

Clifton Town Board meeting

17th October 2024

Clifton Cornerstone/ Teams

In attendance:

Stephen Hackney, Chair
Lilian Greenwood, MP
Clare Ashton
PC Jane Gibson
Insp Steve Dalby
Councillor Hayley Spain
Councillor Maria Watson
Councillor Ethan Radford
Holly Dagnall

David Woolley
Sue Whitehead
Charlotte Batterham
Jemma Malloney
Melanie Phythian, MHCLG Matt Wheatley,
Nottingham City Council
Mark Armstrong, Nottingham City Council
Claire McCurdy, Nottingham City Council (notes)

Apologies:

Ch Insp Mike Ebbins
Tracy Osborne
Gene Warburton
Edward Peck

Sarah Speight
Stephanie Karlonas
Kev Davis

1. Minutes of the last meeting

The notes were accepted as a record of the last meeting.

2. Green Lane conclusions

Confirmed that Greenwood Academy Trust (GAT) will take on the whole space, but wish to clarify the proposed space available to hire, and concerns that the cost will be prohibitive.

Action: Stephen to ask for clarity on days/ times space will be available, and potential costs for this, including the space Freedom Foundation propose delivering from.

3. Current position and next steps

Mel confirmed the current funding position with the Board – the programme has been retained and reformed by the new government, and they are revising the existing prospectus and guidance documents to give clarity on strategic objectives, which are expected to align to the missions that Labour campaigned on. Emphasised that the work is not undone but will be added to, and that it's expected there will be more of a "menu" to broaden the areas funding can be allocated to. We expect to receive £200,000 Capacity Funding in the next financial year before the programme funding (capital and revenue payments) will begin in the 2026/27 financial year.

The boundary will stand as the revised area agreed and submitted in April 2024. Questions were asked about revising the boundary to include Silverdale/ the remainder of the Clifton West ward not already included. This may need to be revisited by the board once the revised prospectus and guidance documents are released.

Discussed concerns over funding U turn or ending early. Feeling is that this would be highly unlikely and the new government have committed to longer term funding and extra flexibility to achieve outcomes. Town

Boards are available to borrow against future funding which demonstrates a commitment to the programme.

Questions asked over the “top slicing” of funding for the support offer, which needs more clarity.

Agreed that the timeframe allows for breathing space, to look at what the residents have said they need and want, and look at plans. With the current funding in place, the capacity funding should be over £300,000 (although this is the only capacity funding that will be allocated within the programme, should this be spent and more work needed it will need to be allocated from the revenue funding going forward).

Discussed use of time and funding for:

- Board development – bring in an external trainer (such as Place Matters who delivered the Systems Thinking training for the Collective Impact group) and looking at community transformation.
- Community fund – local Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups who are struggling could apply for this
- Community spaces - short term financial support for the community centres to navigate the proposed lease changes and then look at development work to support them in longer term planning and growth
- Short term youth work interventions – in the buildings and spaces available currently, to use as a pilot to see what works and best routes of delivery
- Youth space – in light of the changes to Green Lane – look at other options for a dedicated youth friendly space, for example at Clifton Playing Fields or other locations, including vacant plots to build on, e.g. St Francis’ site use.

Discussion led to needing clarity on the purpose and scope of the Capacity Funding , and the revised guidance documents will help with this, as the main purpose is to build on the mission and consultation. The spend will be to help putting the plan together, and needs to be a purposeful budget. Also discussed need for strong infrastructure and concerns around groups needing longer term support and sustainability – for instance if there is a youth space built it needs to be able to sustain good quality provision to fulfil its purpose. Need to focus on development and making a deliverable plan, possibly including short term “wins” to build momentum and stave off longer term problems (e.g. potential loss of community centres).

The revised prospectus and guidance documents are expected some time in the new year and templates for plans etc will be included.

Agreed that it would be useful to continue exploring options and opportunities, including costs etc whilst waiting for the documentation. Also agreed to raise the profile of the board and revisit the logo etc. More consultation will be needed to drill into what residents have said they wish to see invested in, e.g. what do they mean by investing in green spaces?

Concern that we need to be delivering some kind of youth activity, we cannot wait 18 months for delivery and we have the opportunity to work with young people to look at what they want and engage people on the streets.

Whilst waiting for the prospectus, we can:

- dig into the consultation and start to unpick more of what it means, and areas that need more exploration
- Look at possible quick win projects that are in scope for funding
- Hold back some capacity funding for the future
- Work on developing the Board and the visioning documents.

Sustainability and longevity need to be built into any plans

4. Engagement activities

Safer Streets Day of Action will be rearranged for some time in the new year as it was cancelled due to the snow.

Engagement event in December – update given on activities and timings. Stall for Town Board will be to share contact details for more information about the board, sign up to updates and give feedback on what residents want to see. Farnborough School have their Christmas event the same day so will signpost people to that event which is on for longer and offers different activities.

Any other business:

Holly shared information about jobs available at NCHA, and also sharing information about remaining flats to rent. Also offered NCHA offices as potential meeting venue for the future.

Request for more updates on engagement activities in between meetings.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 23rd January 2025, 5pm, Clifton Cornerstone, subject to clarification of prospectus – will confirm in the new year.