

MINUTES OF CHEADLE TOWNS FUND BOARD MEETING

Date	10 th July 2025	
Venue	MS Teams	
Present	Board Members Brian Bradley - Chair, Director, IN Accountancy Robert Botwright - Procurement Director, Circle Health Paul Richards - Deputy Chief Executive, SMBC Matthew Worman - Head of Rail, TfGM Observers / Presenters Laura Green - Head of Development & Regeneration, SMBC Matt Jones - Head of Capital Delivery, SMBC Gerrard Kelly - Project Manager, SMBC Christopher Palmiotto - Programme Support Manager, DfT Paul Batho - Development Manager, SMBC Erika Siemaszko - Capital Delivery officer, SMBC	
Apologies	Tom Morrison MP - Member of Parliament, Cheadle ward Cllr. David Meller - Cheadle East & Cheadle Hulme North Cllr Sharon Seville - President, GM Chamber (Stockport) Simon Elliott - Head of Rail Programme, TfGM Dr Viren Mehta - Vice Chair, Cheadle Medical Practice Phillip Gould-Bourn - Cheadle Village Partnership Jesse Garrick - Cities & Local Growth Unit, BEIS & DLUHC Tommy Flemming - Network Rail Sponsor	
	Item	Actions
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
	Introductions and apologies received.	
2.	Conflicts of Interest and Declarations Register	
	No conflicts were declared by those present.	
2.	Actions from Last Meeting / Board Matters	
	Board members asked how they can best support submission of a position paper to DfT. Resolved: Covered in update on station later in these minutes. Member profiles. Email has been issued by BB to all Board Members to provide pen profiles and headshots to be uploaded to the CTF website. The website will be updated with information on all board members.	GK/MJ BB/ES

	GMCA representative (Simon Noakes) needs to be replaced. LG is working with GMCA to identify a suitable replacement.	LG
3A.	Eco Business Park Project Update: Paul Batho, SMBC	
	The board were informed that there has been good progress reported since last meeting. Catherine Chilvers has left Network Space, so update provided by Paul Batho, SMBC's Development Manager for the scheme. • Pre-commencement planning conditions are in progress. • Initial project/client risks have been closed out. • Site is currently vacant; issues with fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour (e.g., broken windows). • To mitigate ASB, advanced contract to appoint demolition contractor (target completion: September 2025). • Main building contractor to follow. • Site start date: October 2025 with 12 months build period (subject to contractor programme)	
3B	Station Project Update: Gerard Kelly, SMBC	
	The current situation with the station project was summarised as: • Technical meeting held with industry partners; collaborative approach noted. Two key concerns closed out. • Meeting scheduled for tomorrow (Fri 11th July) to explore additional evidence and clarity, with an independent modeller commissioned for a second opinion. • Network Rail providing data relating to the impact on the West Coast Mainline. • Expect to commence drafting a paper for DfT escalation, through the rest of July. • Submission to Minister expected by early September (following summer recess). • Cheshire East senior officers meeting scheduled for 21st July. • Letter from Board members to DfT still required, timing to be advised once paper prepared. • Decision-making timescales unclear due to the novel approach being taken with DfT. • Tree works restricted due to bird nesting season (September until March). • Sign-off process involves DfT and MLG; model to be signed off by all. • MTF is the first step, followed by RNP (DfT/Northern/TFN). • Network Change: RN to write to access; objections possible.	

	Email to be circulated to board summarising outcomes of key meetings.	BB
4.	AOB	
	Remaining 2025 board meetings have been put in everybody's calendars. Next meeting on Teams 12th September will be rearranged due to holidays. New invite to be circulated by SMBC	