

**Barry Partnership Meeting
Minutes
31st January 2025
YMCA, Barry**

1. Approval of Previous Meeting Notes:

- Notes of previous meeting were approved.

2. Funding & Government Updates:

- **LTT Programme Briefing:** WLGA & UK government briefed 5 Welsh towns. No significant changes: £20m funding (75% revenue, 25% capital), community led. Boundaries and guidance may change.
- **New Themes:** Thriving places & public services, cohesive communities, empowered people. Subject to change.
- **Barry Town Partnership Input:** "People feel empowered to take part in their community" integrated into UK briefing. Progress in English towns noted as a learning opportunity.
- **Funding Breakdown:**
 - £8,000 remaining from initial £50,000.
 - £200,000 in reserve; another £200,000 expected in April.
 - Transforming Towns: £1m loan returned; Council able to reissue recyclable loans.
 - SPF Transition Year: £4.5m (40% reduction based on year 3 budget). Potential to continue projects underway and support some new ones but budgets will be under pressure.
- **Prospectus:** Full prospectus to be published in a few weeks. Core focus remains on local empowerment and building on previous work.
- **Financial Reporting:** DS suggested including financial updates in future meetings. PC to provide a status tracker.
- **Resourcing:** DS proposed hiring for the partnership. PC confirmed interviews for an officer role are underway, with governance based on the EU Rural funding programme.

3. Placemaking Plan:

- **Overview:** VoG presentation on emerging placemaking plan themes. MV highlighted a holistic approach to regeneration, informed by previous strategies (Long Term Plan, Barry Making Waves).
- **Public Consultations:** Ongoing community mapping and consultations to refine the draft vision. Focus on unifying around a single vision rather than multiple goals.
- **Emerging Priorities:**
 - Refocus the centre: Expand town hall and library offer, cultural regeneration.
 - Revitalise Barry Island: Noted that feasibility study for athletic club underway funded via SPF.
 - Integrating communities: Focus on eastern Barry to improve resident outcomes.
- **Next Steps:** MV offered to present detailed proposals at the next meeting. PC noted ongoing consultations and the need for clear communication between LTT and placemaking efforts.

4. Strategy:

- **Funding:** £400,000 available for flexible use (e.g., challenge fund, staff, testing interventions). Available for the Partnership to use in 24/25 to commence the capacity building work they had planned to do.

- **Themes:** Focus on addressing fundamental issues. DS suggested a more prescriptive approach to aims.

5. Communications & Getting Started:

- **Pilot Projects:** DS proposed starting with smaller projects (£10k-50k) with co-funding and partnerships to build momentum.
- **Subgroup Integration:** SH expressed concern about subgroup themes considering the change in focus around the programme.
- **Youth Engagement:** LS suggested piloting studies to integrate youth concerns into future proposals.
- **Safety & Security:** MA proposed sports and arts interventions to address youth disengagement.
- **Skills Development:** DS highlighted the need for apprenticeship pathways and improving GCSE English & maths outcomes. MG and RT suggested leveraging existing college and school connections.
- **Culture:** SH proposed cultural music and performance initiatives, supported by DS.
- **Long-Term Vision:** KN emphasized the need for clarity on lasting impacts, focusing on economic health and innovation.

6. Future Meetings:

- Proposed dates: 21st March (3:30-5pm), May (tbc), and July (tbc). PC to circulate confirmed dates.

7. AOB:

- **Safety Subcommittee:** MA raised concerns about conflicts of interest and suggested appointing a deputy. Focus on capital projects like CCTV and designing out crime.
- **Evidence-Based Interventions:** MA and MV stressed the importance of leveraging existing evidence and academic partnerships.
- **Governance:** PC noted lessons from Cowbridge interventions could inform the work of the partnership to bring together businesses.
- **Evaluation:** PC suggested moving away from blunt high street metrics such as vacancy rates, with MG recommending benchmarking against other town centres.