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Date: 13 June 2025

Our Ref: SPB/SA

Dear Sir/Madam

A meeting of the **SIMPLIFICATION PATHFINDER BOARD** will be held on Friday 13 June 2025 at 12.30 pm at MIRA Tech Park, Watling Street, Nuneaton, CV10 OTU.

Yours faithfully

TOM SHARDLOW

Chief Executive Officer

To: All Members of the Simplification Pathfinder Board:

Sean Farnell (Chair), Marion Plant (Vice-Chair).
Councillors: Nicola King (NBBC), Steve Hey (NBBC), Jan Matecki (WCC)
Alison Thompson, Amanda Bourne, Jenni Northcote, Jet Jones, Jodie Gosling (MP),
Leo Pollak, Les Ratcliffe, Lindsey Randle, Marion Plant, Rachel Taylor (MP) and
Stuart Noss.

A G E N D A

1. MIRA OVERVIEW
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS
Please make sure all your mobile phones are turned off or set to silent.
3. APOLOGIES - to receive apologies for absence from the meeting.
4. PREVIOUS MINUTES – of the meeting held on 4 April 2025 attached (Page 4)
5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - To receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other interests in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

Declaring interests at meetings

If there is any item of business to be discussed at the meeting in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest or non- pecuniary interest (Other Interests), you must declare the interest appropriately at the start of the meeting or as soon as you become aware that you have an interest.

Arrangements have been made for interests that are declared regularly by Board Members to be appended to the agenda **(Page 7)**. Any interest noted in the Schedule at the back of the agenda papers will be deemed to have been declared and will be minuted as such by the Committee Services Officer. As a general rule, there will, therefore, be no need for those Board Members to declare those interests as set out in the schedule.

There are, however, TWO EXCEPTIONS to the general rule:

1. When the interest amounts to a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is engaged in connection with any item on the agenda and the Board Member feels that the interest is such that they must leave the room. Prior to leaving the room, the Board Member must inform the Chair of the meeting that they are doing so, to ensure that it is recorded in the minutes.
2. Where a dispensation has been granted to vote and/or speak on an item where there is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, but it is not referred to in the Schedule (where for example, the dispensation was granted by the Council's Monitoring Officer immediately prior to the meeting). The existence and nature of the dispensation needs to be recorded in the minutes and will, therefore, have to be disclosed at an appropriate time to the meeting.

6. HIGHLIGHT REPORT – presented by NBBC.
7. COMMUNICATION UPDATES – presented by NBBC
8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Recommended that under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, it being likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph (iii) of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

10. RISK REGISTER – presented by NBBC.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 19 September 2025 at 12.30 pm, Location –TBC, site visit to Bedworth Physical Activity Hub

Future meeting dates:

Friday 19 December– location TBC

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

SIMPLIFICATION PATHFINDER BOARD

4 April 2025

A meeting of the Simplification Pathfinder Board was held on Friday 4 April 2025. The meeting was held at The Saints, Newdegate Street, Nuneaton, CV11 4ED.

Present: Sean Farnell (CWLEP) - Chair, Alison Thompson (WCAVA), Marion Plant (NWSLC), Lindsey Randle (Horiba-Mira), Nicky King (Councillor), Steve Hey (Councillor), Jet Jones (Saints), Jodie Gosling (MP), Les Ratcliffe (CWC), Chris Egan (WCC), Dr Elinor Parsons

Officers in attendance: Sandy Johal (NBBC), Salewa A-Ogunleye (NBBC) - Mins

Apologies: Jenni Northcote (NHS), Stuart Noss (KEGS), Garry Palmer (WCC), Maria Bailey (NBBC)

SPB21 Chair's welcome and announcements

The Chair welcomed Board members to the meeting and introductions took place.

SPB22 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2025, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

SPB23 Declarations of Interests

Board members' interests for the meeting were as set out in a Schedule of Declarations of Interests, attached to the agenda.

SPB24 Highlight Report

The Regeneration Programme Manager (NBBC) submitted a Highlight Report (which had been circulated prior to the meeting) to update Board members on the status of the Simplification Pathfinder programme and individual projects. The report detailed the overall Simplification Pathfinder programme financial status, the key risks and upcoming activities.

- Grayson Place – Phase 1 – hotel is operational. Phase 2 – formal signing of contract took place on 20 December 2024, S73 approved at committee on 11 March 2025. Leisure box (formerly cinema box) still on track to be completed by May 2025. Food Hall wall cladding and upper floor slab are progressing, with completion expected in October 2025.
- George Eliot Visitors Centre - The Planning application went to planning Committee on 11 February 2025 and was granted approval. Awaiting confirmation for no call from the Secretary of State.
- Saints – JJ informed the project completion day was on Friday 4 April, The Project was completed on budget and on time. The opening event is planned for Monday 7 April 2025. Completed works includes -Kitchen renovation, Roof repairs. The plans include – Installing a new computer system, implementing safeguarding and Hiring a bookings coordinator.

- Parks Revival – Currently at RIBA stage 3, Focussing on design development. Project manager consulting with the Environmental Agency and arranging a site visit.
- E-mobility – Exploring the option of EV charging points within Grayson place development. Currently discussing the potential to extend an existing contract with BAM.
- Bedworth Physical Activity Hub – Main ground works have been completed, steel works are in progress. Operational completion is planned for March 2026 (Stage One), External area completion is expected October 2026 (Stage Two).
- Bridge to Living – Unit 20 was previously occupied, since progressed as surrender sign has been secured, the occupant is expected to move out by end of the month. Pushing ahead under the PAGABO framework to demolish the site and option analysis will be carried out.

SPB25

Communication Updates

- a) Website Refresh: SJ announce refreshing the Grayson Place website and bringing it in-house, Internal communications teams will manage the website.
- b) Communication Strategy – The board discussed the need to refresh the current communication strategy, which has become stagnant.
SJ reported currently advertising for a graduate role which will help with having resource within the team to focus on this. SJ has introduced a monthly rolling communication master plan to track project milestones. Working closely with the internal communications team to ensure key milestones are reported
SF suggested for internal communication team to develop a comprehensive branding strategy that captures the transformative vision of the town.
- c) The board agreed to invite a communication team representative to future meetings. Project Visuals – MP JG raised concerns regarding lack of material available such as project visuals for distribution. It was suggested that college students could help with graphic design work.
Action: Regeneration/Internal communications team to work with college students to help produce marketing materials.
- d) Branding – LR highlighted the importance of reinforcing the Transform Nuneaton, SF agreed, suggesting the need for an overarching brand that pulls together different project developments, transcends individual projects funding sources, Encompasses council and third – party development.
The board discussed the importance of creating a narrative that goes beyond current transformation, focuses on the town future potential. The potential considerations that were discussed includes showcasing the vision of residents and businesses, highlighting the town's long term developmental potential, creating a compelling narrative for potential investors and tenants.
- e) Marketing idea – LR proposed hotel could offer school visits to showcase operations, suggested TikTok competition for students, recommended students create storyboard, proposed film and circulate content on LinkedIn.
SJ agreed to the idea and indicated openness to discussing with the hotel management the possibility of school visits.
SF suggested using hotel guest testimonial and proposed addressing narratives about the hotel.
Action: SJ to discuss with General Manager of HBH.

SPB26

Any Other Business

- a) Local Business Impact - JJ raised concerned about business challenges, she expressed her concern on constructions impact on businesses, declining footfall, business closing and need to support local businesses. A discussion took place on this. SF acknowledged the challenges and noted that beyond construction, there have been other economic shocks like COVID that have impacted high streets.
LR suggested changing communication approach to highlight that businesses are still open during construction.
- b) Safety and Economic Concerns – JG highlighted retail businesses suffering from theft, emphasized need to make town centre feel safe, raised concern about business security.

SPD27

Exclusion of the Public and Press

Under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, it being likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information on the description specified in paragraph (iii) of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

SPB28

Risk register

The Programme Manager (NBBC) submitted an updated Programme Risk Register. The Board considered the specific risks raised by the updated register.

Distributed prior to the meeting. No significant changes.

Chair of the Board

SCHEDULE OF DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - TOWN DEAL BOARD

Name of Board Member	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
Alison Thompson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Manager, Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action • Service Level Agreement between WCAVA and NBBC for services to support the voluntary and community sector • WCAVA Leases with NBBC: Newtown Centre, Newtown Road, Nuneaton, CV11 4HG and 1 Donnithorne Avenue, Nuneaton, CV10 7AF • Director, Arts in Arts CIC, lease with NBBC for 22 Abbey Street, Nuneaton CV11 5BT • Spouse/Partner: A-Dec Dental UK Ltd • Owner of a property in Nuneaton 		
Amanda Bourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Director, FindaBiz Ltd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice Chair, Nuneaton BID Steering Group • Secretary, Nuneaton Business Alliance • FSB Representative Nuneaton and Bedworth • Representative Warwickshire Town Forum • TC Partnership 	
Catherine Marks	None	None	None
Councillor Jan Matecki	None	None	None
Councillor Nicola King	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employed by Love Hair and Beauty 		
Councillor	Director: - Heywire Ltd		

Steve Hey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brilliant Bookings Ltd - Member of the Labour Party - National Trust - CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) - Royal Photographic Society <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands Employers Board (NBBC representative) • Local Government Superannuation Scheme Consultative Board • West Midlands Employers • Nuneaton and Bedworth Older People's Forum 		
Jenni Northcote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust - Director of Strategy, Service Improvement and Primary Care 		
Jet Jones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Regeneration and Community Transformation of the Diocesan Board of Finance, Church of England. • CEO of Together for Change - Together for Change lease Saints, Nuneaton • Spouse is curate of St Nicholas Parish Church and St James Parish Church, Nuneaton • Daughter works for Creative Live • Son works for Walsgrave Mega Bowl 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustee of Bedworth Parish Church 	
Jodie Gosling (MP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid role as Member of Parliament for Nuneaton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unpaid directorship of Jelly Beans Nurture Nursery. • Unpaid trustee Lifelines Arley Whitacre, a small charity. 	
Leo Pollak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
Les Ratcliffe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Director - Community Engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman – Coventry & Warwickshire 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited • Director - Engineering in Motion Ltd. • Non-Executive Director - Verity Housing • Spouse/Partner: Director Community Engagement Ltd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place Board • Board Member – CWLEP Growth HUB • Deputy Lieutenant – West Midlands Lieutenancy • Board Member – Coventry & Warwickshire NSPCC Business Group 	
Lindsey Randle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIRA • Spouse/Partner: MIRA • Owner of a property in Hartshill 		
Marion Plant (Vice Chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal & Chief Executive, North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College (NWSLC) • North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College Property/land • Spouse/Partner: Relations Manager, Christian Aid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Midland Academies Trust (07191874), Chief Executive Officer and Director (company dormant, no financial interest) • Skills Advisory Panel, West Midlands Combined Authority, Member • Trustee, National Council Church of England • Chair, Director and Trustee WorldSkills UK (0210423) • Director The Skills Show Ltd (05880193) • Local Skills Accountability Board, Member (Coventry and Warwickshire and Leicester and Leicestershire) • Colleges West Midlands (NWSLC) is a member • Coventry Skills Board member • Aoc Portfolio Group for Climate Change, Member • Coventry University Lifelong Steering Group, Chair • Health and Social Care Skills for Care Group (Coventry University led), Member • Health and Social Care 	

		Future Skills Board (NHS), Member • P1k Programme Board (NHS), Member	
Rachel Taylor (MP)	None	None	None
Sean Farnell FCA (Chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burgis & Bullock, Chartered Accountants • Burgis & Bullock Management Ltd (dormant) • Burgis & Bullock Ltd (dormant) • CCWP Ltd (dormant) • Burgis & Bullock (Audit) Ltd (dormant) • Burgis & Bullock Corporate Finance Ltd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coventry & Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust Ltd • Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Ltd • Growth Hub Business Solutions Ltd • Director of Coventry & Warwickshire Growth Hub Ltd Board 	
Stuart Noss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal of King Edward VI College, Nuneaton 		