

STRONGER HEREFORD

Notes from a meeting of the STRONGER TOWNS FUND – PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GROUP (PDG) MEETING held 21 June 2023, 8.30-9.00 am via MS Teams

Members:	Frank Myers (MBE) Abigail Appleton	FM AA	Chair Principal, Hereford College of Arts (and Chair of Hereford Stronger Towns Board)
	James Newby Paul Stevens	JN PS	President & CEO, NMITE Herefordshire BID
Attendees:	Joni Hughes	JH	Portfolio Manager, Capital Development, HC
Guests:	Louisa Foti Pat Gordon Chris Tipping	LF PG CT	Southside Project Southside Project Southside Project
Apologies:	Ivan Annibal Christian Dangerfield	IA CD	Rose Regeneration, RR Rose Regeneration, RR
Notetaker:	Jan Bailey	JB	Herefordshire Business Board

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies are as noted above.</p>	
2.	<p>Notes of last PDG Meeting</p> <p>The notes from the PDG meeting held on 14 June were agreed as an accurate record.</p>	
3.	<p>Project Updates</p> <p>Southside Project</p> <p>3.1 LF referred to the Project Initiation Document previously circulated to PDG members.</p> <p>3.2 LF provided an update on the Southside Project, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project is progressing well. • The Funding Agreement was signed on 25 May. Growing Local is the lead organisation on this document. • A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between all Southside Project Partners is in the process of being agreed. • A MoU with Herefordshire Council is now in place. • With regard to Planning, the application will be considered at Planning Committee on 26 July. The Planning Consultants (Berry's) have been excellent. • The tender for the architectural role has been published. Sixty-seven firms registered an interest. This was reduced to 14 who responded to a pre-qualification questionnaire. The five strongest contenders were then identified and a decision on which will be awarded the contract is due imminently. • With regard to staffing, Growing Local has recruited a grower and an education officer. The first volunteer day is planned to take place this afternoon. 	

<p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p> <p>3.7</p> <p>3.8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensing: LF confirmed that a temporary growing licence is in place until 30 September. The project is expecting new 30 year leases (for both Growing Local and Belmont Wanderers) from 1 October. <p>In response to a query from the Chair, LF confirmed that three Councillors cover the area of the project: Richard Thomas, Jacqui Carwardine and Dan Powell. All are aware and seem very supportive of the project.</p> <p>With regard to the Belmont Wanderers aspect of the project, CT confirmed that good progress is being made according to plans. There is only one area of concern, which is with regard to the cost of the 3G pitch, but negotiations are ongoing to resolve this.</p> <p>The Chair commented that the progress being made would make a good media story. LF confirmed that discussions with Orphan's are ongoing. CT also stated that the project is pro-active in posting its stories on social media. The Chair stressed the importance of maximising opportunities to promote Stronger Hereford as a whole. AA added that having a sense of key project milestones would be useful so that publicity could be planned in advance. The importance of emphasising that projects are being funded by Stronger Towns and not Herefordshire Council was noted. AA to discuss further with Orphans.</p> <p>CT asked for clarification regarding video production for the project. AA confirmed that several possibilities are being explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in the development of a professionally produced video. • A video-making workshop for projects that have little experience. • HCA students capturing some images/footage. • Projects being encouraged (if they have the capacity/skills) to capture their own video footage/photography as they progress for later inclusion into a whole project video. <p>PG asked in the first instance if there is any capacity for 'before' drone shots to be taken of the Growing Local site within the next two weeks. AA will investigate and feedback to PG.</p> <p>JN (as the third party to the Southside Project) stated how encouraged he felt by the positive progress being made. LF acknowledged the significant support and help provided by the Council team.</p>	<p>AA</p> <p>AA</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Date of next PDG meeting</p> <p>Next PDG Meeting – Wednesday 28 June 8.30 – 9.30 am via Teams.</p>	