

Plan for Neighbourhoods (PfN) - Bedworth Board Workshop

Saturday 26th July 2025, 10am

Bedworth Heath Community Centre

MINUTES

	Actions	
<p>1. Welcome and Opening Remarks</p> <p>Welcome, Introduction and Apologies. The Chair (Bill Basra) welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair thanked Bedworth Heath Community Centre for their hospitality and advised if any organisation wanted to use the venue, then they email bedworthheathcc@gmail.com or phone 02476 362512.</p> <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Simon Aucott – local business owner Garry Palmer – WCC Officer Paul Spencer – local business owner Jenni Northcote - NHS Aryan Bruzus – Nicholas Chamberlaine Student Sue Tonks – Business Owner Rev David Poultney Peter Kingham - Life Church Alison White – Admin support to Board</p> <p>List of Attendees:</p> <p>Bill Basra - Chair Rachel Taylor MP Tony Short – MP` s office Cllr Nicky King – NBBC Cllr Cllr George Finch – Leader of WCC (From 11.35am) Ken Whitehead – Armistice Committee Owen Granfield - Armistice Committee Alison Thompsom – WCAVA Gill Hancock – Harbour Centre/ Life Church Lynda Greasley – Bedworth Society Maria Bailey – NBBC Officer Richard Nedjati – GP</p>		

<p>Jeff Hunt – People in Action Kirstie Webb – NHS Ravinder Gill – NHS Dawn Sargent – NHS</p> <p>NBBC provided a declaration of interests form which the Chair asked all members to complete and return.</p> <p>Julie Bromage was proposed as Vice Chair</p> <p>MP discussed briefly with Minister Alex Norris regarding the inclusion of all Bedworth Wards within the Plan Boundary who indicated this was still possible if action was taken quickly. This would ensure those parts of Keresley and Ash Green that fell within the NBBC boundary were included.</p> <p>MB provide update on land ownership work with NBBC legal team instructed to make land registry submissions</p>	<p>To Maria via email: maria.bailey@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk</p> <p>Full endorsement by the Board</p> <p>Board endorsed this approach MB to liaise with MHCLG further on this matter. Urgent</p> <p>Deadline for work 15.08.25</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>MB</p> <p>MB</p>
<p>2. Review of Previous Regeneration Work & Plans</p> <p>MB introduced documentation that had been circulated and highlighted from NBBC as potential areas for PfN funding.</p> <p>a) Green link from the new Bedworth Physical Activity Hub (BPAH) to the town centre. All agreed that it would be useful to cost and also linkages to the canal towpath.</p> <p>b) Second Phase of Bedworth Market. NBBC would be commencing external refurbishment but lacked the funding for internal work. Whilst the Board regretted not being able to review external refurbishment they also felt that works should not be part completed. A general discussion focussed on what could be done internally (including screens, food outlets and stalls) and it was agreed that a working group would be established by the Board and NBBC would cost and shape a proposal that included performing arts, young people, market traders, businesses, PIA, large TV screen.</p> <p>NK suggested the need for a large screen inside the building could use for consultations.</p>	<p>Board agreed that two options should be costed by NBBC and presented to the September meeting:</p> <p>1-Green link from the new BPAH to Town Centre plus canal towpath from BPAH (after clarification from Lynda Greasley) 2-Small working Group to be established to develop a costed proposal on internal refurbishment including installation of large screen.</p>	<p>MB</p>

<p>NHS raised the issues of the existing health centre no longer being fit for purpose especially given the plans to shift work away from hospitals into the community to provide integrated neighbourhood schemes. Need to consider what space is already available for the NHS to use as new build is no longer viable.</p> <p>WCC tabled some potential projects, but no WCC officer was present to explain and it was vital that the Board were aware of all WCC projects for the next 5 years.</p> <p>GF explained the need for vocational college places in Bedworth to stop the brain drain.</p>	<p>RT raised that ICB can bid for funding for neighbourhood health hubs. The Board recommended that a bid be submitted for Bedworth by the NHS by 08.08.25</p> <p>Agreed that WCC would present paper and ideas at September meeting including usage for KH and The Crox.</p> <p>Discussions needed with colleges and universities</p>	<p>ICB</p> <p>GF/G P</p> <p>BB</p>
<p>3. Exploring ideas for Funding</p> <p>Branding discussed.</p> <p>Launch event under the new branding to be planned for the first Saturday of October half term (25th) using the capacity funding available together with turning on of fountain.</p> <p>Armistice Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Signage into Bedworth. Agreed that this was a good idea but should be undertaken as part of wider consultation with residents. b) Greater access to memorial and cemetery with new hard areas and footpaths. Agreed that this should be costed and submitted 	<p>“Believe in Bedworth endorsed by Board” NBBC to submit 3-5 design options at September meeting.</p> <p>NBBC to co-ordinate together with fountain.</p> <p>Costings together with consideration of match funding to be worked up</p>	<p>MB</p> <p>MB</p> <p>OG/K W</p>

<p>All Saints Church</p> <p>a) Proposal for a youth hub utilising the old HSBC and Barclays banks. Comparison to Saints project in Nuneaton. Need for space outside of the church to welcome all.</p> <p>b) Discussion on need for youth bus to travel to outlying areas.</p>	<p>Costings to be worked up together with commitment to work on a multi faith basis and involve other youth delivery organisations including Aspire in Arts/WCC and work to be co designed with young people.</p> <p>Agreed that further costings be sought on this together with delivery model.</p>	<p>Rev DP</p>
<p>Life Church Extension</p>	<p>Withdrawn. Agreed that Pastor Danny to attend next meeting</p>	<p>GH BB</p>
<p>Mental health and well-being hub.</p>	<p>Agreed that this should be explored within the context of WCC buildings.</p>	<p>GF/GP JB</p>
<p>Health on the High Street</p> <p>Board recognition that there should be access to a greater range of health services within Bedworth. NHS to translate 'health on the high street' into a reality and look to decant more health professionals within the town centre which in turn would regenerate the town centre. Explore learning, development and apprenticeships being delivered from the town centre.</p>	<p>NHS to provide update at next meeting.</p>	<p>NHS reps</p>
<p>Greater post 16 educational presence</p>	<p>Endorsed . MP to facilitate linkages to colleges and Universities. JB to consider running further education course within the sphere of accredited performing arts.</p>	<p>RT/JB</p>
<p>Use of planning and Housing redevelopment to transform area between the Station and Town Centre. Also revamp of Station Gateway roundabout.</p>	<p>Endorsed NBBC to investigate</p>	<p>NBBC</p>

<p>People in Action Facilities-There is an issue with the lease and staff facilities including toilets.</p>	<p>Consider what is required in terms of accessible toilets etc. New lease required.</p>	<p>NBBC /PIA</p>
<p>Need to cover the need for additional sporting opportunities in Bedworth</p>	<p>Need to ensure sports representatives are consulted</p>	<p>WCAV A</p>
<p>Opening up of space within town centre possibility of demolition of old Boots to Coventry Building Society units. This space would reduce retail units which in turn would maximise occupancy rates, improve the aesthetics of the town centre and maximise accessibility and a space for public events. Consider cladding of existing buildings, water features, greenery and demolition of the flower beds. improve visibility of Church and Almshouses.</p>	<p>NBBC to commission, vision and cost together with implementation plan for Phase 2 (2029-2033)</p>	<p>NBBC</p>
<p>Look at start up funds for new businesses in the town centre</p>	<p>Link to reinvestment trust opportunities</p>	<p>WCC</p>
<p>Harbour Project-Accessible toilets required</p>	<p>Agreed to cost</p>	<p>GH</p>
<p>4. Community Consultation</p>		
<p>As per NBBC procurement rules 3 quotes obtained but only one had capacity to undertake in timescale. Awarded to WCAVA</p>	<p>WCAVA putting team in place to start w/c 28.07.25</p>	<p>AT</p>
<p>5. TOR</p>		
<p>Revised TOR discussed</p>	<p>Agreed subject to some reformatting and amendments to membership</p>	<p>MB</p>
<p>6. AOB</p>		
<p>The Board were informed that the Civic Hall had requested membership on the Board. A discussion ensued in which it was noted that pursuant to MHCLG Guidance there was no requirement that organisations had to be represented. The board was made up of individuals and not organisation representatives with the exception of the required one Councillor from WCC and one from NBBC. It was also acknowledged that the Board was already large and that a review of membership would be required in January as we moved towards the Implementation Phase. However the</p>	<p>Chair and Vice Chair to meet with Civic Hall Trustees, MP to attend if diary permits.</p>	<p>BB/ JB /RT</p>

importance of the Civic Hall to a thriving Bedworth town centre was recognised and it was agreed that steps would be undertaken to ensure the Civic Hall were consulted and actively engaged.		
7.Date of Next Meeting	4 th September 2025. 5.00-7.00 venue to be confirmed	BB