

**WARRINGTON TOWN BOARD**

**Minutes of meeting held on 18 October 2024**

ATTENDEES		APOLOGIES
Steve Coffey (Chair)	Torus	Steven Broomhead
Nichola Newton	Warrington & Vale Royal College	Charlotte Nichols MP
Lucy Gardner	Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospital	Sarah Hall MP
Steve Park	Warrington Borough Council	Cllr Laura Watson
Eleanor Blackburn	Warrington Borough Council	Martin Wood
Alan Dickin	Warrington Borough Council	Stephen Hunter
Elliot Grimshaw	Cities & Local Growth Unit	Dave Thompson
Malcolm Jackson	Langtree	John Laverick
Damian Richards-Clarke	Warrington Borough Council	Christian Persoglio
Stephen Fitzsimons	Warrington Chamber of Commerce	Laurence Pullan
Cllr Jean Flaherty	Warrington Borough Council	David Boyer
Cllr Nathan Sudworth	Warrington Borough Council	Georgia Millership
Heather Standidge	Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington	Nigel Schofield
Kerry Hall	Warrington Borough Council	Josh Downs

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
1.0	<p><b>Welcome, Introduction and Apologies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair welcomed all attendees.</li> </ul>	
2.0	<p><b>Minutes of meeting held on 16 August 2024</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainable travel – The Wayfinding map currently installed to boards is in Appendix A.</li> </ul>	
3.0	<p><b>Declarations of interest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No declarations of interest were noted for this agenda.</li> </ul>	
4.0	<p><b>Towns Fund Governance &amp; Transparency</b></p> <p>Following receipt of the Towns Fund assurance review, the Programme Manager has conducted a review, update on the findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Terms of Reference, updated earlier in the year, remain fit for purpose.</li> <li>The Register of Gifts and Hospitality has been updated to include project official openings.</li> <li>Declarations of Interest are now a standing agenda item at each meeting. With recent changes and additions to membership, it is recommended as good practice for all members to complete the interest's template.</li> <li>Profiles of Town Board members have been reviewed and updated; these are now hosted on the webpage.</li> <li>Meeting minutes are consistently posted on the webpage, with clear labels to indicate draft or approved status.</li> <li>The Programme Update is now included with the meeting agenda on the website.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTIONS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Town Board members and officers to inform Programme Manager of gifts and hospitality.</b></li> <li><b>Programme Manager to distribute register of interests for Town Board members to complete.</b></li> </ol>	<p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p>

<p>4.0</p>	<p><b>Towns Fund Programme Update</b> Kerry Hall reported on the Towns Fund Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The programme continues to make steady progress towards its project deliverables.</li> <li>• Projects completed four: the Bus Depot, Health and Wellbeing Academy, Living Well Hub, and the Construction and Civil Engineering Academy have completed a Stage 1 Evaluation as part of the two-stage project closure process.</li> <li>• Grant payments continue to be used/claimed in line with projects progress. Some projects outstanding retention others in delivery – there is £2M currently in payment process.</li> <li>• Efforts are underway to enhance positive news and PR coverage for both projects in delivery and those completed, with a focus on highlighting their long-term impact and legacy. The Living Well Hub has been identified as a case study.</li> <li>• Monitoring &amp; Evaluation Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Performance monitoring for the period 1 March 2024 to 30 September 2024 underway.</li> <li>○ Town Board members will be sent the spreadsheet to review w/c 4 November.</li> <li>○ Final sign-off and upload to the portal w/c 11 November.</li> <li>○ All projects regardless of status will complete performance monitoring on a 6 monthly basis.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Progress report accepted; no issues raised.</b></li> </ul>	
<p>5.0</p>	<p><b>Town Deal Project updates -</b></p> <p><b>Digital Enterprise Hub</b> Update from Malcolm Jackson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project remains on programme and budget with completion scheduled May 25.</li> <li>• Roofing works 85% complete and toilet and showers at first fix; targeting October for completion. Roof works delayed by 3 weeks due to inclement weather.</li> <li>• Cost on budget. Tenders for next phase of works on cost target.</li> <li>• Extensive liaison with existing tenants and neighbouring church.</li> <li>• Continuing to work on Branding.</li> <li>• <b>Progress report accepted; no issues raised.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainable Travel</b> Update from Alan Dickin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sankey Street gateway scheme planned public consultation events Saturday 23 and Thursday 21 November in Golden Square. Also targeting following up with residents in local community. Group discussed importance of connectivity to support event programme.</li> <li>• New electric bus fleet. 25 electric buses now in operation with further 80 put into service before the end of the calendar year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The fleet is available for event support to promote the bus service; one bus was recently showcased at the Warrington Business Conference.</li> <li>○ See Appendix B for images documenting the clean bus journey.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Development work on the 49 Wilderspool Causeway corridor continues, with some revised proposals anticipated for presentation at a future date.</li> <li>• Accessibility Improvements – Phase 2 is now being coordinated with the Pyramid team.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Progress report accepted.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Pyramid Remastered</b> Update from Eleanor Blackburn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction work began on-site on 19 September. Although the contractor experienced a slow start due to finalizing design elements and subcontractor arrangements, the project remains broadly on schedule.</li> <li>• Culture Warrington staff are working across various locations, including the museum and hot desks at Times Square.</li> <li>• A temporary pop-up venue is being set up in Golden Square, with planning approval and building control processes underway.</li> <li>• A key risk has been identified with potential constraints due to nature of building as construction progresses. The team is closely monitoring and managing any issues uncovered on-site through change control procedures.</li> <li>• <b>Progress report accepted.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Completed Projects Updates</b></p> <p><b>Construction &amp; Civil Engineering Academy</b> Update from Nichola Newton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official opening on 2 December. Invitations due to be distributed imminently, drafting PR and minister has been invited.</li> <li>• The academy is engaged with businesses across different sectors including construction, nuclear, property management.</li> </ul> <p><b>Health &amp; Social Care Academy</b> Update from Nichola Newton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suite of clinical training received national recognition from ministers and Ofsted consultant described the provision as outstanding.</li> </ul> <p><b>Living Well Hub:</b> Update from Lucy Gardner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A quarterly report is being produced for the hub reporting on usage, programme of activities, positive feedback. Option to provide this at future meeting or if matters of confidentiality, then at Programme Board level.</li> <li>• Lucy presented alongside NHS and NHS Confederation at the Health City Design Conference 2024, with a presentation titled “Realising health on the high street”, which mentioned the development and successes of the Warrington Living Well Hub.</li> <li>• The group recognised the importance of collaborative efforts to ensure that all community sectors are made aware and kept informed about the Hub and the range of services it provides.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION:</b></p> <p><b>3. Verify whether the Living Well Hub quarterly report is classified as open or confidential.</b></p>	<p>LG</p>
<p>6.0</p>	<p><b>UK Shared Prosperity Fund Update</b> Eleanor Blackburn updated on status and key highlights of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36 live projects across the investment priorities of Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business, and People and Skills.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme commitments/expenditures slightly over c.£200k although some projects will underspend therefore still accepting project proposals prior to end of March.</li> <li>• The group discussed the opportunity for new, fast-tracked proposals that can align with procurement and programme timelines.</li> <li>• Output and outcome delivery under all investment priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ People and Skills exceeding targets.</li> <li>○ Progress is slower for Supporting Local Businesses due to contract delivery periods beginning later in the financial year.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Significant delivery underway, with progress in environmental initiatives and support for Active Travel.</li> <li>• <b>Progress report accepted; no issues raised.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>8.0</b>	<p><b>Levelling Up Fund – Warrington North Reconnecting the Settlements:</b> Alan Dickin provided an interim update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work on the project remains on hold.</li> <li>• Further information and potential budget updates are anticipated by the end of October in line with the Autumn Budget 2024.</li> </ul>	
<b>8.0</b>	<p><b>Next Meeting</b> Currently scheduled for 20 December 2024, from 10am to 1pm. The date will be reviewed based on announcements at the Autumn Budget and timing considerations around the Christmas period.</p>	



# Our Clean Buses Journey in Warrington

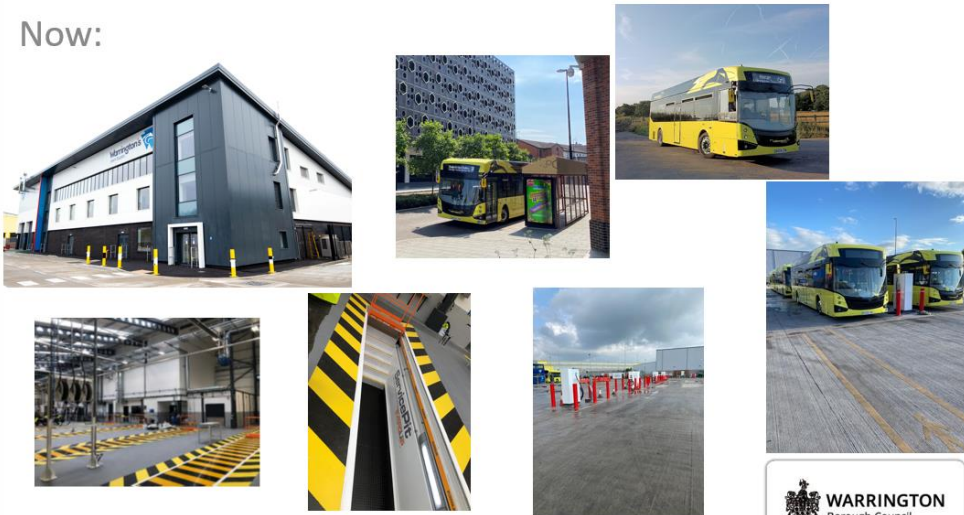
## Warrington Borough Council and Warrington's Own Buses



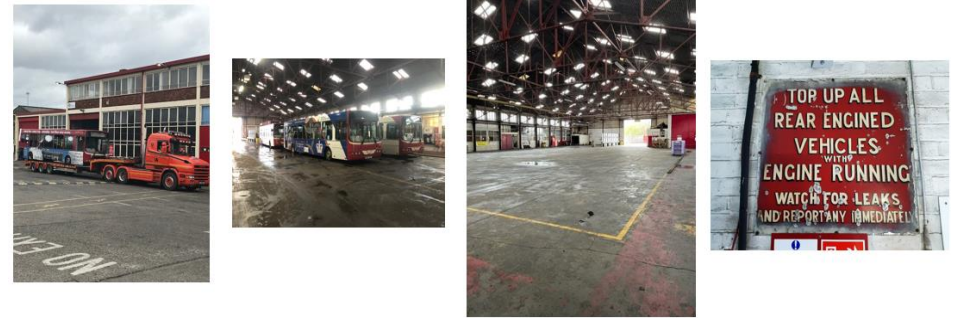
Town Deal Board - 18 October 2024



Now:



Before:



First Double decker and shorter 9m bus just arrived...

