



Blackpool Town Deal Board Meeting No 12

Friday, 17th September 2021

Via Microsoft Teams

Blackpool Town Deal Board

- Paul Smith- Chair (PS) Business in the Community
- Anna Blackburn (AB) Beaverbrooks
- Ben Mansford (BM) Blackpool Football Club
- Bev Robinson (BR) Blackpool & The Fylde College
- Dick Cartmell (DC) Together in Lancashire
- Heather Murray (HM) DWP
- Jane Cole (JC) Blackpool Transport
- Kate Shane (KS) Merlin Entertainments
- Neil Jack (NJ) Blackpool Council
- Paul Maynard (PM) MP for Blackpool North
- Peter Cole (PC) Chartered Surveyor
- Steve Williams (SW) Force Technology
- Tracy Hopkins (TH) Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre VCFS

In Attendance

- Nick Gerrard (NG) Blackpool Council
- Robert Latham (RL) Blackpool Council
- Mark Gillingham (MG) Blackpool Council
- Pauline Wigglesworth (PW) Blackpool Council
- Tracey Betts (TB) Blackpool Council
- Michael Hodgson (MH) Blackpool Council
- Nicole Billington (NB) Blackpool Council
- Ian Morris-Iliffe (IMI) Blackpool Council
- Carl Ritson (CR) Blackpool Council
- Richard Williamson (RW) Blackpool Council
- Graham Cowley (GC) BITC
- Daryl Platt (DP) Blackpool & The Fylde College
- Graham Russell (GR) Amion
- Katie Tonkinson (KT) Hawkins Brown
- Sam Beddingfield (SB) Hawkins Brown
- Nicola Rigby (NR) Avison Young



Notes and Actions	By Whom
<p>1. Welcome, Apologies and Introduction</p> <p>a) Apologies for absence received from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alan Cavill (Blackpool Council) • David Gaffney (England Arts Council) • Kevin McGee (Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust) • Peter Swann (Coolsilk) • Richard Fee (Nikal) • Scott Benton (MP for Blackpool South) • Tina Redford (Left Coast) • Steve Fogg (Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust) <p>b) The Board were notified that Trish Armstrong-Child, the newly appointed CEO of Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust will replace Board member Kevin McGee with effect from 20th September 2021.</p> <p>c) The Chair raised the point that all the business case papers forwarded to the TDIP Panel needed to be seen by Town Deal Board members. However, owing to the large amount of complex paperwork it was agreed that the Board would be provided with a summary/ cover sheet outlining the decisions required by the Board together with a bullet-point list of recommendations and observations from the TDIP Panel.</p> <p>d) The Chair also emphasised that the business case information presented contained elements that were commercially confidential and asked the Board to note that.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NG/RL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All</p>
<p>2. Declaration of Interests</p> <p>a) The following declarations of interest were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bev Robinson – Multiversity – Blackpool and The Fylde College • Steve Williams – Illuminations (only in respect of his being in the same building as the Illuminations staff) • Neil Jack - (In respect of Blackpool Council-led projects, and Revoe/Southern Quarter - Blackpool Football Club Community Trust)) • Ben Mansford – Revoe/Southern Quarter - Blackpool Football Club • Jane Cole – Multiversity - Blackpool and Fylde College 	



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<p>3. Minutes of Meeting No 11, 9th July 2021 and Matters Arising</p> <p>a) The Board approved the minutes of meeting no. 11, 9th July 2021.</p> <p>b) Matters Arising : Community Renewal Fund/ Levelling Up Fund Update: Noted that the outcome of Blackpool’s CRF and Levelling Up Fund bids announcement is likely to be near the time of Budget Day, 27th October 2021.</p>	
<p>4. Town Deal Update</p> <p>a) The Board noted the update and the nine stage Towns Fund Business Case Appraisal and Assurance process which has been revised and updated by the Town Deal Investment Panel. It was also noted that the Illuminations project had now reached Stage 5 and was being presented to the Board for approval at this meeting.</p> <p>b) The Board received an oral update on the fact that a saving of £1,045,818 had been achieved in the estimates for the demolition cost of Blackpool Courts the business case for which would be examined later on the agenda. It was noted that the Board had the flexibility to be able to reallocate this resource to another Town Deal scheme. 5 of the 7 schemes had received a reduced allocation from that which was originally bid for as a result of the Government’s decision to award Blackpool £39.5m. These 5 were Blackpool Central-Courts, Multiversity, Blackpool Airport EZ, Youth Hub and Southern Quarter/Revoe. Of these the first 4 had already prepared business cases that had been completed within their allocation. Whilst the Southern Quarter/Revoe was also seeking to work within its allocation (which was £2m less than originally bid for) it was clear that the scheme would be able to generate an increase in benefits if it were to receive an enhanced allocation. It was also noted that it was a scheme with the ability to attract significant levels of complementary investment which this enhanced allocation would bolster.</p> <p>c) The Board agreed to reallocate £1,045,818m from Blackpool Central Courts relocation project to Southern Quarter/Revoe.</p>	
<p>5. Town Deal Investment Panel</p>	



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<p>a) SW gave a update on the last two TDIP meetings, which took place on 30th July and 1st September and it was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentations were delivered to the TDIP by the project leads for the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone and Youth Hub projects both of which have now been submitted to independent appraisers.• Presentation and consideration of the independent appraisal of the Illuminations project and a recommendation for this to be presented to the Town Deal Board for approval. <p>b) SW also noted the extraordinary level of work that had gone into the preparation of the business cases and the commitment of the TDIP members to ensuring that a robust appraisal process was in place before projects were presented to the Town Deal Board for approval, the first of which was on the agenda today.</p>	
<p>6. Illuminations Project Business Case</p> <p>a) SW summarised the overall aim of the Illuminations scheme as a rejuvenation of the town and a planned extension of Blackpool’s traditional tourist season by a further two months. The scheme will deliver a minimum of twelve new installations over a five-year period and provide the required equipment to operate the illuminations in a sustainable way that reduces environmental impact. The business case had now been through independent appraisal and was being recommended for approval to the Board by the TDIP</p> <p>b) SW informed the Board that no ‘show stopping’ issues had arisen during the appraisal of the Illuminations business case. Independent appraisers, Global City Solutions recommended a statement re net zero carbon emissions and sustainability needed to be included in the management case.</p> <p>c) The Board noted that the 3% contingency budget is sufficient as the Blackpool Illuminations team will oversee the majority of the work. In the event of any of the twelve installations running over budget, a recalculation of all other project costs would be completed to balance the overall budget.</p> <p>d) It was noted that the project would deliver £10.9m of local expenditure and support 123 jobs.</p>	



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<p>e) TH asked if a carbon impact assessment would be completed and noted that there was no summary in the business case relating to value for money or any indication as to how much the illuminations contributed to Blackpool’s economy. SW drew the Board’s attention to the business model scenario summary and pointed out the investment return of the project. The Board were also advised that an overarching approach would be taken to ensure all of the relevant Town Deal projects are included in a carbon accounting programme but that this would take some time to produce.</p> <p>f) PC noted that the Board needed an understanding of Blackpool’s Town Deal summary document to prepare for any questions that central government may ask and that Blackpool needed to be on the front foot regarding sustainability.</p> <p>g) KS called for community engagement/ engagement with local schools to be at the heart of the illuminations announcement and for the reinvestment in Blackpool tourism to be amplified.</p> <p>h) The Board were satisfied that the business case process was thorough and robust and approved the Illuminations Business Case for sign off by Blackpool Council and submission to MHCLG.</p> <p>i) The Board also accepted the recommendation to develop a system for carbon accounting across all the projects within the Town Deal programme (where appropriate). This is deemed important from regulatory, ethical and political perspectives and will demonstrate commitment to Blackpool’s Net Zero 2030 pledge.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NG</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NG/RL</p>
<p>7. Multiversity</p> <p>a) DP and GR gave an introductory presentation on the Multiversity project and its contribution to the regeneration of the town. The following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iconic building located in the Blackpool Talbot Gateway business district. • Increase town centre footfall and raise profile of Blackpool HE offer. • Increased collaboration between B&FC and local businesses. • Green statement campus, operating at net zero carbon. • Will have a transformational effect on the town centre bringing in 3000+ staff and students. 	



Notes and Actions	By Whom
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project will free up existing B&FC campus for development of c 90 homes. • Project is focused primarily on town centre regeneration rather than growth in student numbers per se. • The Town Deal funding would be used to assemble the site and the business case would include a strategy for the raising if funding for construction. 	
<p>8. Southern Quarter/ Revoe</p> <p>a) Nicola Rigby (Avison Young) gave an introductory presentation on the Southern Quarter/ Revoe and summarised the main aims of the project. The following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avison Young have worked with Blackpool Council, Blackpool Football Club and the BFC Community Trust to develop different investment options • Overall aim of masterplan is to establish a sports village for leisure, education and residential use with the Town Deal funding being used to kick start this process. • To address physical decline of the area and improve the public realm. • To facilitate the redevelopment of Bloomfield’s Road’s East stand • To lever investment from the Football Club and the Football Foundation. • The project will include a low carbon based parking provision. • The project should have health benefits. • There was a need to provide better quality affordable housing in Blackpool 	
<p>9. Community Engagement Update</p> <p>a) PW gave an update on recent community engagement activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TH has worked with the Blackpool Council’s Infusion team to redevelop a survey that is aimed at capturing the views of people with protected characteristics. The survey has been adapted to be appropriate for group work as well as individuals. • The Infusion team have overseen further targeted engagement with voluntary sector colleagues and have offered training to ensure that people with protected characteristics are included in all future engagement work. 	



Notes and Actions	By Whom
<ul style="list-style-type: none">All engagement activity will be evidenced to ensure a robust engagement programme has been completed that complies with National expectations.	
<p>10. AOB</p> <p>a) Let's Create: TR had sent an email to inform the Board that The Arts Council announced yesterday that Blackpool is a priority place in its LET'S CREATE delivery plan. This can only mean more opportunities for Arts and Culture in the Town and will align nicely with the developments at the Library and Magic Club for which Community Renewal Fund is being sought.</p>	
<p>11. Dates of Next Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Friday, 8th October, 13:00 – 15:00Friday, 5th November, 13.00-15.00Friday, 12th November, 13:00 – 15:00	