



Chesterfield Town Board

20th November 2025

5:00 pm, Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Chesterfield S40 1LP

Minutes

In attendance:

Attendee's:	
Dominic Staniforth, Chair	Barber Harrison and Platt
Cllr Amanda Serjeant, Chair (from 6pm onwards when had to leave the meeting)	Chesterfield Borough Council
Cllr Robert Reaney	Derbyshire County Council
Emily Bowman	Junction Arts
Simon Wright	Banner Jones
Angela Stansfield	Job Centre Plus
Jacqui Willis	Derbyshire Voluntary Action
Simon Davidson	Cheese Factor
John Croot	Chesterfield Football Club
Laura- Jo Owen	Adorn Jewellers
Dave Kirby	Derbyshire Constabulary
Officers In Support	
Christine Durrant	Chesterfield Borough Council
Neil Johnson	Chesterfield Borough Council
Lynda Sharp	Chesterfield Borough Council
Michael Rich	Chesterfield Borough Council Interim Support
Rebecca Bland	Chesterfield Borough Council
Juliet Grace	Derbyshire Voluntary Action Group
Karl Apps	Derbyshire County Council
Apologies	
Huw Bowen	Chesterfield Borough Council
Andrew Kelly	Parkside School
Nicolle Ndiweni- Roberts	Police and Crime Commissioner
Cannon Patrick Coleman	Chesterfield Parish Church
Julie Richards	Chesterfield College
Toby Perkins, MP	Chesterfield Labour Party

Hannah Leaton	Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
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Item No.	Item	Action (by whom)
1.	<p>Welcome, apologies and introductions</p> <p>All apologies were noted</p> <p>Thanks was given to MR for all his work towards supporting the delivery of the programme to date, as this would be his last Town Board meeting.</p>	DS
2.	<p>Minutes of previous meeting (25-09-25)</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. A minor amendment was raised, and it was requested that the apologies were to be reviewed.</p> <p>Subject to these changes, the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p>Matters arising</p> <p>The presentation received at a previous board meeting by KA and DCC colleagues will be sent around after this meeting along with the Nov Board minutes.</p> <p>It was noted that CBC was asked to provide an analysis on car parking, and this will come back to the Board on a future date.</p> <p>It was confirmed that included within the papers were the Communication and Engagement subgroup minutes, these were for noting.</p> <p>Minutes of previous Teams meeting briefing (11-11-25)</p> <p>It was noted that an attendee was missing from the invite list, apologies were passed on.</p> <p>Subject to these changes, all minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p>	DS
3.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Declarations of interest received from</p> <p>AS in relation to item 6B</p> <p>EB in relation to item 6A</p>	

4.	<p>Feedback from recent engagement activity</p> <p>An update was given showcasing all the great work achieved by the members of the Comms and Engagement group.</p> <p>It was highlighted that funding had been previously delegated by the Chesterfield Town Board to support the delivery of communications and engagement activities via the Comms and Engagement subgroup. It must be spent to support the development of the programme and as such, facilitating effective engagement and consultation is eligible activity.</p> <p>The Board was informed that it had been agreed at the subgroup meeting held on 13-11-25 that JR would take on the role of Chair for the Comms and Engagement subgroup going forward.</p> <p>The range and number of diverse groups reached by the engagement work was highlighted. This has been achieved through the partnership working with Chesterfield Community Football Trust, Derbyshire Voluntary Action, Chesterfield College, Junction Arts, Destination Chesterfield's at the Investment Summit and Adorn Jewellers, working with independent traders. This work was discussed and partners involved were invited to feed back.</p> <p>An interim report update was given to the board including the results of the online survey to date, showing 299 responses. This figure was included within the overall reach of all the engagement, estimated to be 3700 people.</p> <p>The emerging key points from the engagement were tackling empty units, safety and security and town centre events.</p> <p>The engagement feedback would feature within the Regeneration Plan as it shows the continued alignment with the board's priorities.</p> <p>It was discussed how matters around safety and security were high on the public's radar and it was felt a coordinated approach going forward would be beneficial. It was suggested that through the Pride in Place board a subgroup could be created to sit alongside the Community Safety Partnership group to align and support the work that is already happening.</p> <p>It was suggested that we look at the root cause of the issues and there are initiatives that the police are working on that the Board could support, this would fast track the developments to identify organised crime coming into Chesterfield Town Centre.</p> <p>It was highlighted that CBC are getting a new CCTV supplier and through the RHOC works underway, new WIFI across the town centre will support further improvement to CCTV and lighting.</p>	RB/ CEG
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5.	<p>Regeneration Plan</p> <p>It was highlighted that at the previous Teams briefing held on the 11-11-25, the Board was taken through the Regeneration Plan. The Plan is due to be submitted next week as the deadline is 28-11-25.</p> <p>Within the Plan there was a holding space to input the recent engagement activity that would reflect the richness of what has been captured.</p> <p>It was suggested that the final approval to be delegated to DS as Chair. All agreed. No further comments.</p>	MR
6.	<p>Project update and approvals</p>	EB
6a.	<p>Update on Maker space development work</p> <p>An update was given on the Makers Space feasibility study. Highlighting what work had been done so far. This work was being conducted by the consultants 'We Made That.'</p> <p>So far 'We Made That' have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaged with the sector and highlighted opportunities for Chesterfield and to showcase what works well in other places. • Reviewed other operating models to inform how a Chesterfield model might come forward. • Reviewed the needs of the sector. • Worked to understand what a Makers Space will bring to the town in terms of added value/social value. • A review of vacant properties in the Town Centre, then mapped this against spatial requirements identified through engagement. This shortlist was narrowed down to the Former Derbyshire Times Building and the lower ground of the Eyres building. <p>It was noted that Junction Arts and a number of cultural organisations were losing their current operating space. CBC are purchasing the Derbyshire Times building and are currently working with Junction Arts to offer a short-term lease on the property. This was highlighted as it poses a unique opportunity to test the upcoming feasibility study. When the study is complete 'We Made That' will come back to the Board to present their findings.</p> <p>It was also noted that there would be opportunities to bring conversations together once all feasibility work was complete.</p>	
6b.	<p>Early project approvals and quick wins</p> <p>Information was presented on two outline business cases that had been brought to the board from CBC.</p> <p>The first on Safety and Security, the main points were:</p>	CD

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforcement officers are currently funded through CBC and grant funding. • The grant funding is due to cease on 31st March 26’. • The staff have made real improvements to ASB in the Town Centre and currently work in partnership with the Police, community partners and local businesses. • The proposal presented is for CBC to fund x2 enforcement officers and for the Pride in Place Board to fund x2 enforcement officers for x3 years to replace the grant funding that is due to end. • CBC are also funding 50k into the CCTV system. • An early decision was highlighted as been required as it involves staff and business continuity. <p>It was highlighted by the board that this approval only achieves the status quo and that there is an ambition by the Board to do more. It was also noted that the Police cover areas from Belper to Glossop of which stretches the capacity to focus just on the town centre and to have this resource in the town centre was highlighted as being superb and that it wasn’t replicated in other places.</p> <p>The question was asked as to whether the Community Safety operatives would cover Saturdays as this is a priority day for traders. It was noted that within the outline business case it states 6 days.</p> <p>It was suggested that CBC officers Ian Waller and Shaun Morely attend future board meetings to clarify activities.</p> <p>It was asked how the board would be recognised as funding this project and it was suggested that it would be discussed at the next Comms and Engagement subgroup.</p> <p>There were concerns that the funding may just be cut off in 3 years, it was highlighted that future funding would need to be reviewed, and it was suggested that a future BID may be an option to fund such activity/ projects.</p> <p>This spend for Safety and Security Enforcement officers from April 26 was approved unanimously by the board.</p> <p>The second outline business case was for Events; the main points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UKSPF had supplemented the town centre events in 2025, and this funding was due to cease on 31st March 2026. • The ask was to support the future enablement of events within the town centre through replacing the former UKSPF funding. • The proposal is for the funding to cover the next x2 years. • CBC would continue to spend the budgeted allocation for events. • The work / outcomes that come from the events feasibility study will inform what events will be delivered for future years. <p>It was suggested that an events subgroup of the board be formed to support this work.</p>	<p>CD</p>
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6c.	<p>It was highlighted that events were positivity received from the members who represent local businesses within the town centre. It was noted that feedback from indie businesses was that they see events as a PR exercise for people to discover what Chesterfield has to offer as the footfall doesn't always reflect the sales on the day.</p> <p>There was a keen interest from board members to feed into ideas and be involved going forward.</p> <p>It was noted that this 'Quick Win' was also replacing the current level of activity, and a plan is required to keep this level of investment going for future years through potential sponsorship. It was highlighted that Chesterfield Pride was self-funded now and again a potential BID could fund future events. It was also highlighted that a Cultural Strategy for Chesterfield would be beneficial.</p> <p>This spend for Events in the Town Centre from April 26 was approved unanimously by the board</p> <p>Overview of all projects for info This paper was noted. No questions were asked.</p>	
7.	<p>Investment Plan</p> <p>It was highlighted that at the previous Teams briefing held on the 11-11-25, the Board was taken through the Investment Plan. The Plan is due to be submitted next week as the deadline is 28-11-25.</p> <p>It was pointed out that all numbers within the Plan will change as we progress through the programme. All costs are high level spend and the costs around the ask for safety and security and events have been factored in.</p> <p>It was requested that the board give the Chair DS delegated authority to sign the Investment Plan off alongside the accountable body sign off. All agreed</p> <p>Comments were made that EMCCA would be taking over transport function from DCC. It was highlighted that the report has been shared with EMMCA as this is part of what government expects.</p>	MR

8.	<p>Pride in Place programme</p> <p>The papers were noted for information; this was an update to board on the rebrand from Plan for Neighbourhoods to Pride in Place.</p> <p>.</p>	AS
9.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Information was presented around an opportunity to bid for the Town of Culture 2028.</p> <p>It was explained that it is a new government initiative for towns. The successful town would receive £3.5m to deliver a yearlong programme. It would be an opportunity to showcase Pride in Place and aligned with RHOC and Stevenson's Memorial Hall work would give an opportunity to deliver a lasting legacy.</p> <p>A brief run through of the criteria was explained and how the ownership would potentially sit with CBC, The Town Board and Destination Chesterfield.</p> <p>Further information would be provided when government releases more information on the initiative.</p> <p>Board members expressed that they were very keen to support and would be interested in this work.</p> <p>KA shared with the Board that a Transport Plan consultation was now live within the library and online. It would run for 12 weeks, and Board members were encouraged to have their say should they wish to take part.</p> <p>LS advised the Board around the next steps surrounding submission of the Plans, highlighting that and although spend had been agreed on the two 'Quick Win' projects it was stated that the funding won't be released until government approves the Regeneration Plan and Investment Plans, this could be up to the 31st of March 26'. Therefore, any promotions of the approved 'Quick Wins' would need to coincide with government approval. It was suggested that this was discussed further at the next Comms and Engagement Group meeting.</p>	NJ
10.	<p>Date and time of future meetings</p> <p>It was explained that the dates and times of future meetings will be sent around after the meeting.</p>	

** paper circulated*