

Notes from a meeting of the STRONGER HEREFORD – PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GROUP (PDG) MEETING held on 9 July 2025 from 8.30 – 9.30 am via MS Teams

| Members: | Frank Myers MBE Abigail Appleton MBE | FM AA | Chair Principal, Hereford College of Arts (and Chair of Hereford Stronger Towns Board) |
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| | James Newby | JNe | President & CEO, NMITE |
| | Paul Stevens | PS | Hereford City BID |
| Attendees: | Ivan Annibal Christian Dangerfield Ben Proctor | IA CD BP | Rose Regeneration (RR) Rose Regeneration (RR) Councillor, Hereford City |
| Apologies: | None | | |
| Notetaker: | Jan Bailey | JB | |

| ITEM | NOTES | ACTION |
|------|---|--------|
| 1. | New Declarations of Interest | |
| | None | |
| 2. | Notes of Previous Meeting | |
| | The notes of the PDG meeting held on 14 May 2025 will be circulated to members for approval/amendments. | JB |
| 3. | Legacy Planning | |
| 3.1 | IA reminded attendees that this topic was discussed at the last STF Board meeting and RR had been asked to prepare a proposal document for consideration at the next (1 August) Board. This is to consider a process by which any unspent STF funds (both from the #StrongerHereford and the national programme) may be spent. | |
| 3.2 | Attendees discussed this topic at some length. Various options were considered, including options for existing projects and for those projects which were short-listed in the original process but had not received funding. The procedure for inviting and managing applications was also discussed. RR will develop a draft proposal for discussion at PDG in two weeks' time, following which it will go to Board. | RR |
| 3.3 | JB was asked to draft a media release which outlines the opportunity available to potential bidders. | JB |
| 3.4 | The Chair reminded RR that a detailed analysis is needed that outlines expenditure to date against original plans and levels of contingency on a project-by-project basis. IA said that, as agreed in RR's revised contract, a new person has been appointed to work on this as soon as possible. | RR |
| 3.5 | BP said that as part of the legacy programme, a report to capture the learning achieved through being part of the STF should be compiled. AA agreed with this also suggesting a public celebration which highlights the achievements of the programme be planned. | |
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| 4. | Belmont Wanderers / Growing Local Projects | |
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| 4.1 | IA and CD provided an update on the Belmont Wanderers project. CD said that a cost proposal had been received from the changing room constructors and that this was significantly over budget. CD said the Project Lead is now looking at value engineering but the situation is concerning. | |
| 4.2 | RR will arrange a meeting between the Project Lead, the Chair, CD and JNe to discuss this and some other concerns about the project. | RR |
| 4.3 | IA provided a brief update on the Growing Local project. He advised PDG that the next key stage was to procure building construction and that a planning application (required by the Local Authority as cooking classes will be taking place from these agricultural buildings) seemed to be progressing well. | |
| 5. | Encore Project | |
| 5.1 | The Chair advised that the Project Lead is currently pursuing a new opportunity for premises and that negotiations seemed to be progressing well. He confirmed that the new premises purchase price, if successful, could be met through the project's original STF allocation. | |
| 6. | Shirehall and Museum projects | |
| 6.1 | IA will ask the Project Leads for both projects to attend the next STF Board to receive questions from Board members. | RR |
| 7. | Any Other Business | |
| 7.1 | IA said that he and CD had held a detailed discussion with the Wyeside Project Manager. He will be invited to attend PDG next Wednesday (16 July). In advance of this meeting, RR will circulate the project's original plans/specifications to PDG members. | RR |
| 8. | Date of Next Meetings | |
| | PDG – Wednesday 16 July 8.30 – 9.30 am via Teams. | |
| | Board – Friday 1 August, 8.30-10am (hybrid and in person at Hereford College of Arts, College Road campus). | |