

Blackpool Town Deal Board Meeting No 7

Friday, 13th November 2020, 13:00

Via Microsoft Teams

Blackpool Town Deal Board

- Paul Smith (Chair) (PS) Business in The Community (BiTC)
- Alan Cavill (AC) Blackpool Council
- Anna Blackburn (AB) Beaverbrooks
- Bev Robinson (BR) Blackpool & The Fylde College
- Dick Cartmell (DC) Together in Lancashire
- Heather Murray (HM) Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)
- Jane Cole (JC) Blackpool Transport
- Kate Shane (KS) Merlin Entertainments
- Nick Payne (NP) Nikal
- Neil Jack (NJ) Blackpool Council
- Paul Maynard (PM) MP for Blackpool North and Cleveleys
- Peter Cole (PC) Future High Street Fund Board
- Scott Benton MP for Blackpool South
- Steve Williams (SW) Force Technology
- Tracy Hopkins (TH) Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre VCFS

In Attendance

- Nick Gerrard (NG) Blackpool Council
- Robert Latham Blackpool Council
- Scott Butterfield (SB) Blackpool Council
- Mark Gillingham (MG) Blackpool Council
- Andy Charles (ACH) Business in The Community (BiTC)
- Graham Russell (GR) Amion
- Lisa Quinn Towns Hub
- Michael Hodgson (MH) Blackpool Council

Notes and Actions	By Whom
<p>1. Welcome, Apologies and Introduction</p> <p>a) Apologies for absence were noted from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Gaffney – Arts Council • Katherine O'Connor – Cities and Local Growth Unit, BEIS/ MHCLG 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin McGee – Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust • Linton Brown – Blackpool FC • Peter Swann – Coolsilk • Steve Fogg – Lancashire LEP • Tina Redford – Left Coast <p>b) The Chair noted that it was a fantastic effort by all involved following the Government’s announcement to award Blackpool £39.5m in Town Deal funding.</p>	
<p>2. Declaration of Interests</p> <p>a) None declared at this meeting as no schemes were being discussed.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of Meeting No 5, 10th July 2020 and Matters Arising</p> <p>a) The Board approved the minutes of 16th October 2020 meeting.</p> <p>b) On Matters Arising it was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were still some completed Declaration of Interests forms outstanding and these would be chased up prior to publication on the website. • The Chair reported that there had been one nomination to Chair the Town Deal Investment Panel. The Board agreed Steve Williams’ appointment as Chair of the Town Deal Investment Panel. • On community engagement with young people Blackpool and The Fylde College had now enabled access to a group of HE students to take part in the engagement strategy. • The letter to Grant Shapps re Rail/ Tram Loop funding has not yet been signed by all. NG to follow up 	<p style="text-align: center;">MH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NG</p>
<p>4. Towns Deal Heads of Terms</p> <p>a) GR gave a presentation and it was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Heads of Terms (HoT) were received from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government on 27th October with an allocation of £39.5m Town Deal funding for seven of the proposed schemes against the £49.5m bid for 9 schemes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Blackpool Courts Relocation II. Multiversity III. Blackpool Airport EZ IV. Southern Quarter/Revoe Community Sports Village V. The Edge – incubation office in Stanley Buildings 	

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<p>VI. Blackpool Illuminations Modernisation VII. Blackpool Youth Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The funding excludes the proposals submitted for Grundy Art Gallery and the Innovation Partnership project. • As a consequence there would be the need to re-profile the schemes to seek to ensure that all 7 could go ahead with the £7.7m gap against the original bid. • Once the Heads of Terms are agreed the projects will be taken forward in accordance with the business processes agreed at the last Board meeting which will include the community and stakeholder engagement processes approach as noted at the last Board meeting. • Within two months of the Deal being signed the following information needs to be provided for each project we wish to progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Towns fund ask II. Match funding total III. Expected outputs and outcomes IV. Plan for addressing key conditions V. Whether they want to be fast-tracked VI. Financial profile and the capital and revenue split • Within 12 months of signing a Town Deal summary document is required with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. list of agreed projects (including Benefit Cost Ratios) II. details of business case assurance processes followed for each project III. update on actions taken in relation to the HoT key conditions and requirements IV. delivery plan (including details of the team, working arrangements and agreements with stakeholders) V. monitoring and evaluation plan VI. confirmation of funding arrangements and financial profiles for each project VII. confirmation of approval of planning applications VIII. letters of approval from the Town Deal Board and Lead Council • Agreement to the Heads of Terms is required by 17th November 2020 by the Town Deal Board and the Council's Executive as accountable body, the latter due to meet on 16th November. <p>b) It was noted that although further business guidance was still to be issued MHCLG had confirmed that during the two months leading up to the next submission, Blackpool will be able to notify them of any of the schemes available for fast tracking before the end of the 12 month period.</p> <p>c) Secretary of State, Robert Jenrick has proposed a signing ceremony at the end of November/ beginning of December on which the Board would be updated as soon as any further information is received.</p> <p>d) A press release re Blackpool's Town Deal funding will be issued once the Town Board and the Council's Executive have agreed the Heads of Terms.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NG</p>

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<p>e) The Chair noted Robert Jenrick’s acknowledgement of the Blackpool Town Prospectus and his recognition of the deprivation in Blackpool. Whilst the support of MHCLG was hugely welcomed it was clear that the ambition of the broader Town Deal which Blackpool is seeking would require further engagement with other government departments to ensure delivery of the broader Town Deal objectives and priorities.</p> <p>f) PM emphasised the importance of working with other government departments to address Blackpool’s wider issues and the importance of the ‘spend to save’ approach which he and SB would be discussing with the Chancellor. Further consideration would be given to evidence that may be needed to support these discussions.</p> <p>g) The Chair explained that further discussions would take place next week at the Blackpool Pride of Place Board, which would focus on updating the Town Prospectus to incorporate place-based funding and Blackpool’s bigger asks re housing and deprivation in the light of the Town Deal funding announcement.</p> <p>h) In answer to a question about any risks that may be faced in respect of the Heads of Terms it was clarified that the biggest risk was being able to ensure that the conditionality for each project could be met.</p> <p>i) The Board agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To recommend approval of the Heads of Terms to the Council’s Executive. • To note the current status of the funding envelope and agree the need to prioritise funding levels to support individual business cases and that the results of the prioritisation exercise are brought to the January meeting of the Board. • To continue discussions with Government regarding a broader Town Deal to ensure the Town develops a holistic, strategic partnership with the various Government Departments to ensure that it addresses most effectively the many challenges that the Town faces and ensures a successful post-Covid economic, social and environmental recovery. 	
<p>5. Any Other Business</p> <p>a) The Chair thanked all of the board members for their time and contributions.</p>	
<p>6. Dates of Next Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday 11th December 2020, 13:00 – 15:00 • Friday 15th January 2021, 13:00 – 15:00 • Friday 12th March 2021, 13:00 – 15:00 • Friday 14th May 2021, 13:00 – 15:00 • Friday 9th July 2021, 13:00 – 15:00 • Friday 10th September 2021, 13:00 – 15:00 • Friday 12th November 2021, 13:00 – 15:00 	

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