

STRONGER HEREFORD

Notes from a meeting of the STRONGER HEREFORD – PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GROUP (PDG) MEETING held on 13 September 2023, 8.30-9.00 am via MS Teams

Members:	Frank Myers MBE Abigail Appleton James Newby	FM AA JN	Chair Principal, Hereford College of Arts (and Chair of Hereford Stronger Towns Board) President & CEO, NMITE
Attendees:	Ivan Annibal Joni Hughes	IA JH	Rose Regeneration (RR) Portfolio Manager, Capital Development, HC
Guest:	Damian Ethersaads	DE	Herefordshire Council, Museum project
Apologies: /Absences	Roger Allonby Christian Dangerfield Paul Stevens Julian Vaughan	RA CD PS JV	Herefordshire Council Rose Regeneration (RR) Hereford City BID Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford
Notetaker:	Jan Bailey	JB	Herefordshire Business Board

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1.	<p>Notes of previous meetings</p> <p>The notes from the PDG meeting held on 3 August 2023 were approved as an accurate record.</p>	
2.	<p>Museum and Art Gallery project update</p>	
2.1	DE provided an update on the museum and art gallery project, which included an overview of progress to date, including funding streams and planning status (progressing to RIBA4 stage this month). He advised that the project was on track in terms of projected completion date and budget spend.	
2.3	DE presented initial proposals with regard to each exhibition space within the new museum. This included the brand new fifth floor, which will incorporate a contemporary art space, learning and events area, café, outdoor seating, a community garden and upper terrace 'beacon'. He said the vision is to create a regionally important venue, recognised nationally. Members said they were hugely encouraged and excited by the proposals.	
2.4	IA reminded DE of the need to complete a Project Initiation Document. He asked for this to be done within the next couple of weeks and presented at PDG before the end of October.	DE/RA/RR
2.5	JN asked for an update on the current position with regard to securing a main contractor. DE advised that the opportunity was expected to go back out to tender very shortly. Now that planning is reaching RIBA4 stage, he said this should provide potential contractors with more assurance regarding risks associated with costs.	
2.6	AA indicated that she would like to discuss with DE/RA opportunities for engagement with the College of Arts.	AA/DE/RA
2.7	AA encouraged DE/RA to link in with the #StrongerHereford Communications lead to maximise opportunities for positive publicity about the project's progress,	DE/RA

<p>2.8</p> <p>2.7</p> <p>2.8</p>	<p>AA asked for further details regarding plans for the gallery/exhibition space. DE advised that an exhibition strategy is being developed, including discussions with top national galleries to learn from their experience. The intention, he said, is to take a co-production approach that balanced high profile touring exhibitions with local input.</p> <p>IA asked for details on any schools programme being planned. DE advised that education would be a key part of the museum and art gallery's activities, including potential outreach activities and providing valued resources for schools.</p> <p>DE also stressed the potential value the museum and arts gallery would have as a tourist proposition, perhaps as part of walking tours incorporating various parts of the city including other STF projects.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Next PDG Meeting: TBC</p> <p>Next Stronger Hereford Board Meeting: Friday 6 October, 8.30 – 10.00 am at the Hereford College of Arts, Venns Lane site and via Zoom.</p>	