

Minutes of the Joint Town Deal Board for Mablethorpe and Skegness  
(Connected Coast Board) held via Zoom on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1:00pm.

Present:

Chris Baron	Deputy Chair
Councillor Craig Leyland	Leader, East Lindsey District Council
Ivan Annibal	Rose Regeneration
Councillor Adrian Benjamin	Mablethorpe & Sutton on Sea Town Council
Robert Caudwell	Association of Drainage Boards
Freddie Chambers	Lindum Group
Adrian Clarke	Tech Partnership (Grimsby Institute)
Gill Alton	CEO Tech Partnership (Grimsby Institute)
Councillor Tony Tye	Skegness Town Council
Martin Collison	Collison Associates Ltd
Deborah Campbell	Environment Agency
Councillor Helen Matthews	District Councillor for Sutton on Sea
Jacqui Bunce	Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Mark Humphreys	CEO Magna Vitae
Robert Parker	MicronClean
Councillor Colin Davie	Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor Carl Tebbutt	Mablethorpe & Sutton Town Council
William Price	CLA
Pete Holmes	BEIS East Midlands
Peter Watson	Distract
Caroline Killeavy	CEO YMCA
Mark Storer (sub for Victoria Atkins MP)	MP for Louth & Horncastle
Justin Brown	Lincolnshire County Council
Claire Draper	Mellor Group
Mick Lazarus	BEIS East Midlands
Stephanie Dickens (sub for Matt Warman MP)	MP Boston & Skegness
Janet Stubbs	British Garden Centres
Rebecca Clark (sub for Claire Foster)	CEO of Boston College
Clare Hughes	Lincolnshire County Council
John Henry Looney	Sustainable Direction Limited
Councillor Steve Kirk	Portfolio holder for Coastal Economy, ELDC
Yvonne Pinniger	HETA Architects

Officers in attendance:

Robert Barlow (Chief Executive), Lydia Rusling (Assistant Director- Towns Fund), Martin Kay (External Funding Lead, Organisational Improvement & Development), Craig Fiske (Projects Officer), Lisa Collins (Place Manager), Michelle Sacks (Deputy Chief Executive- Place)

**1. Apologies for absence:**

Apologies were received from Sarah Louise Fairburn, Andrew Stevenson and Matt Warman MP.

## 2. Minutes of Meetings

Gill Alton was present at the last Connected Coast meeting (30<sup>th</sup> September).

Minutes of last meeting were approved by the board.

## 3. Matters Arising

None arising

## 4. Mablethorpe and Skegness Town Investment Plans (including format and visuals presentation from Yvonne Pinniger of HETA)

Lydia- Town investment plans for each town are going to be submitted by the 30<sup>th</sup> October. The draft word version of these plans has been sent to board members. Check and challenge session was held on 28<sup>th</sup> October and feedback was received from BEIS.

Pete- ARUP have given feedback on the early TIP's given to them. Skegness and Mablethorpe both have distinctive themes and opportunities/challenges come out strongly and allow the TIP to tell a story. Recommended an introductory reflection from chair on vision/challenges and opportunities on each town. Include quotes from stakeholders on their thoughts on the Towns fund and this will highlight community engagement. Don't go into loads of detail in the main part of the plan as the second part will do this in the excel document. Costs/detail for additional features to be brought out- flood defences/clean growth. Mick- have discussed examples of evidence around context analysis, strategy engagement and delivery. Look in detail at the projects to make sure you have everything needed.

Lydia- points highlighted in check and challenge are in your papers and what we are doing to achieve these.

Review of projects for each town:

### Skegness

Ivan- individuals scoring projects through the project prioritisation tool for the Towns Fund. Scored in terms of local priorities and then green book. Projects are scored out of 5 for the strategic fit and also how it solves issues in terms of COVID and clean growth. Then scored against 5 key themes around the green book- deliverability, cost, risk, value for money. Scoring brought projects out in this order: Skegness Foreshore, Railway station redevelopment, Town centre regeneration, Police training centre, Multi user trail, FE campus, Culture offer. These projects total just under £25 million. Other projects have missed out. Projects have been seen in 2 locus. One running through the town centre including the train station and foreshore at both ends and the other around the learning agenda with the FE Campus.

Colin D- welcomes prioritisation and updated scoring. Projects now fit with the original concept of the Towns Fund set out by government. Wants assurance that a senior lead officer will be assigned to each of the projects for the next stage if they are successful. Lydia- There will be established groups set up with senior leads assigned to each.

Adrian B- should mention BID and town council in the Mablethorpe TIP to a greater extent as well as other local groups. Chris B- agrees should be in the TIP more. Lydia- will follow up to make sure these are incorporated more.

Pat D- is there a certain percentage the projects need to get to qualify for government approval? Ivan- No, there is not minimum score needed to be considered by government. Note that Mablethorpe is coming from further back due to scale and development of both places so is scoring lower. Some projects need more help going through to the next stage if accepted by government.

Colin D- welcome match funding figures. Will we document all explored match funding opportunities for each project? Lydia- Yes all documented and letters of support for the funding match.

Martin C- all projects will receive support to make sure they get to where they need to be in 12 months, some will need more than others.

Yvonne P- HETA have worked to produce the storyboards and TIP development. Main job for the TIP's was adding graphics and visual design for it. Focus of the Skegness TIP was on learning and town centre regeneration. Bringing the content to life by colours and illustrations as well as making it easy for the reader to read. Visuals should help bring the words to life and add meaning to them. 3D model shows how projects are connected visually and highlights the connected coast. Tables and diagrams are included to help the reader digest information easily and helps with reducing the word count.

Chris B- when are we expecting a nearly final version? Yvonne- Next Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>. Any amendments relayed by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> for the complete TIP's to be produced for the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Pete H- make sure you don't add too much info into tables/appendix just to avoid word count. Don't write more than you have too. Be sensible with what extra you add.

Michelle S- will send every updated version of the TIP to the board with highlighted changes

### Mablethorpe

Ivan- Mablethorpe has been scored using the same criteria as Skegness. Colonnade came up top and then Campus for Future Living, National Trust, Leisure and Learning, Mobi-hub/Town centre regeneration (includes Gear-up and sea view car park). Arts and culture, CLLD, Coastfields fell out. All projects have their own key strengths to bring to Mablethorpe and link to helping the Town centre prosper. Campus for Future Living is the flagship project to help with health and care in the area with various elements to it. Work with WSP/LCC on the Mobi-hub idea to help with transport issues. Keep projects that are below the line on the CCB agenda to look for other funding.

Deborah C- Welcome's projects and assurance over senior project teams. EA will need to see the designs for these to make sure flood risk mitigation is in place. Resources in place to help with this and get them going quickly. Supports all the ideas theoretically. Chris- have the EA got any funding to help with some of the flood mitigation costs? Deborah- There might be some if the projects help the wider flood risk to the area. Innovation and resilience fund that could be bid into by LCC.

Colin D- highlighted wording change in Mablethorpe TIP. Clear up wording around the Connected Coast board and ELDC. Who has met with who and what has been discussed.

Steve K- documented that all projects were all scored in the same way and it is just a coincidence that ELDC projects have come out scoring top. Board have seen and been assured that this has been a fair process and are happy with this. Ivan- Board have the final say on everything so can change if they wish, to show no influence from ELDC.

Yvonne P- Each town needs to have its own personality and stamp on their bid. Mablethorpe focus is on health and wellbeing, leisure and environment. Sections in the TIP help guide the reader and can help find the necessary sections. Colours and illustration to help link to the key themes. All still a work in progress.

Chris B- are titles okay being just Skegness and Mablethorpe and not including other wider towns? Pete- Yes okay just being Skegness and Mablethorpe as set out in initial government Towns Fund.

Chris B- Likelihood of the £500k national trust match funding being successful? Martin C- they weren't successful in this funding but are looking at other funding to help with the nature reserve. £2m is secured by them already in match funding. Adrian B- local group interested in helping fund this area.

Adrian B- worried about the Mobi-hub and Town centre regeneration scheme not being transformational for the high street. Chris- only early stage plans and we need to make sure we get the most for our money.

Caroline K- are we going to show the connectivity between the two places? Lydia- Have made them different as per check and challenge. Different projects in each town do show inter connectivity between the two places. Digital agenda, transport agenda and cycling/walking has also helped link the two towns.

No objections to the Skegness TIP including projects

No objections to the Mablethorpe TIP including projects

## **5. Tourism Sector Initiative**

Chris B- detail is included in your papers and no funding is being asked from the Towns Fund. All 4 towns in Lincolnshire bidding in the Towns Fund rely on the visitor economy and should work together in a plan for them to be successful. Mick- recommends including this and will help with the bid. Pete- Working with broader tourism partners to help with the visitor economy and will help with the bid. Agreement from board that 4 Lincolnshire Town bids should work together and not duplicate what each other are doing for tourism.

Colin- Towns should talk to each other. In the long-term we need to help shape the tourism offer and this can start with the Tourism sector deal bid to government. Towns deal need reference to the key role of the tourism and visitor sector as identified in the LEP's Strategic, economic plan.

Martin C- agrees that we should be part of it and drive the themes around it including space, green, recreation and food.

Steve- reference to Visit Lincoln doing this work has been made in the papers, why are we going to duplicate it? Chris- paper to re-written, tourism commission will look at who does what and if there are viable opportunities to work with other partners.

Lydia- we need to work with other organisations that are already in place to help promote the tourism sector in Lincolnshire and help it be successful.

No issues from the board in relation to the direction this is taking.

## **6. Skegness Learning Group**

Lydia- Clare Hughes supports the work of the group in making sure there isn't unnecessary duplication with other local providers. Group has met 4 times and Roy Harper has been commissioned to make sure the points from these sessions are taking into account to help strengthen our bid.

Chris B- Should the group be the coastal learning group as it involves providers outside of Skegness? It's good to see training providers getting involved but there is a need to make sure the schools are getting involved in this.

Caroline K- Nice to see lifelong learning being mentioned and incorporated into the group. Also make sure non-academic life skills providers are being talked to regarding this. Career based and employability skills are being offered by numerous providers and should be involved.

Gill A- Welcomes all the comments and agrees that other areas mentioned should be incorporated. Group was started to make sure there wasn't displacement of current providers by the FE Campus but can move onto working with other providers of all skills and ages on the coast.

## **7. Board Development Next Stages**

Ivan- life of the board beyond the Towns Fund. There will be a need for the board beyond submission date. Help through all the following stages after submission with their various skill sets. Keep dialogue open between the board. Investors in the coast model to be pushed forward to help with this and help identify further funding opportunities.

Chris B- reiterating there is still a need for the board and their expertise on the projects to get the most out of them and promote the coast for further investment.

Adrian B- what has the capacity funding been spent on and how do we go beyond capacity funding financially for officers/consultants. Lydia- paper can be circulated on what money has been spent and what's going to be spent. Michelle S- officers will still be assigned to help with Town Fund projects and within project costings deliverability costs have been included. Working with other LA's to get support. Also the support of board.

Colin D- strongly welcomes the investors in the coast model. Public sector help and aid the development of the private sector in these towns. Will help deliver long-term benefits.

Steve K- need to decide the purpose and roles of a future group to keep everyone together. Chris- agrees that keeping the board together and keeping ideas coming will help the coast access other funding opportunities especially from the LEP.

Michelle- definitely still a need to keep the project pipeline open to help develop our towns and access other funding. Platform of the Towns Fund has helped picked up partners which has highlighted the coast as a good place to invest in and will hopefully carry on in the future. Board might want to look at skills gaps in the board to make sure we have all basis covered when it comes to deliverability.

Craig L- Making sure we get everything right as we move forward is key. Have been extremely lucky to bid for these pots of money from government and we need to make sure they are used wisely within our towns. These pots of money should help progress our Towns beyond the next 5 years and attract investment for the next 50-100 years. Very pleased to see the progress of the group and there is a need to keep this going.

Mick- first group has taken 12 weeks to finalise. 40 towns are expected to submit in group 2 so it may take longer. Don't be concerned by silence as TIP's will be getting assessed. If in the project delivery stage a project isn't viable then another project will be considered.

#### **8. Any Other Business**

None

Meeting ended: 2:52pm

Next Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020