



A place to start,
to stay, to grow!

Staveley Town Deal Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th December 2025 (10.00 – 12.00)

Barrow Hill Roundhouse, Staveley

Attendance

Board Members	
Ivan Fomin (Chair)	MSE Hiller
Cllr Tricia Gilby (Vice Chair)	Chesterfield Borough Council
Ian Wingfield	Springwell Community College
Rob Ricketts	University of Derby
Cllr Dawn Abbott	Derbyshire County Council
Geoff Walker	Chesterfield Canal Trust Ltd
Louise Sandher-Jones (MP)	Member of Parliament, North East Derbyshire
Mervyn Allcock	Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society Ltd
Officers in support	
Lynda Sharp	Chesterfield Borough Council
Deborah Widdowson	Chesterfield Borough Council
Craig Busby	Parliamentary Assistant to Toby Perkins MP
Chris Kirby	Parliamentary Assistant to Louise Jones MP
Helen Brightmore	Chesterfield Borough Council
Jaimie Bingham	Derbyshire County Council
Project presentations	
Emily Williams (DRIVE)	Chesterfield Borough Council
Ben Mitchell (DRIVE)	Chesterfield Borough Council
Professor Alessio D'Angelo	University of Derby

Apologies

Huw Bowen	Chesterfield Borough Council
Karl Apps	Derbyshire County Council
Julie Richards	Chesterfield College Group
Angela Stansfield	Department of Work and Pensions
Joe Battye	Derbyshire County Council
Theresa Channell	Chesterfield Borough Council
Rachel Kent	Derbyshire Constabulary
Toby Perkins MP	Member of Parliament, Chesterfield
Cllr Elaine Tidd	Staveley Town Council
George Rogers	Chesterfield Canal Trust Ltd

1. Welcome and apologies (IF)

IF welcomed all to the meeting and introductions were made.

Apologies are noted above.

2. Declarations of Interest (All)

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the Board meeting held on 19th September 2025 and Matters arising (IF)

There were several updates to matters arising from the previous meeting.

- **JB** provided an update on the canal licensing issue, **DCC** don't have a suite of licenses, but are looking at creating them. In the meantime, requests are being handled on a case-by-case basis.
- **IW** reported that some Springwell College students have visited the **CSH** for half a day.
- **Wheels to Work** and **Outputs** are on the agenda for the meeting.
- **Other Actions** are complete.

4. Project Presentation – DRIVE by Ben Mitchell and Emily Williams

BM and **EW** gave a presentation on the **DRIVE** project (attached).

GW asked whether the timeline for securing a training provider is a bit tight as it is projected to be by September 2026. **EW** replied that it seems realistic based on the experience of the construction skills hub.

TG confirmed that Chesterfield College made a start on the college site with students and then moved to the Construction Skills Hub after a period of time. This model could be replicated for this project.

The procurement process should identify both the readiness and the requirements of potential providers. The grant which has been secured is a combination of capital and revenue funding as there may be some equipment needed.

IF asked whether the project needs to secure a number of providers **EW** replied that the gap analysis will look at this and identify the priority needs.

MA confirmed that Barrow Hill already has an established rail training company interested in the role.

The question was asked as to who is responsible for the training outputs. It was confirmed that Barrow Hill is responsible and that the outputs fall under commercial use, training and R&D.

There is a collaboration agreement in place with Chesterfield Borough Council. This means that Chesterfield borough council will support and oversee the training process.



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TG confirmed that the links between industry and training providers will be beneficial to both.

RR stated that the University of Derby skills group would benefit from being involved in the discussions about training providers.

5. Social Infrastructure Research Update by Professor Alessio D'Angelo

Professor D'Angelo gave a presentation on the Social Infrastructure Research project (attached with the Minutes).

Following the presentation professor D'Angelo took questions from the meeting.

DA asked to arrange a meeting with Professor D'Angelo at his convenience.

The Service Level Agreement is currently with the legal teams but it is expected that it will be signed shortly.

The research student, Daniel Milestone-Mapplebeck, will probably contact Board members to discuss the research project and to take benefit from their knowledge and understanding of the Staveley area, once he starts the research.

6. Communication, Engagement and Consultation Update – Celebration Event & Booklet

IW presented the Paper on the celebration event

There followed a discussion about the proposals put to the meeting.

There is a question over whether the canal festival will take place in June 2026. If not, then a large-scale public event to celebrate the end of the Town Deal would be much more difficult to arrange.

A discussion also took place on the two options to celebrate the end of the Town Deal on 20th March 2026. One suggestion was to host an event for all projects and partners, whilst the other involved a tour of the projects for Board members. Following discussion, it was agreed that the tour for Board members was the preferred option. This will now be progressed.

If the Canal Festival doesn't go ahead, alternative arrangements will need to be made to celebrate the end of the Town Deal for residents.

7. Wheels to Work

DW updated the meeting about recent changes at Rural Action Derbyshire regarding the Wheels to Work scheme which is ending in March 2026. This presented an issue regarding the future of the 5 e-mopeds and 10 e-bikes.



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Following discussion it was agreed to allocate the e-bikes as follows, Derbyshire Constabulary to take ownership of the e-bike they have been using, four are donated to the Construction Skills Hub, three are donated to Barrow Hill Memorial Hall and two are donated to the Canal Trust.

The five e-mopeds will be sold at auction with the proceeds coming back to the Town Deal. It isn't envisaged to be much.

8. Programme and Projects update (DW) - Exempt item under Local Government (Access to Information) Act

9. Future of the Town Deal Board (DW)

A discussion took place about the role of the Board after the programme has ended. It was agreed that if the Board does continue, it will need to have a clear mandate, and the terms of reference will need to be reviewed. If there is the chance of new funding coming on stream or additional grants for the Staveley area, then it would be good for the Board to remain in place. There is also a need for oversight of the Social Infrastructure Research Project. The broader regeneration in the Staveley area was discussed including the East Midlands Investment Zone (EMIZ), the Staveley Growth corridor.

TG suggested that there is a need to keep a Board which would have oversight of developments in the Staveley area.

Action: proposals for an Extended Town Deal Board to be drawn up

10. Any other business (IF)

The retirement of the Chief Executive, Huw Bowen, was announced and the recruitment of Christine Durrant reported to the Board. The appointment of Christine will be taken to full Council for approval.

11. Date and time of next meetings

20 March 2026 (timings to be confirmed) - Celebration Event

The meeting closed at 12.10pm