

A Town Deal for Birkenhead

Minutes

Tuesday 14th July 2020 at 2pm

Online meeting via Teams

REFERENCE	ITEM	
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>The Chair welcomed the Board and visitors (attendance sheet attached)</p> <p>Apologies were received from Richard Mawdsley (Peel Land & Property), Angela Simpson (University of Chester), Frank Rogers (Combined Authority), Julie Webster (Wirral CCG) and Nigel Hughes (YMCA)</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Members of the Board were asked to complete and return the form if they had not yet done so. Declarations of interest will be made at the start of each meeting on an ongoing basis.</p> <p><i>ACTION: Board Members to forward outstanding Declarations of Interest to KP.</i> <i>ACTION: KP to provide Board members with form upon request.</i></p>	All KP
3	<p>Meeting Minutes</p> <p>The Board approved previous minutes of 12th March 2020.</p>	
4	<p>Terms of Reference</p> <p>The Board approved the revised Terms of Reference, amended to include the substitution of members. Should a Board Member not be able to attend the meeting then a deputy, with authority to vote, can attend as a substitution.</p>	
5	<p>Appointment of Chair</p> <p>The Board heard that a number of expressions of interest had been received for the role of Chair.</p> <p>The sub-group had convened to review the applications and made a recommendation of Leigh-Anne Stradeski to be appointed Chair of the Board.</p> <p>The Board approved Leigh-Anne Stradeski as Chair.</p>	
6	<p>Towns Fund update</p> <p>The Board received an update regarding new guidance and programme of support.</p> <p>The Board noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Capital Revenue split is to be 90% Capital and 10% Revenue, with revenue need fully evidenced.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In exceptional circumstances, towns may bid for more than £25million. Bids over £25million will be subject to further scrutiny. • The bid must evidence exploration of various investment opportunities. • The bid submission dates are July, October and January. <p>AE provided further clarity that proposals are to build on one clear vision, referencing the COVID Economic Recovery response to ensure a focused strategy. The bid will focus on key gateways like town centres and employment areas.</p> <p>Arup have been appointed to provide consultancy support.</p> <p>The Board agreed to aim for a bid submission in October, with the possibility of delaying to January if needed.</p> <p>The Town Fund Accelerated programme. The Town Fund Accelerated programme provides a grant of £1million in advance of the investment plan. The grant must be spent within this financial year. AE suggested to spread this award across multiple projects to ensure spending meets deadline.</p> <p>The Board sought clarification that the £1million is separate to the £25million Town Fund. This was confirmed.</p> <p><i>ACTION –Towns Fund Accelerated Programme summary to be circulated.</i></p>	KP
7	<p>Current regeneration programmes in Birkenhead</p> <p>The Board received a presentation regarding the emerging Birkenhead Regeneration Framework (BRF)</p> <p>The Board noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regeneration programme will focus on reconnecting people to place, place to place and town with the water to reignite pride, ambition and confidence in Birkenhead. • It will build infrastructure to work better for the area, instead of increasing the speed of passing through. This will be a long term framework, that prioritises quality. • Projects include the creation of a Green Corridor, improving waterfront public realm, creation of attractive family housing, Birkenhead gateway/landing, Hind St low-carbon improvements and an East/West cultural axis to increase connectivity. • Appropriate communication will be needed with the local community to encourage engagement. • An online consultation portal will feature an overview of each site. All members will have access and ability to input. This will open within the next 2-3 weeks and remain open for at least 6 weeks. <p><i>ACTION - JB to share presentation with the board.</i></p>	

	<p>The Board received a presentation regarding the Future High Streets Fund.</p> <p>The Board noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The £25million FHSF bid was submitted 19th June. • It is proposed that Birkenhead Market will undergo a multi-phase relocation. A temporary relocation to Europa Boulevard will take place. • The bid aims to improve pedestrian and cyclist accessibility, including the addition of anti-terror measures at the top of Grange Rd. <p><i>ACTION: Board to email interest in taking part in Task and Finish group to KP.</i></p>	<p>JB</p> <p>All</p>
8	<p>Town Investment work plan</p> <p>The Board received a presentation regarding the Town Investment Work Plan, including the area to be covered by the Town Deal.</p> <p>Suggested Task and Finish groups are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and skills • Economy and enterprise • Connectivity, place and public realm • Health, wellbeing and community • Culture and heritage • Digital and clean energy <p>Approach to conflicts of interest is to be discussed further.</p> <p><i>Action: Further clarification will be sought.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION: Board members to think about which task group they are interested in, as well as potential stakeholders to invite and email KP.</i></p> <p><i>ACTION: KP to email the presentation to the Board</i></p>	<p>KP</p> <p>All</p> <p>KP</p>
9	<p>Consultation and call for projects</p> <p>Approach to communications with stakeholders is to be discussed further.</p> <p><i>Action: A press release will be prepared inviting the local community to share ideas of projects within the 6 thematic areas.</i></p>	<p>KP</p>
10	<p>AOB</p>	
11	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Next meeting to take place via Teams on the 18th August.</p> <p><i>ACTION – KP to email meeting schedule to Board.</i></p>	<p>KP</p>