

Lincoln Town Board 8th September 2023 : Item 4

Lincoln Town Deal Programme Progress at August 2023

1.0 The following three Projects are now complete at a total cost of £3.7M, of which £2.35M is Town Fund supported;

- Hospitality, Events, Arts and Tourism (HEAT) Institute – The creation of a new ‘working restaurant’ facility at the Old Bakery, Burton Road and refurbished facilities at Sessions House at the Lincoln college campus are now complete and being used for student training.
- The Drill – the refurbishment and rebranding of the Drill Hall as a cultural event venue, bar and café was the first project to be completed and has been open for over two years. The Drill has performed well in terms of increasing ticket sales. The first cohort of Performing Arts students based at the Drill will start in September 2023, although, students have been benefitting from the Drill through for end of year performances and work experience since opening.
- The Store of Stories – the refurbishment of Beaumont Manor a grade 2 listed building, was completed at the beginning of last year and opened as a membership Community Grocery Store which provides low cost locally supplied waste and surplus food and other essential items, alongside a programme of advice, support and training, volunteering, and work placements opportunities to it’s members. This Project continues to report ongoing.

2.0 The following projects, with a total value of £16.13M and town Deal support to the value of £8.439M are now in delivery and due to be completed within the next twelve months.

- Lincoln Central market – the refurbishment of the market is almost complete and due to be opened this autumn. A new restaurant has been built as part of the refurbished scheme and Turtle Bay will be opening there this September.
- Lincoln City Football Club Community Hub – The creation of a new Community facility that will be managed by Lincoln City Foundation, a registered charity dedicated to creating healthier, happier and inspired communities. the work has now started on site and due to be completed by next summer.

- Barbican – the refurbishment of a grade 2 Listed Building for use as a creative Hub, which will provide floorspace and a platform for the establishment of start-up and fledgling businesses within the creative sector, in an environment where occupiers can access knowledge, skills and markets within a cluster of like-minded businesses. Refurbishment is due to start this Autumn and be completed next summer.

3.0 Two other projects that are also now in delivery, with a total value of £4.23M and town Deal support to the value of £2.77M are;

- Lincoln Be Smarter – A Business grant scheme aimed at supporting Businesses to invest in digitalisation that enables growth. This project will run until the end of the Programme (March 2026).
- Lincoln Connected – A Project aimed at improving digital access for visitors to the City. Proposals include the provision of a new website, management and wayfinding system along with an annual programme of art and cultural events that provide unique visitor experiences and make Lincoln a more attractive place to visit. The cultural events will start this year as an addition to the existing Frequency Festival in October and be run each year until the end of the Programme. The new Visit Lincoln website is due to be launched next year.

4.0 Other Projects still in the pre delivery stage include;

- Greyfriars – This is the refurbishment and reuse of an internationally important, listed building and scheduled monument dating from the 13th century for use as a heritage attraction with a mix of a digital and tactile, immersive interpretation scheme, temporary exhibitions, events, conferencing and educational activities. The works are due to go out to tender in September 2023 with tendered costs secured by the end of October and a start on site planned for February 2024. Construction works are due to be completed by February 2025 with the building open to the public by the end of April 2025.
- LSIP – the Creation of a Business café Hub within the Lincoln Science and Innovation Park to facilitate Business networking, clustering and collaboration. Architects have been appointed and are working up design work for the Hub, alongside the Quantity Surveyor to establish a final cost of the scheme. A revised programme is being prepared but it is envisaged that the project could be on site in early 2024/25 with a six month build period expected.
- Tentercroft Street – a feasibility study into the development of a Brownfield site to identify investment opportunities and delivery options. Work on the study is currently being scoped.

5.0 The Wigford Way and Sincil Bank Lincolnshire County Council led projects have been rescoped and re- costed and will be discussed as separate reports on the agenda.

6.0 Summary

With the exception of those projects currently being rescoped and assessed all Projects are currently progressing well to programme and delivery. All projects are expected to be completed within budget by 2026.

7.0 Recommendation

That the progress report be noted