

Town Deal Board

Tuesday 27th October 2020
3pm



Online- Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: Alby Pattison, AP Services (North East) Limited (Chair) (AB)
Adam Suleiman, BEIS (AS)
Adrian Coates, BEIS (AC)
Alison Fellows, Tees Valley Combined Authority (AF)
Alison Powell, Arcadis (AP)
Beverley Bearne, Hartlepool Borough Council (BB)
Brandon Fey, Arcadis (BF)
David Tuck, Genecon (DT)
Cllr Christopher Akers-Belcher, Hartlepool Borough Council (CAB)
Cllr Mike Young, Hartlepool Borough Council (MY)
Cllr Shane Moore, Hartlepool Borough Council (SM)
Darren Hankey, Hartlepool College of Further Education (DH)
Denise McGuckin, Hartlepool Borough Council (DMc)
Gary Wright, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust (GW)
Ken Coupar, Genecon (KC)
Lee Rust, Hartlepool United Football Club (LR)
Martin Jesper, Hartlepool United Football Club (MG)
Martin Raby, Northern School of Art (MR)
Maxine Craig, Love Hartlepool (MC)
Mike Hill (MP) (MH)
Rob Smith, Hartlepool Borough Council (RS)
Janet Skelton, Hartlepool Borough Council (JS)

Copy of paperwork to Marie Kiddle, Homes England for information

NO	DETAIL	ACTION
1.	<u>WELCOME</u> The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed new attendees Lee Rust, Hartlepool United Football Club and Bev Bearne, Hartlepool Borough Council to the meeting.	
2.	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Julie Gillon, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust Ros Adamson, National Museum of the Royal Navy (Hartlepool)	
3.	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> It is important that declarations of interest are declared against each agenda item and submitted to RS soon as possible. Darren Hankey recorded an interest in the Health and Care Centre of Excellence and Tees Valley Civil Engineering Institute.	ALL

NO	DETAIL	ACTION
	Garry Wright recorded an interest in the Health and Care Centre of Excellence.	
4.	<p><u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – 23rd JULY 2020</u></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by the Board as a true and accurate record.</p> <p><u>Previous Actions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Conduct and Register of Interest –The Register of Interest has been published on the Hartlepool Towns Fund website. The signed Code of Conduct and Register of Interest is required from Stephen Hind. • Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Strategy – The plan for the next phase of engagement is to be finalised. This will be covered later in the agenda. The Council’s PR Team will be involved in producing a video once the communications strategy has been agreed. • Personal Profiles for the Website- A short biography and photograph are required from Catherine Conroy, Stephen Hind and Craig Dohring. • Good Governance Tool toolkit – Comments were received on how to improve future Board meetings. These have been reviewed by the Chair and will influence future board meetings. Suggestions on how future meetings can be improved are welcomed. This will remain as an open action. The Chair indicated that Teams meetings are not ideal but are the best option that we have given the current pandemic. • Privacy Notice for the Register of Interests – This was circulated following the previous board meeting to comply with GDPR regulations. • Towns Fund Delivery Partner – A Check and Challenge session has been booked for the 10th November where the draft Investment Plan will be scrutinised. Members to take part in due course. • £1m Town Deal Accelerated Funding has been approved. Further details to be provided in Any Other Business. 	<p style="text-align: center;">SH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CD/CC/S H</p>

NO	DETAIL	ACTION
5.	<p><u>ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR</u></p> <p>A new Vice Chair is required as Gill Danby resigned from the Board in advance of the meeting due to personal reasons.</p> <p>The Chair recognised the contribution and expertise that Gill brought to the Board. The Board recorded their appreciation and wished Gill well for the future.</p> <p>Nominations for the role of Vice Chair were sought in advance of the meeting. Darren Hankey indicated that he wished to be considered for the role. Further nominations were requested at the meeting, however none were received.</p> <p>Darren Hankey was appointed as Vice Chair by the Board with no objections.</p>	
6.	<p><u>INVESTMENT PLAN SUBMISSION DATE</u></p> <p>In consultation with Chair, the decision was made to delay the submission of the Investment Plan into Cohort 3 with a deadline of the 29th January 2021.</p> <p>Following a review of the programme it was considered that additional time was required to develop the Investment Plan and ensure that the Board has sufficient opportunity to input and help shape the detail of the plan.</p> <p>Further time is also required to review the project prioritisation based upon the latest information relating to cost and deliverability. Additional time is also required to complete a meaningful public engagement exercise to evidence public support for the proposals and the required level of buy-in.</p> <p>The Government has provided assurances that delaying the submission of the Investment Plan will not be detrimental to the outcome as the robustness of the Investment Plan is the most important consideration.</p> <p>Delaying the submission will also provide more time to learn the lessons from Cohort 1 and to consider the feedback from the Check and Challenge session with the Town Deal Partner.</p> <p>A new Cohort 2a has been announced with a deadline of 11th December 2020. After careful deliberation Cohort 3, with a deadline of 29th January 2021 was determined to be the most suitable given the work that's still required.</p>	
7.	<p><u>TOWN INVESTMENT PLAN- DRAFT</u></p> <p>Part 1 of the Draft Town Investment Plan was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p>	All

NO	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>decisions need to be made to prioritise further and provide a clear steer on which projects from the shortlist list will form part of the Town Investment Plan.</p> <p>If a project isn't prioritised that doesn't mean that it's not important. Projects could still form part of the Masterplan and be part of future funding bids. It means that they will not be included within the current submission to Government.</p> <p>The Project Prioritisation Workshop took place in August to shortlist the long list of projects to those to be prioritised. It was concluded that the £25m investment fund would not be sufficient to fund the identified projects.</p> <p>The details of the priority projects were presented along with an analysis of how various packages of projects could look for consideration and discussion. The final package of projects needs to be determined as soon as possible to allow the continued development of the Town Investment Plan.</p> <p>The projects that were discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reimagining Middleton Grange Shopping Centre- Developing new Heart of Hartlepool with the potential to deliver transformative investment within the town centre. • Waterfront to Heart Connections- Connect new Heart of Hartlepool to Waterfront through a new walking and cycle bridge. • Waterfront Connections - High quality circuit around the Marina to provide easy and attractive ways for groups to move between Heart and Waterfront, including Council's new leisure centre and events space. • Church Street Property Strategy - Strategic acquisition of landmark buildings in Church Street area, and look to continue the high quality public realm the Council has delivered in Church Street into other streets. • Health Care Academy - Proposed skills capital projects. Health and Care Centre of Excellence. New NHS training facility. Provision of state of art equipment and training • Civil Engineering Institute –Skills Capital Project to expand the capacity of 5G training. • Wesley Chapel Hotel - Working with the landowner/ developer of Wesley Chapel to secure restoration of grade 2 listed building. • Borough Hall – Part of a wider heritage and culture programme. Project looking to enhance and revitalise the activity and usage of the Borough Hall to create a premier cultural events venue. • Hartlepool United Football Club (HUFC)– Currently in the process of developing their future investment plans. <p>HUFC proposal might be developed through alternative funding routes.</p>	

NO	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>At present the total package of projects would be worth over £40m but only £25m is available. The board must look at projects which are the most deliverable and projects which deliver most impact against the Towns Fund objectives.</p>	
	<p><u>Questions Raised</u></p> <p>CAB – Noted that he was absent from the previous board meeting, however questioned the inclusion of the Church Street Property Strategy, Wesley and Borough Hall as priorities as he understood that Re-imagining Middleton Grange and Waterfront connectivity were the priorities in line with his understanding of the Workshop at the Borough Hall in August. CAB raised a concern that he feels that a different list of priorities is being presented and that further discussions should have been held in advance if this is the case.</p> <p>It was clarified that the list of priorities presented at today’s meeting is the same as those agreed at the workshop at the Borough Hall. The Wesley Chapel Hotel and Borough Hall were in list of 9 agreed but lower on the list of priorities. The list was discussed at the September Board meeting.</p> <p>It was outlined that the projects being presented to the Board today were always there and are potential options for discussion. They have been proposed from a variety of sources including Stakeholders and the Masterplan. The Wesley Chapel was proposed by a stakeholder so must be considered. The Culture and Heritage Programme was proposed by the Council.</p> <p>DT explained that everything has been fully communicated and presented to the Board through meetings and the emphasis has been on a transparent and open process. The aim has always been to undertake further prioritisation now that further information on costs and deliverability has been developed for the previously shortlisted projects.</p> <p>MC stated that there had been a robust and transparent governance process and it was always understood that there would be a need for further prioritisation based on cost, deliverability and risk when the information was available. The prioritisation list was correct and aligned with the minutes of the previous meeting.</p> <p>MR expressed concern that there is a lot of information on screen and that this should have been sent out in advance to help inform the discussions and decision making.</p> <p>MR expressed a strong concern that any option that does not result in the full completion of the Re-imagining Middleton Grange Shopping Centre project risks undermining public confidence in the scheme and the ability to achieve buy-in from the public. This could undermine the work of the board</p>	

NO	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>and the ability to take the town along with us. These concerns need to be considered before any decision is made.</p> <p>MH – The Health and Care Centre of Excellence must be included to develop the required level of skills and jobs for the town and to enhance Hartlepool’s reputation on a national basis. The Health and Care Centre of Excellence and Civil Engineering Academy score well in terms of deliverability. The Masterplan must include the area around Wesley as this is a key priority for the regeneration of the Town Centre. The Railway Bridge should be excluded given the work of the Combined Authority and Network Rail. The priority should be to influence the existing proposals and develop a Northern entrance and we can look at other funding strategies once the feasibility work has been completed.</p> <p>SM- The focus should be on transformational projects. The Church Street property strategy is not transformational and does not represent value for money. The Waterfront Connectivity project needs to improve the vital connection linking the bandstand area via Slake Terrace as there is currently a missing link.</p> <p>DMc –Opening the railway station second platform is a TVCA priority programme. There are other funding strategies that are better suited. There is quite a lot of work to go through to get scheme up and running and the feasibility work has only just started.</p> <p>MH- Blackpool has been announced as one of the winners and received £41m. Is there is an option to ask for more money? Other Authorities have asked for more but not all have been successful. If the board collectively decide to be more ambitious other options could be considered.</p> <p>The Board discussed whether the package of projects included within the Investment Plan should be greater than £25m. There is additional scrutiny and risk if the programme is over £25m.</p> <p>Bids above £25m are invited but are only likely to succeed if they can demonstrate an impact on a regional and national scale. The Board runs the risk of losing credibility of a strong package to a wish list.</p> <p>It was decided that the package of projects should not go over £25m given the extra scrutiny that would be required and the lack of regional and national impact.</p> <p>Four scenarios (Options A – D) were presented with a range of projects and costs- Need to look at how they fit the criteria set out for town deal submission. Also need to look at what they bring in terms of benefits to the town. The Board can mix and match between all of these. They are examples rather than options for choice.</p>	<p>RS</p>

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	<p>DMc –The discussions at Borough Hall have been articulated. There are schemes to be ruled out for Town Deal purposes at this stage but these can be included in Masterplan which is a long term investment plan.</p> <p>Need to look at projects that can be scaled up or down. Can we take deliverable components and put them in a package?</p> <p>Presentation to be circulated to the board immediately following the meeting.</p> <p>Feedback on preferred package of projects taking into consideration the Town Deal guidance. Deadline 3rd November.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>MASTERPLAN UPDATE INCLUDING ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY</u></p> <p>The Masterplan is creating a vision for Hartlepool, with a leisure and living, people, place, buildings and economy focus. Need to ensure that children, young professionals and teenagers are not forgotten.</p> <p>Masterplan Development - The phasing and narrative of Re-imagining Middleton Grange is being reviewed and the WAVE of Regeneration concept is being developed.</p> <p>Ongoing Engagement Activities – The Stakeholder Engagement Plan will form part of the Town Investment Plan. An engagement and communications plan must evidence activity beyond the submission of the Town Investment Plan.</p> <p>The key findings of the engagement work to date have been collated. The evidence base includes the results from surveys and consultations including the Council’s Leisure Services survey, Council Plan survey and Covid Economic Recovery Programme. This has provided additional evidence to support the Town Investment Plan.</p> <p>The next stage involves the validation of the priorities included within the Town Investment Plan and feeding back the results from the first round of activity. The message needs to emphasise the benefits and outcomes of the Town Investment Plan.</p> <p>Volunteers were sought for a for sub group to develop the ongoing engagement strategy and to look at ways of involving the Board’s networks.</p> <p>The sub group will develop a communications strategy and potential virtual exhibition. Will see whether it’s possible to erect physical boards around Middleton Grange Shopping Centre depending on restrictions at the time.</p>	<p>ALL</p>

NO	DETAIL	ACTION
	MC and AP volunteered to be part of the sub group.	MC/AP
10.	<p><u>TIMESCALES AND NEXT STEPS</u></p> <p>The detailed programme will be reviewed in response to the outcome from today's board meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10th November - Check and Challenge session • November – Engagement Sub-Group – will feed back to the Board • November/December – Community Engagement- Dates to be finalised • January 2021 - Town Investment Plan submission 	RS/AP
11.	<p><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></p> <p>Need to define list prior to meeting on 23rd November. What will £25m package look like based on the information presented? Part 1 is written around that. Needs to be agreed within the next week. Do we set up Task and Finish Group or take comments from Board?</p> <p>Consensus was building for Option D; Health and Care Academy, Tees Valley Civil Engineering Institute, Waterfront Connections (circuit) and re-imagining Middleton Grange (taking out Borough Hall) as the preferred option.</p> <p>A note is to be circulated on Option D to show how this can be articulated within the TIP. RS to liaise with BB and DT.</p> <p>Concerns were raised that £25m is not a substantial amount and there is a danger of spreading the funding too thinly. It could look like we have only done part of a job and could lose the trust of the people of the town. Need to develop a PR exercise which tells how Town Investment Plan and Masterplan evolved and to articulate to the people of Hartlepool how the two are linked. Do not want it to become a "white elephant".</p> <p>RS to circulate the online message chat from the meeting.</p> <p>A Town Deal Board Chair's meeting is taking place with other Authorities including Bishop Auckland and Blyth. AP will be attending Feedback will be provided following the meeting.</p> <p>Information on the lessons learned Cohort 1 was circulated in advance of the meeting and has some important considerations.</p>	<p>RS/BB/D T</p> <p>RS</p> <p>AP</p>

NO	DETAIL	ACTION
	£1m Accelerated funding for 15 Church Street and Shades has now been approved and needs to be spent by the end of this financial year. Project teams are being established to advance the projects.	
12.	<p><u>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>Week commencing 23rd November to be confirmed.</p>	RS

RS1.