

# STRONGER HEREFORD

## Notes from a meeting of the STRONGER HEREFORD – PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GROUP (PDG) MEETING held on 1 May 2024 from 8.30 – 9.30 am via MS Teams

<b>Members:</b>	Frank Myers MBE Abigail Appleton  Paul Stevens	FM AA  PS	Chair Principal, Hereford College of Arts (and Chair of Hereford Stronger Towns Board) Hereford City BID
<b>Attendees:</b>	Christian Dangerfield Joni Hughes	CD JH	Rose Regeneration (RR) Portfolio Manager, Capital Development, HC (part)
<b>Guest Speakers:</b>	Tim Evans Ben Williams	TE BW	Powerhouse Project Powerhouse Project
<b>Apologies: /Absences</b>	Ivan Annibal James Newby	IA JN	Rose Regeneration (RR) President & CEO, NMITE
<b>Notetaker:</b>	Jan Bailey	JB	Herefordshire Business Board

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1.	<b>New Declarations of Interest</b>  None	
2.	<b>Notes of previous meetings</b>  The notes of the PDG meeting held on 10 April were approved as a correct record.	
3.	<b>Powerhouse Project</b>	
3.1	TE and BW provided a summary of their Project Initiation Document (PID), previously circulated to PDG members.	
3.2	TE advised that following a successful application, the project had secured a national archive of theatrical texts and literature. This means the project would have the most wide-ranging specialist library of such texts in the county and (probably) region. In addition, they have forged a partnership with a specialist publisher of plays who will continue to provide new texts to the project free of charge.	
3.3	TE confirmed that the project works in partnership with many local cultural and arts organisations, including Hereford Library, the Courtyard, Catcha Media,	
3.4	TE said the Powerhouse premises in West Street would house a learning resource space (for meetings, conferences, master classes, reading, writing, etc) and a performance space (for practical exercises and performances), He said that digital would be integrated into everything that the project undertakes.	
3.5	In response to a query from CD, TE and BW acknowledged that physical space at West Street would be less than that planned at the original proposed premises in Maylord Orchards. However, they stressed that this meant less money will be needed for fixtures and fittings and more could be invested in 'future proofing' the project, including the purchase of the most up-to-date kit and equipment. They said that some of the planned kit does not to their knowledge currently exist in Herefordshire.	

<p><b>3.6</b></p> <p><b>3.7</b></p> <p><b>3.8</b></p>	<p>Following a query from AA, TE confirmed that the PID circulated to members is the latest version and reflects the approved Project Adjustment Request (PAR). AA asked that, for governance purposes, the PID contains a note that states that outputs have been adjusted from the originals, as agreed in the PAR.</p> <p>AA said it would be useful to understand key milestones for the project. TE confirmed that services from the Quantity Surveyor referred to in the PID were specific to this project, ie separate from Rural Media's requirements.</p> <p>Following a query from PS, TE confirmed that the project is actively engaged in discussions with cultural organisations outside of Herefordshire. He mentioned an initiative called 'Powerplay', which aims to create a cultural network across the UK. The Chair commented that this national influence should be recognised and suggested this is something that could be picked up by the Communications sub-group.</p> <p><b>TE and BW left the meeting</b> <b>JH joined the meeting</b></p>	<p>TE/BW/RR</p> <p>AA/ Comms Group</p>
<p><b>4.</b></p> <p><b>4.1</b></p> <p><b>4.2</b></p> <p><b>4.3</b></p> <p><b>4.4</b></p>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>PDG discussed utilisation of unspent funds from other national Stronger Towns awardees for Hereford projects. AA said that Jesse Norman had requested she writes to him on this subject and he will then progress within DLUHC. AA advised that IA is drafting a suitable letter and she will work with him to get this actioned.</p> <p>AA suggested that alongside the above, PDG/Board should continue to consider its own resources and where any unspent monies could be reallocated. This topic will be discussed at this week's Board meeting.</p> <p>The Chair referred to a recent dispute relating to the Wyeside Project and the Anglers' Club. He was worried that this could result in reputational damage for Stronger Hereford. It was agreed that AA would seek advice from Elizabeth Parbutt (Orphan's), following which FM would discuss with the Project Lead.</p> <p>Following a request from the Chair, JB will send all Board members Outlook invitations to future Board meetings.</p>	<p>IA/AA</p> <p>AA/FM</p> <p>JB</p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Next PDG Meeting: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Next Stronger Hereford Board Meeting: Friday 3 May, 8.30 – 10.00 am (hybrid meeting – via Zoom and at Hereford College of Arts).</b></p>	