



Midsomer Norton High Street Renewal Steering Group

Town Hall, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2HQ

www.yourmidsomernorton.co.uk

Metro Mayor Dan Norris
West of England Combined Authority
70 Redcliff Street, Bristol, BS1 6AL.

Date: 18th January 2024

Dear Dan,

Re: Letter of Support for West of England Combined Authority Change Request for Scheme grant uplift for Midsomer Norton Market Square (26th Jan 2024).

I am writing to express my support for the above funding decision ahead of the 26th of January 2024 WECA Joint Committee in my capacity as chair of the Midsomer Norton High Street Steering Group.

The creation of a new Market Square in Midsomer Norton Town Centre has been a long-standing ambition for the town and its community, and with a positive funding decision we can finally see this realised. The project will support our ambitions for the return of markets to Midsomer Norton which has hosted regular markets since the 13th Century.

The investment follows the transformational change being delivered in the 1860s Grade II listed now community owned Town Hall, which adjoins the market square, with works on-site, the two projects are linked. We are grateful also for the support that the Combined Authority has provided to support the delivery of this important community project.

The High Street Renewal Steering Group, which I am the chair of has been closely engaged in the co-design of the new Market Square over the last 3 years, and we are really keen to see this happen. We have seen through the engagement activities that this is a scheme supported by the community.

Midsomer Norton Town Centre has lacked investment in recent years and has become a Conservation Area at risk due to the poor quality of its public realm and unsympathetic changes to historic buildings. This project offers a real chance to turn this around and rebuild confidence in our amazing town.

We hope you will support this proposed Change Request to release this extra funding for Midsomer Norton Town Centre.

Yours sincerely,
On behalf of members of the High Street Renewal Steering Group,

Councillor Shaun Hughes,
Chair of Midsomer Norton High Street Renewal Steering Group

