

## Blackpool Town Deal Board Meeting Minutes No 4

Friday, 5th June 2020, 13:00, Via Microsoft Teams

### Blackpool Town Deal Board

- Paul Smith (Chair) – BiTC
- Alan Cavill – Blackpool Council
- Anna Blackburn – Beaverbrooks
- Bev Robinson – Blackpool & The Fylde College
- Jane Cole – Blackpool Transport
- Kate Shane – Merlin Entertainments
- Nick Payne – Nikal
- Peter Swann – Coolsilk
- Steve Williams – Force Technology
- Tracy Hopkins – Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre VCFS
- Tina Redford – Left Coast

### In Attendance

- Graham Russell – Amion
- Jeff Scales – Locality
- Katherine O'Connor – Cities and Local Growth Unit, BEIS/MHCLG
- Michael Hodgson – Blackpool Council
- Nick Gerrard – Blackpool Council
- Rob Latham – Blackpool Council

Notes & Actions	By Whom
<p>a) <b><u>Welcome, Apologies and Introduction</u></b></p> <p>b) The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, which had to be held by electronic means owing to the Coronavirus pandemic.</p> <p>c) Apologies for absence were noted from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linton Brown, Blackpool FC</li> <li>• Dick Cartmell – Together in Lancashire</li> <li>• Paul Maynard – MP, Blackpool North</li> <li>• Kevin McGee – Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</li> <li>• Heather Murray – DWP</li> <li>• Neil Jack – Blackpool Council</li> <li>• Scott Benton – MP, Blackpool South</li> <li>• Steve Fogg, Lancashire LEP</li> </ul> <p>d) The Chair gave a recap of the progress made to date on the Investment Plan, and the Blackpool Town Prospectus which had now been completed.</p>	

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<p>e) The Board agreed to the following changes to the Town Deal Board membership:</p> <p>f) Owing to an increase in his work commitments due the Coronavirus pandemic, Richard Greathead has asked to be removed from the Board.</p> <p><b>g) Action : The Arts Council has shown an interest in joining the Town Deal Board and it was agreed to issue an invitation for them to join.</b></p>	<p><b>NG</b></p>
<p><b>1. <u>Minutes of Meeting No 3, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020</u></b></p> <p>a) <b>The minutes of Board Meeting No 3 on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020 were approved.</b></p> <p>b) <b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p>i. It was reported that whilst there was still no firm date for the issuing of the Town Deal Guidance it was currently estimated that it would be the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020 with a submission date for first tranche authorities by 31st July 2020.</p> <p>ii. The minutes and papers of Town Deal Board meetings will be placed on the Council's website and thus available for members of the public to view next week. A link to the website will be emailed to the Board.</p> <p>iii. The Chair thanked all Board members that had taken part in the follow-up calls since the last meeting which had been set up to in order to capture each members' point of view on the priorities for inclusion in the Town Investment Plan and discuss any other related issues. These were now reflected in the current draft of the Town Investment Plan.</p>	<p><b>NG</b></p>
<p><b>3. <u>Community Engagement – Interim Report</u></b></p> <p>a) Jeff Scales from Locality demonstrated the newly created and interactive digital on-line tool and Commonplace system which will be used to capture local opinion on what Blackpool residents and visitors consider to be important for the development of the town.</p> <p>b) Engagement will also be carried out through a series of on-line activities, phone calls and web-chat in place of face to face interaction, which will not be possible due to the current Coronavirus pandemic. The responses from the community engagement will be used to contribute to the Town Investment Plan.</p> <p>c) The Council's website will also include a description of the Town Deal, the Town Deal Board and a 'Have your say' page linked to the engagement exercise.</p> <p>d) It is hoped to achieve a large overall response rate which would necessitate all Board members and their contacts distributing the link to the engagement exercise as widely as possible. JS will provide the Steering Group with weekly interim reports on completion numbers once website goes public.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>

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<p>e) <b>Action: JS to email Engagement Demo link to Board members</b></p> <p>f) <b>Action: As soon as the site is ready to go live a press release will be issued and distributed to Board Members.</b></p>	<p>JS</p> <p>NG</p>
<p><b>4. <u>Town Investment Plan: Initial Draft</u></b></p> <p>a) GR gave an update on the revised appendices of the Town Investment Plan and noted that further changes will be made to the document once the further guidance has been received from the Government. Data generated from community engagement activities will also be incorporated into the plan.</p> <p>b) The objective of the Towns Fund is to drive the economic regeneration of towns to deliver long-term economic and productivity growth through: urban regeneration, planning and land use; skills and enterprise infrastructure; and connectivity. To secure funding, projects will need to contribute to meeting this objective. They will also need to meet the Government's requirements for a Business Case, which will include demonstrating their strategic fit, value for money and deliverability. It is anticipated that the majority of the funding will be for capital projects and that it will need to be spent within the next four years. On this basis and following the consultations and a review of the projects identified in Appendix B, but ahead of the Government's guidance, <b>the Board agreed the working up detailed pro-formas for the following projects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Blackpool Central - Courts relocation and wider infrastructure;</b></li> <li>• <b>Talbot Gateway Phase 4 – including the University Centre, Blackpool/Multiversity;</b></li> <li>• <b>Southern Quarter/Revoe - Community Sports Village / Blackpool FC;</b></li> <li>• <b>Enterprise Zone – including access improvements and linkages to the AquaComms Transatlantic Loop cable.</b></li> <li>• <b>The proposed projects will all need to be reviewed and tested against the criteria set out in the Government guidance once it is available and other schemes, in particular any identified through the engagement process with local stakeholders, would then be added to this list as appropriate.</b></li> </ul>	<p>GR</p>
<p><b>5. <u>Next Steps</u></b></p> <p>a) The Chair summarised that the next stage is for the Board to receive the official guidance from the government and be presented with the outcome from the community engagement activities so that the investment plan can be worked up and considered in draft at the next meeting.</p>	
<p><b>6. <u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>a) The Board noted the question raised in Parliament by Scott Benton during the previous day's Prime Minister's Questions on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020,</p>	

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<p>regarding the support that Blackpool would be getting from Government. and the Prime Minister's response:</p> <p>"My hon. Friend well represents Blackpool and his constituents, sticking up for the interests of Blackpool. In addition to the £3.2 billion we are already giving to local councils to help combat corona, <b>Blackpool is receiving another £9 million, as well as the funding from the High Street Funds and the Town Fund to deal with the particular problems he rightly identifies.</b>"</p>	
<p><b><u>7. Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 13:00 – 15:00</p>	