

SCARBOROUGH TOWN BOARD

Monday 31st March 2025, Extraordinary Meeting

17:00 Via Teams

DRAFT MINUTES

Chair David Kerfoot CBE DL DK	Richard Flinton RF NYC
Vice Chair Richard Boyes RB Scarborough Business Partnership	Alison Hume AH MP
Sam Allum SA North Yorkshire Sport	Cllr Liz Colling LC NYC
Matt Butterworth MB CU Scarborough	Rachel Wood RW North Yorkshire Police
Adrian Perry AP Scarborough and District Civic Society	Steve Bromham SB Save9
Simon Bull SB Scarborough Business Ambassadors	Clare Harrigan CH Beyond Housing
Caroline Routh CR Stephen Joseph Theatre	Mel Bonney MB CaVCA
Liz Philpot LP YNYCA	Nic Harne NH NYC
Helen Jackson HJ NYC	Lauren Hopson-Haw LHH NYC
Daniel Fisher DF Minutes NYC	

1. APOLOGIES

- Cllr Mark Crane, NYC

2. PLAN FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS UPDATE – Helen Jackson

- HJ presented the latest update on the Plan for Neighbourhoods from central government.
- The fund has been set at £19.5M over the next 10 years. This will constitute of 75% Capital, 25% Revenue. The Themes have been expanded and MHCLG require an investment plan for the first four years.
- The 3 objectives are:
 - Thriving Places
 - Stronger Communities
 - Taking back control

- The Intervention themes are:
 - Safety and Security
 - High Streets, Heritage, and Regeneration
 - Transport and Connectivity
 - Housing
 - Work, Productivity and Skills
 - Cohesion
 - Health and Wellbeing
 - Education and Opportunities
- MHCLG require three aspects to be confirmed by 22 April 2025. These are the topics for discussion in this meeting:
 - the boundary for Plan for Neighbourhoods
 - the Neighbourhood Board
 - the Chair of the Board

3. PLAN FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS' BOUNDARY

- The initial boundary put forward by MHCLG had been expanded by the Town Board under the previous programme, Long Term Plan for Towns.
- The MP suggested that Raincliffe Woods was included in the boundary and that this space could be useful in meeting the Health and Wellbeing theme. HJ confirmed that Raincliffe Woods had not been previously included, but it was an area for discussion.
- The board agreed that there was potential to expand the boundary further, and that it should not be shrunk. However, concerns were raised by the board that Raincliffe Woods is mostly under National Parks administration and there may be a potential conflict. Concerns were also raised about spreading the funds too thinly, particularly as there are other green spaces within the town that could benefit from some investment and are more accessible to deprived communities.

ACTION – it was agreed DF would circulate the National Park boundary and the board would supply comments by 4/4/25 on whether Raincliffe woods should be included.

4. BOARD MEMBERS

- It was agreed that there was a need to refresh the Board, with a discussion held around the appropriate approach.
- The MP stated she had been approached by a number of constituents that expressed an interest on being on the board. She also stated her desire to refresh the entire board and questioned whether to open up the board to individuals, rather than restrict representatives from organisations and or community groups.
- The majority view was that inviting people who represent groups and organisations would expand the community voice and reduce the risk of personal interests.
- The need for consistency was raised as there are projects from the Towns Fund that are still in delivery. It was felt that the board also benefitted from the experience built up from the previous programme.
- Possible representation was discussed such as someone from the National Parks, resident, Health sectors, youth and faith groups.

- Representative gaps or membership on the board have been identified around themes of Town Centre, Skills, Community Cohesion, Health and Wellbeing and Transport.
- The view was taken that there should be an open advertisement for new members with a call particularly for applications in the identified gap areas.
- Existing members will be asked if they wish to be considered to remain as a board member. The goal should be to have a broader cross section of the community with fewer members per sector.

AH vacated the meeting

ACTION – NYC to circulate current list of stakeholder groups for members to feedback revisions.

ACTION – Board Members to confirm their intention to remain on the new Neighbourhood Board.

5. CHAIR OF THE BOARD – introduced by DK, discussion chaired by RB

- DK stated concerns have been raised around him remaining as chair due to not being a resident of Scarborough. These concerns have been raised by the MP. Without the support of the MP, he believes his position as chair may be untenable.

DK vacated the meeting – RB chaired discussion

- RB stated DK has been an exceptional chair and that Scarborough Town Board has been fortunate to have such an experienced, fair, and impartial chair.
- The board unanimously and wholeheartedly supported these sentiments without reservation.
- The board felt that no obvious local candidate had been identified that would be able to bring DKs level of experience and prestige. Furthermore, a local person may be subject to local politics. DK has been able to remain impartial and fairhanded when dealing with local concerns raised by board members. These sentiments were again unanimously supported.
- The wording of the formal guidance was reviewed to confirm its content.
- It states that it states:

“Each Neighbourhood Board is to be led by an independent chair, appointed by the local authority acting as accountable body, following consultation with the local MP. The chair should act as a champion for the place and provide leadership for the board, ensuring it is community-led and embedded within the local area. The chair should be someone who holds a prominent role in the community and has a passion for the place.”
- The guidance says that a place may seek to retain the incumbent chair. It was also raised that DKs appointment was agreed with MHCLG who were content with his selection under the previous programme.
- Continuity of approach was also reiterated by board members as there are projects under the Towns Deal that are still being delivered.
- The Board agreed that their preferred approach should be that DK remain as chair during the transition period until at least 31-Mar-2026. During this time the board would advertise for a Chair Designate who could gain experience during the transition period and succeed the chairs

position. Should a suitable candidate not be agreed by the board the option of retaining DK was not ruled out.

- Concerns were raised that this approach may signal dissatisfaction by the board with the current chair, which is far from the case. However, this seemed the best way forward of addressing the comments raised by the MP.

ACTION – The Chief Executive of NYC will consult on the board’s preferred way forward with the MP.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 10am, 13th June 2025, Scarborough Town Hall.

DRAFT