

Howard Varns
Senior Programme Manager
May 24

Stocksbridge Towns Fund Board Paper: 160524

1 & 2. Welcome, and confirmation of minutes and any matters arising

3 Education Hub

3.1 Review to be led by Emma Beale from Northern College

4 Expressions of Interest

4.1 Hopper Bus Service – Four organisations engaged with the opportunity to work with the Board to develop and deliver a new local bus service for Stocksbridge and the surrounding areas. Two organisations have returned proposals. These will be reviewed and evaluated w/c 20th May 2024.

4.2 Stocksbridge 519 - The (Eol) notice was let w/c 6th May and the Council has received a number of expressions of interest. The Eol period remains open. Officers are optimistic from these early signs of interest that this competitive process will drive quality and value when contracting. This will be reviewed further in the session by the Council's Director of Regeneration (Sean Mclean)

5. Land acquisition

5.1 In order to secure the properties we require; the Council's Chief Property Officer needs to approve transactions once contracts with landowners or seek authority to commence with Compulsory Purchase if acquisitions cannot be agreed.

5.2 A verbal update will be provided

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7. Projects updates:

7.1 Community Hub & Library relocation (Stocksbridge 519)

7.1.1 The Expression of Interest has been let. Sean Mclean to provide an update on next steps.

Note: Update on next steps (Sean Mc)

7.2 Place-making

7.2.1 The visuals for the new market square and an updated cost plan have been produced. It was expected that the scheme would have been presented to SCC's Finance committee in March to enable procurement. June is targeted to enable further clarity on the acquisition of the Factory Shop and Highway's recommendations.

7.2.2 Pre-app submission is being prepared based on full market square option. Submission date to be confirmed.

7.2.3 Dermot Reader will review some implications that Board should consider that are driven by the Highways recommendation to increase an areas of pavement width on the North Side of the high street.

Note: Update from Dermot Reader on options and issues with pavement widening.

7.3 Sport Hub

7.3.1 The Sport Hub project is made up of four sub-projects. These are the development of: a new Sports Pavilion, a new 3G pitch, and a grants for facility improvement to the Rugby Club and the Football Club respectively.

7.3.2 The 3G pitch and Sport Pavilion projects have been paused and form part of the second phase of projects and a review of these projects has begun.

Note: Howard Varns to confirm that a revenue budget has been secured to undertake the sports development work identified at the last Board. HV to develop, with YM & GS, the specification for this work.

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7.4 Oxley Park (Phase 2)

7.4.1 The project's central focus is on creating a new skate park facility in Oxley Park, along with drainage adaptation, screening and better stepped access & walkways and this project is underway and on track

7.5 Trails and Activities at Underbank

7.5.1 This project has been paused and forms part of the second phase of projects and a review of these projects has been recommended to Board. Some work led by Yorkshire water on costs and options is expected to take place and will be supported in the interim.

7.6 Hopper Bus

7.6.1 The project seeks to establish, via providing pump priming, a sustainable, community-led, responsive bus service which can provide links across the community to places of work, education, healthcare and leisure which are under-served. Expression of Interest (EoI) for the grant funding have been returned and evaluation of proposals will take place w/c 20th May.

Note: A recommendation will then be made to the Project Champion (Miriam Cates).

7.7 Post 16 Hub

7.7.1 The scope of the project focuses on the development of a Skills and Education offer, delivered from the Community Hub building. The funding is ring-fenced and it is expected it will be utilised to grant fund an education provider once the building is operational (expected March 2025). A high-level MoU with Northern College has been agreed which confirms the funding intention and allow Northern College to start business planning for 2025.

8 Phase 2 Projects

8.1 Rivers Project - The Steel Valley Project have been approached and the offer to consider providing some match-funding to enable them to deliver the Little Don improvement project has been made.

Action: HV and NC to meet with Tom Newman

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9. Summary of Programme Outputs

Projects	Programme Outputs	Status	Target/ Due Date	SCC Project Manager	Notes/ Comments
Community Hub	New Library Service Facility	on-track	Qtr 3 2025	Lisa Firth	The Library service will occupy part of the ground floor area. Initial layout tested and acceptable to library service
Community hub	Managed work space	Future Task	Qtr 3 2025	Howard Varns	Tender will be let to find a managed work space provider in quarter 1 2025. Revenue funded by Towns Fund. Soft Market tests with operators to be undertaken which will enable the development of a tender specification in Q3/ Q4 2024
Post 16 Hub	Education Service	Future Task	Qtr 3 2025	Howard Varns	MoU agreed. Expected to enter into a grant funding agreement with Northern College in quarter 1 2025. Revenue funded by Towns Fund.
Community Hub	New Community Hub building	Site Assembly/ Procurement	Qtr 2 2025	Dermot Reader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned application approved. Tenders discussion required Target contact award – July 24 Demo/ Construction – Quarter 4 25 to Quarter 4 2025 *Any CPO required to secure the development site would have a major impact on these timescales
Community Hub	Site Acquisition*	Not secured	Overdue	Dave Ambrose	Two key properties require securing. Arbitration is being offered by SCC.
Community Hub	Interim library location*	On-track	Sept-24	Dermot Reader	Preferred interim location requirements have been finalised. Some adaption and new heating system to Ikon Church planned. Interim location needs to be available for Sept/ Oct 24
Bus Service	New local bus service	EoI available	Q3 24	Dave Whitley	Opportunity has been let and operators have returned proposals.

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Sports Hub	New 3G football pitch	Under Review by Board	tbc	Gareth Hayden	
Sports Hub	New Cricket Pavilion	Under Review by Board	tbc	Gareth Hayden	
Sports Hub	Football Club	Delivered	Oct 24	Gareth Hayden	
Sports Hub	Rugby Club	Delivered	Oct 24	Gareth Hayden	
Oxley Park	New Skate Park	on-site	Nov - 24	David A	Project is on-site. Some issues have been raised about the materials used on the paved areas
Active Trails	1.5km of walking and cycling trails	2 nd phase project	tbc	HV/ YW	YW to provide costs and options which will be reviewed when available but other than YW-led activity, the project has been paused until the high-street works have been contracted.
Active Trails and Activities	Cycle hub	2 nd phase project	tbc	HV ?	This is expected to be safe cycle storage infrastructure situated on SCC owned car park and a partnership with cycle hire provider.
Place-making	New public realm	Re-programmed	tbc	Dermot Reader	Works to go through further technical review and corresponding cost report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-app being finalised. • Demo and construction – programme dependent
Place-making	Site Acquisition*	on-track	May 24	Dave Ambrose	Offer for required site accepted and lawyers instructed although possible issue with Factory Shop
Place-making	Shop frontage scheme	on-track	tbc	Dermot Reader	Awaiting further costed design information resulting from detailed surveys. Commencement of works is programme dependent

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Access and wayfinding project	Enhanced High Street Car parking	On-track	tbc	Dave Whitley	Enhancement to the Council owned car parking makes up a later phase of the overall high street regeneration programme
Access and wayfinding project	New wayfinding/signage	On-track	tbc	Dave Whitley	Improved signage and wayfinding system to be put in place in a later phase of the high street regeneration programme
Towns Fund	Develop Community Interest Company Strategy	Future Task	Qtr 3 2024	Howard Varns	Objective to develop CIC to achieve community ownership of assets and retention of benefits within Stocksbridge

9. Communications and Engagement Update

9.1 Council currently preparing recruitment exercise for Communications support for the programme. Draft Handover plan is provided.

TF Budgets

Projects	Total Current DLUHC / MCA / Other Funding Allocations (All Years)	Total SCC Budget Approved (IBC's / OBCs)	Proposed Budget Changes for Approval by TD Board	Variance (Current Funding Allocation vs Proposed Funding Allocations)	Variance (Current SCC Budget Approved vs Proposed Budget Allocations)	Comments
Manchester Rd Community Hub (cap & rev)	£10,543,166	£10,543,166	£12,281,326	£1,738,160	£1,738,160	Further increase of £430.2k since November's Board approval
Manchester Rd Place Making incl new Town Square (cap)	£5,511,290	£5,511,290	£7,260,414	£1,749,124	£1,749,124	Further increase of £1.07m since November's Board approval. Approved by RLB by end of Jan 24)
Manchester Rd shop front arcade (cap)	£604,500	£604,500	£1,670,986	£1,066,486	£1,066,486	Minor increase of £1.07m since November's Board approval
Improved Wayfinding & Accessibility (cap)	£350,000	£350,000	£710,089	£360,089	£360,089	Minor reduction of £117.7k since November's Board approval
Oxley Park Phase 2 (cap)	£691,990	£692,000	£692,000	£10	£0	
Buses for Stocksbridge (cap & rev)	£739,350	£739,350	£739,350	£0	£0	
Skills and Education/ Post 16 hub (rev)	£350,000	£350,000	£350,000	£0	£0	
Sports Hub Grant (cap)	£229,876	£229,876	£229,876	£0	£0	
Sports Hub - Pavilion (cap)	£1,113,124	£1,113,124	£700,000	(£413,124)	(£413,124)	
Sports Hub - 3G Pitch (cap)	£957,000	£33,186	£1,100,000	£143,000	£1,066,814	
Walking and Cycling Trails (cap)	£2,700,000	£173,249	£750,000	(£1,950,000)	£576,751	
Manchester Rd shop Front Grants (cap)	£630,000	£630,000	£1,115	(£628,885)	(£628,885)	Minor increase of £1.115m since November's Board approval
Hydrotherapy Pool (cap)	£1,147,330	£1,117,330	£14,332	(£1,132,998)	(£1,102,998)	Minor increase of £30k since November's Board approval
River Don Improvements (cap & rev)	£475,044	£35,200	£9,774	(£465,270)	(£25,426)	Minor increase of £0.5k since November's Board approval
Programme Management	£1,146,330	£1,146,330	£1,146,330	£0	£0	
Initial Feasibility Grant	£180,000	£180,000	£180,000	£0	£0	
Total	£27,369,000	£23,448,601	£27,835,592	£466,592	£4,386,991	

Phase 1

Phase 2

Not progressing