

STRONGER HEREFORD

Notes from a meeting of the STRONGER HEREFORD – PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GROUP (PDG) MEETING held on 26 February 2025 from 8.30 – 9.15 am via MS Teams

Members:	Frank Myers MBE Abigail Appleton MBE Paul Stevens	FM AA PS	Chair Principal, Hereford College of Arts (and Chair of Hereford Stronger Towns Board) Hereford City BID
Attendees:	Ivan Annibal Christian Dangerfield Joni Hughes	IA CD JH	Rose Regeneration (RR) Rose Regeneration (RR) Portfolio Manager, Capital Development, HC
Guests:	Lou Foti Rachel Moffitt	LF RM	Director, Growing Local Project Director, Growing Local Project
Apologies:	James Newby	JN	President & CEO, NMITE
Notetaker:	Jan Bailey	JB	

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1.	<p>New Declarations of Interest</p> <p>None</p>	
2.	<p>Notes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The notes of the PDG meeting held on 19 February 2025 were approved as a correct record.</p>	
3.	<p>Growing Local Project</p>	
3.1	IA provided a summary of the background to the Growing Local Project and its current position.	
3.2	The main purpose of inviting the Project Directors to PDG today was he said to seek assurances that following recent changes to its directorate, the project remains on track to deliver its #StrongerHereford objectives. Also to establish whether additional support was required from PDG to help it to meet these objectives.	
3.3	LF reassured PDG that the project is on target to meet its objectives, and she outlined current progress and the directors' plans for the immediate and longer term future. She commented on the project's financial position and said she was confident in being able to achieve what was needed within the remaining revenue and capital budget. RR will work with LF to provide a written summary of the current financial position, project milestones and timelines and key risks assessment. This to be completed within the next two weeks.	RR/LF
3.4	LF acknowledged the need to recruit additional director(s) to the Growing Local Board; in particular, individual(s) who have a strong business development/finance background. She said steps had previously been taken to recruit to these roles and would now be reinvigorated following the recent resignation of two Board members. HVOSS is assisting Growing Local with this and LF welcomed any support PDG members can give in highlighting the opportunity. LF will send the advertisement and role outline to JB for circulation to PDG members.	LF/JB

3.5	Following a request from AA, LF will send the latest plans and drawings of the site buildings to JB for circulation to PDG members. She reported that they are currently awaiting planning consent to begin construction of the cookhouse building.	LF/JB
4.	<p>Belmont Wanderers</p> <p>4.1 JH reported that there had been delays with the payment of invoices from Belmont Wanderers (capital expenditure) due to delays in signing off their and Growing Local's separate funding agreements. For technical reasons these have to be signed at the same time.</p> <p>4.2 Following today's meeting, PDG felt reassured about the future of the Growing Local project and therefore were happy to authorise payment of the outstanding Belmont Wanderers invoices in anticipation of both Funding Agreements being signed imminently. The Chair asked for copies of the final Funding Agreements to be circulated to PDG members for information.</p> <p>4.3 JH thanked PDG for their decision and asked AA to email the Section 151 Officer (Rachael Sanders) at the council to confirm this decision.</p>	JH RR AA
5.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>5.1 PS asked for an update on the Greening the City project. CD will catch up with the project lead and report back to PDG.</p>	CD
6.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>PDG – to be confirmed</p> <p>Board – Friday 14 March, 8.30-10am (hybrid and in person).</p>	