



Northumberland
County Council

Energising Blyth Consultation with Businesses

25th / 26th November 2020

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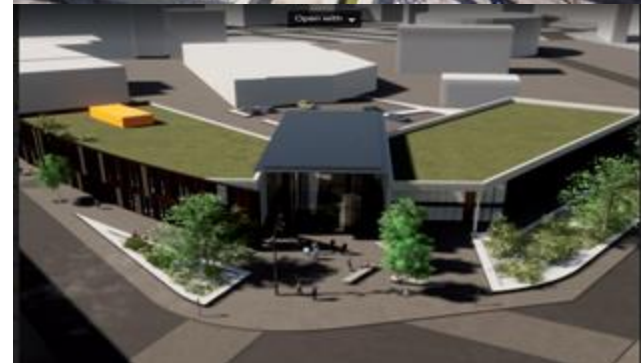
Business Group Presentation

Each of the two business groups were taken through a presentation including the following:

1. Challenges and Opportunities for Blyth
2. Town Deal Vision and Objectives
3. The Towns Fund
4. Future High Street Fund Projects
5. Northern Gateway Project
6. Town Deal

Following the presentation, each group was asked

1. Do you agree with the Energising Blyth Vision and Objectives?
2. Do the projects under consideration meet the needs of the town?



November Business Consultation – Industry Group

25th November 2020 – attended by four industry leaders in the town (as proposed by the Blyth Town Deal Board), not previously directly consulted on regeneration plans. Summary of key discussion points.

Liked

- Blyth Town Deal Objectives
- Connectivity improvements
- Skills development opportunities for local workforce
- Intention to bring more people into the town centre
- New Hotel – to support business need and to provide jobs

Wants

- To be able to connect with and employ local people
- Promotion of the town – internally and externally – employment opportunity / live / invest / visit
- To be involved on an ongoing basis

November Business Consultation – Town Centre Group

26th November 2020 – attended by eight town centre business representatives and two JCP officers (as proposed by the Blyth Town Deal Board), not previously consulted on regeneration plans.

Liked

- Vision
- Plans to work with young people to develop skills suitable for industry needs
- FHSF Marketplace layout consolidating the market
- Improved signage in Northern Gateway project
- Cultural strand and news of new cultural development officer

Wants

- More emphasis on culture
- More information on the Town Deal projects
- A more varied, higher quality market
- Smaller retail / mixed use units in the town centre
- Local recruitment on the development and construction of the projects