



Northumberland County Council

Bedlington Borderlands Place Programme Board Minutes 13 April 2022 18:00-19:30 East Bedlington Community Centre

Attendees

Board Members	Organisation
Anne Lawson (Chair)	NCC
Alex Wallace	County Councillor
Rebecca Wilczek	County Councillor
Malcolm Robinson	County Councillor
Christine Taylor	County Councillor
Bill Crosby	Parish Council
Victoria Thompson	Town Council
Adam Hogg	Town Council
Dennis Fancett	Senrug
Michael Black	Advance Northumberland
Officers	Role
Peter Mawer (Town Lead)	Community Regeneration Officer
Chris Walker	Community Regeneration Officer

Apologies

Board Member	
Keith Grimes	Parish Council
Tracy Machnicki	BV FutureGen Foundation
David Fellows	TT Electronics
Officers	Role

Minutes (Action points in red)

Item	Details	Actions
1	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The summary of DOIs was presented by PM. The board was in agreement that the summary could be published on the town's Borderlands Place Programme webpage (https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Economy-Regeneration/Programmes/Borderlands-Place-Programme/Borderlands-Place-Programme.aspx)</p> <p>Any changes or updates to the summary should be sent to PM by 24th April 2022. Declarations of Interest will be reviewed at every board meeting and the online version updated as changes occur.</p>	<p>PM</p> <p>PM</p>
2	<p>Consultation Review – Chris Walker</p> <p>A review of the consultation was presented by CW. The presentation aimed to demonstrate the key findings from the public consultation. These findings would then be used to review the vision and strategic objectives agreed by the board at the previous meeting.</p> <p>It was agreed that the consultation report would be shared with board members for their review. Comments to PM by COP 24th April 2022.</p>	<p>PM</p> <p>All</p>
3	<p>Review of Vision</p> <p>The vision was reviewed considering public opinion from the consultation.</p> <p>The main contention from the 27% of respondents not agreeing with the vision was that Bedlington could not continue to be a thriving and cohesive town as they felt it was not currently thriving and cohesive.</p> <p>The board revised the vision as below:</p> <p><i>Bedlington will be a cohesive and thriving centre for residents, business and learners.</i></p> <p><i>Providing quality jobs supported by outstanding skills and educational opportunities for young people and adults alike, Bedlington will be a vibrant town with services to meet the needs of residents and visitors.</i></p> <p><i>Bedlington will find innovative ways to celebrate the town's industrial heritage, whilst delivering a new and vibrant leisure, cultural and low carbon offer for all ages. Bedlington will attract residents and visitors alike, promoting itself as both a destination and an attractive town to live, work and learn in.</i></p> <p>This resulted in a revised vision as follows:</p> <p>Bedlington will be a cohesive and thriving centre for residents, business and learners.</p> <p>Providing quality jobs supported by outstanding skills and educational opportunities for young people and adults alike, Bedlington will be a vibrant town with services to meet the needs of residents and visitors.</p>	

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4	<p>Review of Strategic Objectives</p> <p>The strategic objectives were reviewed considering public opinion from the consultation.</p> <p>91% of respondents agreed with the objectives and the board felt that this could be strengthened further by a slight change to SO1:</p> <p><i>Create a retail, leisure and cultural environment which attracts visitors to Bedlington</i> <i>Increase the number of visitors to Bedlington accessing its retail, leisure and culture offers</i></p> <p>This resulted in revised strategic objectives as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a retail, leisure and cultural environment which attracts visitors to Bedlington 2. Collaborate with local residents and the business community to imagine and then realise a long-term prosperous future for Bedlington 3. Safeguard existing employment and deliver new jobs and opportunities for economic and social participation for residents of Bedlington 4. Raise the quality of the physical environment in Bedlington 	
5	<p>Next Steps</p> <p>Board to review the consultation report and provide any comments to PM by 24th April 2022</p> <p>Consultation report to be published on website week commencing 25 April 2022</p>	<p>All</p> <p>PM</p>
7	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting was agreed to take place on the 31st 2022 at 6pm in the East Bedlington Community Centre</p>	All