

## Minutes of the Birkenhead Town Deal Board

10<sup>th</sup> March 2023 10am

On Microsoft Teams

REFERENCE	ITEM	Action
1	<p><b>Welcome and apologies</b> Leigh-Anne Stradeski (LS) as Chair welcomed the Board and visitors.</p> <p>In attendance: Leigh-Anne Stradeski - Eureka! Science &amp; Discovery Paula Basnett - Wirral Chamber of Commerce Richard Mawdsley - Wirral Waters – Peel L&amp;P Louise Healey - DWP Dean Paton – Big Heritage Cllr Pat Cleary - Wirral Council Cllr Tony Jones - Wirral Council Mark Gilbertson – LCR CA Ste Tant – BEIS Mark Hoskisson – on behalf of Mick Whitley MP Sandra Penketh – National Museums Liverpool David Hughes – Wirral Council Damian Cooke – Wirral Council Kate Pierce - Wirral Council Jane Morgan - Wirral Council</p> <p>Apologies received from: Sophie Bevan - LCR CA Liam Kelly – Make CIC Sue Higginson - Wirral Met College Mark Lightburn – Wirral Council Cllr Janette Williamson – Wirral Council Cathy Palmer – Wirral Council</p>	
2	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b> Declaration of interest were recorded from: Leigh-Anne Stradeski (LS) - Eureka! landscaping project Richard Mawdsley (RM) - Sustainability Central Sue Higginson (SH) - Education Engagement Network Project and Eureka! landscaping Paula Basnett (PB)– Egerton House and Woodside Ferry Village</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Any further declarations of interest to be emailed to Kate Pierce (KP)</p>	Board Members
3	<p><b>Meeting Minutes</b> The Board received and approved the minutes of its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022.</p> <p>KP updated the Board on the outcome of the actions completed.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Hughes (Director of Regeneration &amp; Place) was invited to the meeting.</li> <li>• Julie Barnes (Lead commissioner - Strategic Transport) has been invited to next meeting in June.</li> <li>• Minutes of the December meeting were circulated to Paul Satoor and these were noted.</li> <li>• SH to continue to work with council's project lead regarding relocation of the server from Treasury (Hamilton) Building. KP confirmed the issue had been flagged with the council's project lead.</li> <li>• Communication activity had, and continued to, take place. The board were asked to continue to be proactive with communications.</li> <li>• A summary of background information on Town Deal for press statement had been circulated.</li> </ul>	
4	<p><b>Town Deal programme update</b></p> <p>KP reported that the biannual request regard project assurance has been made by DLUHC. The assurance review seeks to establish that the grant is delivered with propriety, regularity and value for money. A 'Statement of Grant Usage' letter is being prepared by S151 officer to confirm that they are of the opinion that the Town Deal grant was being properly administered.</p> <p>KP confirmed that the Performance Report for the period April - September 2022 (submitted December 2022) had passed DLUHCs triage assessment. No further issues had been raised.</p> <p>KP provided a progress update on the Town Deal programme and the projects within it. All projects are on track to be delivered by the deadline of March 2026.</p> <p>8 of the 12 projects has a Grant Funding Agreement/Terms &amp; Conditions in place. Several of the projects have received funding and were in the design or delivery phase.</p> <p>The Board welcomed the news that one of the project lead organisations Open Door (Wellbeing &amp; Opportunity Centre - Joy project) had received a royal visit from HRH the Prince and Princess of Wales. The visit had been a success.</p>	
	<p><b>Regeneration Delivery Programme</b></p> <p>Damian Cooke (DC) gave an update on the Regeneration Portfolio.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The masterplan for the Birkenhead town centre is underway. Delivery of the new offices is ahead of schedule – likely to be completed in August.</li> <li>• Birkenhead Market is at the design stage (RIBA stage 3) and planning should be submitted later in the year</li> <li>• A procurement exercise has begun to secure a developer for the housing sites at House of Fraser and Conway Park (Europa Boulevard).</li> </ul>	

	<p>Richard Mawdsley (RM) updated the board with progress at Wirral Waters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The first phase of Northbank (residential area) has been completed. Stage 2 has commenced.</li> <li>• Millers Quay is underway and ahead of schedule</li> <li>• Survey and site investigations are underway at Maritime Knowledge Hub</li> <li>• MEA Park is now designated as a Freeport. Sustainability Central will be located in MEA Park. Planning consent is awaited for MEA Park phase 2.</li> <li>• Sustainable transport and connectivity remains an issue.</li> </ul> <p>David Hughes (DH) offered his congratulations to the board regarding the progress made with projects and noted the recognition that projects were receiving in the development/construction industry.</p>	
5	<p><b>Project updates</b></p> <p><b>Transport Shed</b> - Sandra Penketh (SP) presented a review of progress on the project and updated on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation and engagement activity</li> <li>• Review of anticipated visitor numbers</li> <li>• How the project relates to the Dock Branch Park setting and other local buildings</li> <li>• Access and the visitor experience</li> <li>• Proposals for events</li> <li>• Logistics of moving the transport to collection to the new location</li> <li>• Next steps including future funding applications and lease agreement</li> </ul> <p>DC confirmed that the funding was not yet in place for Dock Branch Park but that positive conversations were underway with the LCR CA regarding future funding opportunities.</p> <p>SP advised that the Town Deal funding would be used to deliver the building to shell and core. Conversations were underway with potential funders to secure the future funding required.</p> <p>DH advised of the need for Transport Shed to be delivered independently of Dock Branch Park, if required, to minimise any risk.</p> <p>SP confirmed that there was scope to extend the project in the future should this be required.</p> <p>The Board agreed that a strong narrative regarding the heritage assets of Birkenhead could be further developed to support funding bids that would bring about positive economic impact.</p>	

	<p><b>Woodside Ferry Village</b></p> <p>Paula Basnett (PB) presented a revised scheme proposed for Woodside Ferry Village.</p> <p>The revised scheme is similar to the original in that it provides space for events. However, the focus would be on internal changes to the Ferry Terminal Building, rather than external as originally proposed. The outputs to the revised project would be the same as the original proposal and that the revised plans were aligned to the Town Deal objectives.</p> <p>PB confirmed that the revised scheme could be completed within the existing cost envelope. PB confirmed that there would be no impact on the plans for the wider Woodside area.</p> <p>The Board agreed that Woodside Area CIC could move forward with the revised proposal and that a Project Adjustment Form should be submitted to DLUHC.</p> <p><b>Other project updates</b></p> <p>PB advised that a number of enquiries has been received from prospective businesses looking to use office space at Egerton House, as a result of recent publicity of the Town Deal scheme.</p>	<p>PB to submit draft PAR form to KP</p>
<p>6</p>	<p><b>Borough of Culture 2024</b></p> <p>The Board received a presentation from Jane Morgan (JM) Senior Manager for Culture about the forthcoming Borough of Culture 2024. The presentations covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various programmes for the event and the themes emerging</li> <li>• Funding and resources</li> <li>• The use of Town Deal funding for public art that can be used to capitalise on Borough of Culture</li> <li>• Narrative, branding and communications</li> <li>• Working across the Liverpool City Region to co-ordinate activity</li> </ul> <p>Board members were asked to use their own communication channels to share information about the events planned.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>7</p>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Sustainable transport would be discussed outside of the meeting with the relevant partners.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>Late June date TBC</p> <p>Venue: Eureka! Science + Discovery</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> KP to arrange next meeting</p> <p>LS thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.</p>	<p>KP</p>