

Greater Grimsby Board

Minutes of Meeting

9th May 2025 at 10.30 a.m.

Attendance:

- Chair - David Ross (The David Ross Foundation)
- Leo Hammond (Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for the Humberside Police area) – substitute for Jonathan Evison
- Councillor Phillip Jackson (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Melanie Onn (MP for Great Grimsby and Cleethorpes)
- Councillor Stan Shreeve (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Lauren Little (Orsted) – substitute for Emma Toulson
- Martin Vickers (MP for Brigg and Immingham)
- Julie Walmsley (Community Sector)

Also in Attendance: –

- Claire Berry (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government)
- Emily Bolton (Our Future)
- Carolina Borgstrom (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Jim Carroll (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government)
- Spencer Hunt (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Dame Andrea Jenkyns (Mayor of Greater Lincolnshire)
- Grace Richardson-Banks (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government)
- Sharon Wroot (North East Lincolnshire Council)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from ABP, Louise Brennan, Ruth Carver, Jonathan Evison, Julian Free, Lord Lamont, Professor Petley, David Talbot, Emma Toulson and Rob Walsh.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest from any Board member in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

3. Plan for Neighbourhoods

The board received an update from representatives of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on the Plan for Neighbourhoods programme. The requirements for the programme were explained and it was noted that this was separate to the Town Deal, with broad objectives.

The update was followed by a question and answer session, allowing Board members the opportunity to seek further clarification on how funding could be utilized.

The Chair commented on the need to bring employment into the area. He cited trade missions as an example of how this could be progressed and welcomed any advice on how to achieve that. He also raised concerns at the post-16 skills gap. He would be delighted to invite the Deputy Prime Minister to a meeting of this Board to discuss a truly joined up approach to addressing the area's needs, noting that this would involve wider involvement beyond just the MHCLG.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

4. Governance and Board Membership

The board received an update on the governance review previously agreed as a result of the Long Term Plan for Towns.

Ms Wroot noted that the Plan for Neighbourhoods represented a good opportunity to conduct a thorough review of the Board's membership to ensure it had appropriate representation.

The board agreed that it was important to review its membership and suggested that there needed to be more local representation, particularly from the business and community sectors.

RESOLVED – That views and suggestions be sought from Greater Grimsby Board members with regard to good governance and Board membership, with a further update submitted to the next meeting of this Board.

5. Plans for Neighbourhoods Sub Group Feedback

The board received feedback from the Plan for Neighbourhoods Sub Group, including a proposal to continue the work started as part of the "Our Future" Grimsby Together project. This would involve continuing to develop the mission themes that were identified as part of the original engagement exercise in 2024.

The board emphasized the need for meaningful engagement. The Chair commented on the importance of the Board receiving structured feedback and suggested that this form part of the Board's governance review.

RESOLVED – That the "Our Future" proposal to continue the work started as part of the Grimsby Together project, to include the development of the Grimsby Neighbourhood Regeneration Plan and 4 year Investment Plan required as part of the Plan for Neighbourhoods programme, be supported, with a further update on progress provided at the next Board meeting.

6. Update on Major Projects

The board received an update on the key town centre projects ahead of a town centre walkabout for board members.

The Chair welcomed the progress that was being made but raised concerns that extensive parts of the town were run down and in need of investment.

Plans to refresh the Grimsby Masterplan were noted. Resource and capacity issues were acknowledged, and it was felt that there needed to be a focus on encouraging private sector investment in the area.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12.09 p.m.