartley like the idea of the warm spaces and also with a good computer offer. • JG asked if the library refurbishment would be completed by the end of 2023 which EB confirmed. • CS explained that the libraries were more than a warm space, and would take some time to revisit the section in the strategy. • PL commented that there was a need to promote the libraries to new users who move into the libraries area. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy will be updated with comments from CS and RR which were received after the papers were sent out 	
<p>4. <u>Libraries Service Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RR delivered a service update presentation PL asked about the press reader, RR explained that the press reader includes all the national newspapers and magazines online, there is a need for library members to download the press reader app to access from home but a number of the hubs have hotspots to access the app. Andrew Mortimer explained that the Reader App lasts 28/ 30 days but can be extended by re logging into your library account. EB asked what was next for LitFest, RR was looking to do a biennial LitFest as there is a lot of work involved and takes up a lot of resources, there are plans to look at a children’s version for next year. 	
<p>5. <u>Building Refurbishment</u></p> <p>EB informed the meeting that the construction sector was struggling, this impacts the council as it uses subcontractors and as nothing is done in house. The current situation adds extra pressure on WBC in house BMU staff. Also due to current inflation issues there are cost implications for library projects</p> <p><u>Culcheth Library</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning application submitted for the library works, all WBC own projects have to go to planning committee. No date set for committee yet, feedback from planners that there is no problem seen with the application. The tender package is nearly complete just awaiting some mechanical and engineering information to allow the tender to go on the Chest. This means a delay to the programme of works <p><u>Penketh Library</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main works underway with a targeted completion date of the 24th September. Next steps for the painting and then FF&E installation with plans to reopen the library on the 7th November. Slight increase in spend due to original plan of the Prison service helping with the internal painting of the library not now happening, currently expecting a 5K overspend to budget. <p><u>Burtonwood</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last thing to be completed at Burtonwood is the external painting which was not completed by the original contractor. BMU looking to commission another contractor to complete the painting. 	

<p><u>Birchwood Library/ Tennis Centre</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning permission agreed with a condition to planning which is to increase the cycle parking facility at the hub. • Funding has been sourced through WBC highways to provide the funding for the cycle provision required. • Mechanical and engineering information delay has been escalated to the managing director of the company who have been commissioned to do this work, this is adding a delay in getting the tender out on the Chest • Next steps are for the tender to go out in October, with the project going to WBC cabinet in January due to the value of the project. • February 2023 hopefully the start date for the project but if things move more quickly this would be brought forward. • Due to school exams held at the tennis centre there is a need to adjust the build programme accordingly. <p>Action – LG asked for a cabinet summary report to be brought to the next LPB meeting.</p>	
<p>6. <u>Contributions from the public gallery</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albert Hartley wanted to thank RR for all her and her teams’ hard work. He asked if there would be any funding left out of the original £1 million budget, LG replied that there wouldn’t but was amazed at what has been achieved with the money allocated. 	
<p>7. <u>A.O.B.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	

Day	Date	Venues	Time
Monday	14.11.22	Padgate	2.00 – 3.30
Monday	13.02.23	Penketh	2.00 – 3.30

**Libraries Partnership Board Meeting Attendees
14.02.22, 2.00pm – 3.30pm
Online Teams meeting**

Board Members

NAME	ORGANISATION	signature
Lynton Green	WBC	Yes
Eleanor Blackburn	WBC	Yes
Emma Hutchinson	Culture Warrington	Apologies
Steve Cullen	Citizens Advice Bureau	Apologies
Cheryl Siddall	Livewire	Yes
Rachel Ralston	Livewire	Yes
Amanda Juggins	WBC	Yes
Gary Borrows	SWL	Yes
Joan Grime	Friends of Culcheth	Yes
Peter Lewenz	SWISH	Yes

Board Support

NAME	ORGANISATION	Attended
Garry D'Arcy	WBC	Yes
Damian Richards Clarke	WBC	Apologies

Guests

NAME	ORGANISATION	Attended
Susan Morris	Livewire	Yes
Philip Forshaw	FOPL	Yes
Gillian Mortimer	FOCL	Yes
Andrew Mortimer	FOCL	Yes
JE Billington	FOCL	Yes
Janet Rawsthorn	PADFOL	Yes
Howard Cockcroft	PADFOL	Yes
Mary Ross		Yes
Linda Riley	PADFOL	Yes
Christine Smith		Yes
Albert Hartley	PADFOL	Yes
Janet Evans	FOCL	Yes