

Coatbridge Neighbourhood Board Meeting Notes
Coatbridge Summerlee Museum
Monday 6th of October 2025

Attendees: Gavin Whitefield, Christopher Moore, Frank McNally MP, David Woods, Willie McBride, Liz McCutcheon, Cllr. Allan Stubbs (virtual), Fulton McGregor MSP (virtual), David Connor (Police Substitute – Virtual).

Apologies: Gwen McIntyre and Cllr Geradine Woods.

Observers: Pamela Humphries, Kirsty Gray, Mark Hynds and Jonathan MacVicar (all North Lanarkshire Council) and Amy Reynolds (Invited on behalf of CLD – North Lanarkshire Council)

Item	Summary	Actions
1	Introduction and Welcome GW welcomed everyone to the meeting, David Connor was attending in place of Lesley-Anne Docherty, moving forward he will be attending on her behalf.	All Points Noted
2	Minutes of Last Meeting/ Issues arising No issues regarding the previous minutes were raised.	All Points Noted
3	Coatbridge Event Update JM informed the board that the Christmas event has been scheduled for Saturday 29 th of November 2025 with JM acting as the main lead on all tasks involved. All board members are formally invited and have been provided a slot on the main stage to present the progress and work completed to date on the overall project. This will raise awareness of the board and the Coatbridge Plan for Neighbourhoods programme. GW has been asked (and accepted) to turn on the Christmas lights during the countdown. The event programme is: 11am - Children's activities 1pm - M&Ds, Fun Stalls and Santa's grotto open 2pm - Heart Radio on the main stage with local entertainment 5pm - Christmas lights switched on by GW Event finishes. Throughout the event there will be opportunities to win big prizes which includes MnDs Christmas circus tickets, Time capsule tickets and potential Cumbernauld Theatre tickets.	All Points Noted

	Consultation will be a focus throughout the event (managed by NLC) with a marquee erected to retrieve feedback on the communities' opinions, focusing on the Main Street. DW asked if any marketing can be passed across to board members to share amongst their networks. JM agreed this would be beneficial to spread the word and will inform board members of any communications planned by Corporate Communications (NLC). Local Businesses will also be advised of the event ahead of the date. CM highlighted that the college are hosting their graduation ceremonies on the same day which meant a collaboration could not be planned, however, signposting and advertisements will be displayed throughout to help direct graduates and families to the event post-ceremony. The board highlighted potential methods to collaborate with local businesses. JM informed them that momentum is building towards reestablishment of the retailer's sub-group with various businesses keen to be involved in the event and overall project moving forward. DRAFT site plans were displayed on screen to provide a visual layout. It was recommended that the Coatbridge Neighbourhood Board: 1) Note the plan to hold a Christmas Event on Main Street on Saturday 29th November and the details of the event as outlined within this report; and 2) Support the event delivery via attendance on the day and promotion of the event locally. The Neighbourhood Board confirmed their support for the event.	Action – NLC (JM)
4	Progress Update Report KG presented a progress update on delivery of the Capacity Funding budget and highlighted planned activity over upcoming months. Key points of note were highlighted from the full detail provided within the report and associated Appendix 1. The main areas of focus progressed following the last meeting in August were highlighted, as follows: • Conclusion of the Coatbridge Community Empowerment Fund (micro-fund) • Business engagement events • Progressing plans for a Christmas Event on Main Street; • Developing a Youth Engagement strategy proposal with the council's Community Learning and Development Service; and • procurement of feasibility study work for improving links between key assets and planned stakeholder engagement and online public consultation.	All Points Noted

	Councillor Stubbs asked if links to Drumpellier Park would be considered as part of the planned feasibility study and options appraisal commission. KG confirmed that this is part of the wider commission scope, which is being taken forward by NLC Infrastructure and Transportation. Priorities for the upcoming period were noted as including developing a school engagement project with a clean-up focus of Main Street, with a target for delivering a 'spring clean' event in March; progressing feasibility study and stakeholder engagement work and continuing to work with other council services on business and youth engagement. A finance update was also provided, with key points highlighted as follows: • Spend of £59,855 has been achieved to date in 2025/26 • It is projected that further expenditure of c£160,000 will be committed and realised over the coming months It was recommended that the Coatbridge Neighbourhood Board note the progress update and finance updates presented within the report.	
5	Regeneration Plan Consultation Survey Report MH presented a report detailing the outcomes of a public consultation survey on the Coatbridge Regeneration Plan vision, priority outcomes and emerging investment plan projects. The consultation ran during Summer 2025 and was promoted via the My Coatbridge Facebook page as well as the use of consultation banners and QR codes which were placed in various venues across Coatbridge's communities. There were over 1,400 surveys returned. MH explained that this was a strong response based on experience of conducting surveys across North Lanarkshire. Survey findings were positive, showing strong support for the three local priority themes identified within the Coatbridge Regeneration Plan and associated initial 4-Year Investment Plan. The vast majority of comments received related to Main Street, showing the strong sense of feeling residents have for investment within the town centre. CM asked if there were any surprise findings arising from the consultation. MH explained that consultation findings further supported the engagement conducted during 2024 and should give the Board confidence that the draft Regeneration Plan and Investment Plan are focusing on local priorities. It was recommended that the Coatbridge Neighbourhood Board note the content of the report including the summary of recent consultation activity which shows strong support for the three identified Coatbridge	All Points Noted

	Regeneration Plan priorities and emerging projects within the first Investment Plan covering the period 2026/27-2029/30.	
6	Regeneration Plan and Investment Plan KG presented a report seeking approval from the Coatbridge Neighbourhood Board of the final draft Coatbridge Regeneration Plan, including updated vision statement in response to comments received, and final draft 4-year Investment Plan, for submission to the UK Government by the deadline of 28 November 2025. The importance of the board's approval for meeting this key milestone was stressed, in order to achieve approval from the UK Government of the Regeneration Plan. This will unlock the first tranche of capital and revenue delivery funding of £6.6M from April 2026. The report provided detail on the updated Vision Statement, taking into account feedback received from the board at the last board meeting and a recap on the Priority Outcomes for the Regeneration Plan. In advance of the meeting, the full final draft Coatbridge Regeneration Plan and executive summary were circulated to board members for review, along with a summary of the 4-year Investment Plan as appended to the report. An expanded version of the 4-year Investment Plan was also provided to board members at the meeting for review. A discussion was held on the final draft Regeneration Plan and 4-year Investment Plan with the following points raised:	All Points Noted

	that will be delivered. Information on the timescale and budget required to deliver the programme was also provided. The report sought approval from the Neighbourhood Board for support of the proposal from the Capacity Funding budget over financial year 2025/26 and 2026/27. Allocation of capacity funding to this project will enable the engagement of young people and families across Coatbridge and provide an opportunity to carry out targeted engagement with young people to establish their priorities for emerging projects within the first 4-year Investment Plan. This includes local parks and greenspaces and Main Street. A discussion was held on the report with a number of board members contributing with questions. • AR clarified that a youth worker approach to engaging with hard to reach groups was proposed, including targeted approaches for different groups including tailoring times of engagement that suit the group. • DW recommended having a representative from the community and voluntary sectors on the proposed steering group for the project. CM also advised that the college would also be interested in having a representative on the group. • WM highlighted that existing third sector groups could add value to the project as partners • CM asked whether skills development could be added to the proposal and advised that the college could provide information on skills gaps and opportunities (for example, there is significant interest in music development, but the college don't have suitable space available to accommodate this. Sport and graphic art are other areas of opportunity). CM asked if recruitment opportunities for the practitioners could be extended to the college. DW also asked whether the recruitment opportunity could be extended to the third sector network. It was recommended within the report presented that the Coatbridge Neighbourhood Board: • Approve the allocation of £70,000 of the Capacity Funding budget over 2025/26 and 2026/27 to delivery of the youth engagement strategy proposal for the Coatbridge Plan for Neighbourhoods Programme by the council's Education and Families Service. The approval sought was confirmed by the Neighbourhood Board.	Action – NLC (AR) Action – NLC (AR)
8.	AOCB GW informed the board that the two civil servants assigned to support Coatbridge Neighbourhood Board with the Plan for Neighbourhoods project are set to attend the next scheduled board meeting and highlighted the importance to attend. Date of next Meeting – Friday 5th of December 10:00 – 12:00	Noted

