



Halifax Town Development Board Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held 15 July 2025

Meeting held at Halifax Town Hall



Attendees

Councillor Tim Swift (chair)
Councillor Joe Thompson
Councillor Sarah Courtney
Councillor Howard Blagbrough
Councillor Colin Hutchinson
Lee Kenny
Jason Gregg
Natalie Shaw

Others in attendance

Kate McNicholas
Rob Shipway
Rachel Conway
Tom Jones
Zakariya Ali
Helen O'Curry
John Willerton
Caleb Jones
Rhian Davitt Jones

1. Introductions and apologies

Apologies were received from Rev. Hilary Barber and Nicky Chance Thompson.

a. Declarations of quorum

The meeting was declared quorate.

b. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes and actions from previous meeting

The previous meeting minutes were approved as a true record.

a. Matters arising

The actions from the previous meeting have been completed.

3. Wayfinding Strategy

Tom Jones, Transport Planner at Calderdale Council, presented on the objectives and plans to develop a Wayfinding Strategy for Calderdale. The strategy will support navigation across the borough, with Halifax and Brighouse as pilot areas.

Wayfinding was defined as the process of helping people find their way to a destination, and the strategy involves decisions about where to place signs and what information they should include.

A variety of signage types, including fingerposts, road markings, totems, map-based signs, route diagrams, route confirmation signs, and amenity panels are being considered, with durability and maintenance key considerations.

In Halifax, auditing work has already been completed, and some maps and signage are in place through the Business Improvement District (BID).

Cllr CH asked about accessibility, particularly for people who are visually impaired or use wheelchairs, Tom confirmed the strategy will consult with disability representatives. He acknowledged the issue of clutter and explained that a selective approach is being taken to ensure signage is placed appropriately, in collaboration with colleagues managing assets.

Cllr HB flagged the importance of navigation from the railway station. Cllr TS pointed out the high cost of cast iron signage, especially when updates are required. LK mentioned that the strategy should align with upcoming parking developments and be designed to be future-proof. Cllr JT emphasised the importance of including Dean Clough in the strategy, particularly in relation to art installations and key entry points.

Action: Tom will return to the Board in the autumn to present a further update.

3. Halifax Place Vision

Caleb Jones from Planit provided a presentation on progress with the Halifax Vision to Board members. Board members took part in a workshop to inform the prioritisation of themes and emerging proposals.

Further work on the Halifax Vision will be progressed and a final draft brought to the next meeting of the town board.

4. AOB

None.

5. Date of the next meeting

21 October 2025, Location TBC.