

ROTHERHAM TOWN DEAL BOARD
Wednesday 8 July 2026

- 1 NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE ROTHERHAM TOWN BOARD HELD
ON 8TH JULY, 2026**

Rotherham Town Board

Microsoft Teams

08/07/2026, 08:45 – 10:00 am**Attended By:**

Neil Baxter (Chair) - NB
 Megan Hinchliff - MH
 Reeham Abozaid – RA
 Catherine Davis – CD
 Ciara Jenkinson – CJ
 Kate Davis - KD
 Helen Jones – HJ
 Tom Austen - TA
 Lisa Pogson – LP
 Matthew Stephens – MS
 Nicholas Maddocks – NM
 Cllr Williams - CllrJW
 Lorna Vertigan - LV
 Steve Morris - SMO
 Chloe Parker - CP
 Tracey – Mace-Ackroyd - TMA
 Simon Moss - SM
 Andrew Gilhooley – AG
 Ray Kinsella - RK

Apologies:

Maria Coyne – MC
 Chris Hamby – CH
 Andrew Boulton – AB
 Rory Battye – RB

1	<u>Apologies for Absence and Confidentiality Reminder</u> Apologies listed above. <u>Declarations of Interest</u> • Signs Express – Steve Morris • Trustee at Magna – Matthew Stephens	
2	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting</u> None	
3	<u>Project Updates (By Exception)</u> Markets & Library • Market Hall scheduled to open to the public on 10 July 2026. • Traders being decanted into the new Market Hall. • Board members encouraged to promote and visit the facility. • Trader feedback has been very positive. • Public realm works outside the Market Hall completed. • Summer programme of activities and events planned from July onwards. • Library construction progressing well. • Current expectation is library opening in the winter, although efforts are being made to accelerate delivery. • Once the library relocates, works on the Indoor Market will commence.	

	- Overall Markets & Library programme remains scheduled for completion in September 2027. Health Hub Phase 1 – Abbey Pharmacy Relocation: - Works progressing well. - Completion due 17 July 2026 with opening shortly after. - Pharmacy will relocate from the market building into the former Boots building. Phase 2 – Health Hub Development: - Council working with a proposed lead occupier. - Proposal includes GP and community health services such as: - Weight management services - Out-of-hours healthcare - Vaccination services - Building Design Team has commenced concept design work. - Discussions underway with additional health and voluntary sector partners. - Aim is to create a hub of complementary health and wellbeing services. Dinnington - Burnt-out building demolition completed. - Indoor Market demolition due to commence in September 2026. - Procurement reset required following issues with the original tender process. - Main contractor anticipated to be appointed later in the year. - Ongoing discussions regarding temporary market arrangements and trader engagement. Templeborough - Work started on site on 8 June 2026. - Site branding and banners installed. - Concern raised by Matthew Stephens regarding possible impacts on Magna visitor events and footfall. - Recommendation to maintain regular feedback and monitoring with Magna as construction progresses. Wath Library - Stage 4 design work has commenced. - Demolition works progressing. - Contractor reviewing enabling works package to minimise programme impacts. - Confirmation provided that the scheme is being designed within available budget allocations.	
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4	<u>Transport and Connectivity Discussion</u> Members discussed positive impacts arising from the Tram-Train service. Key points: • Improved connectivity between Rotherham and Sheffield. • Increased use reported by students and businesses. • Benefits highlighted for town centre access and market visitation. • Greater promotion and marketing of the service was suggested. • Potential future collaboration with SYMCA on promotional activity discussed. <i>A proposal was raised to establish a communications-focused group to help promote positive developments across Rotherham.</i> Action: CD to escalate to DR	CD
5	<u>Comms and Marketing</u> <i>(Presented by Catherine Davis)</i> <u>Our Places Fund Phase 1</u> Consultation undertaken across seven locations during January and February 2026 identified the following priorities for residents: • Improvements around cenotaphs and memorials in: ○ Greasbrough ○ Dinnington ○ Treeton ○ Wentworth ○ Thrybergh • Improvement plans for: ○ Swallownest green space ○ Rawmarsh West and Parkgate public realm Further consultation taking place to demonstrate: • "You Said, We Did" • How resident feedback has shaped proposals Upcoming Public Engagement Events Upcoming engagement events planned for: • Dinnington • Maltby • Swinton Purpose: • Update residents on proposals. • Demonstrate how consultation feedback has informed designs. • Maintain trust and transparency through ongoing engagement. Gateway Station Engagement Approach outlined for the Gateway Station project: • Engagement to begin early in project development. • Continuous engagement model rather than one-off consultation events. • Strong emphasis on involving young people. Programme Wide:	

	• Work underway on a dedicated Youth Engagement Strategy. • Student focus groups at Rotherham College already providing valuable insight into perceptions of the town centre and market.	
6	Chair's Farewell The Board formally thanked Neil Baxter for his leadership as Chair since the Town Board's establishment in January 2020. Achievements highlighted included: • Oversight of Town Deal delivery. • Forge Island and town centre regeneration progress. • Property acquisitions and infrastructure improvements. • Support for Pride in Place and wider regeneration initiatives. Members expressed strong support for maintaining the collaborative approach developed under Neil's chairmanship.	
7	AOB Future of the Board and its remit was discussed and more work is needed to determine this. ACTION: MH to invite RTP Partnerships manager to a future meeting to discuss next steps in relation to the Rotherham Plan gamechangers. No expressions of interest received from the existing membership, those interested are encouraged to approach MH for an informal chat. Action: CJ to progress wider advertisement of the role. Strategic Sites Update Update provided on town centre catalyst development sites including: • Snail Yard • 3–7 Corporation Street • Statue Site • Riverside sites Key points: • Capital & Centric appointed as development partner through the Pagabo framework. • Focus on delivering residential-led regeneration. • Cabinet approval secured to progress detailed development work. • Next phase includes planning development, funding arrangements and delivery planning. Residential construction currently anticipated around 2028.	MH CJ
8	Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19th August 2026 at 08:45	