

Minutes of the Joint Town Deal Board for Mablethorpe and Skegness
(Connected Coast Board) held via Zoom on Wednesday 30th September 2020 at 2:00pm.

Present:

Sarah Louise Fairburn

Chris Baron

Councillor Craig Leyland

Ivan Annibal

Councillor Adrian Benjamin

Robert Caudwell

Freddie Chambers

Adrian Clarke

Councillor Tony Tye

Martin Collison

Deborah Campbell

Councillor Helen Matthews

Jacqui Bunce

Mark Humphreys

Robert Parker

Councillor Colin Davie

Councillor Carl Tebbutt

William Price

Pete Holmes

Peter Watson

Caroline Killeavy

Victoria Atkins

Justin Brown

Claire Draper

Lisa Fairlie

Mick Lazarus

Stephanie Dickens (for Matt Warman MP)

Janet Stubbs

Claire Foster

Chair

Deputy Chair

Leader, East Lindsey District Council

Rose Regeneration

Mablethorpe & Sutton on Sea Town Council

Association of Drainage Boards

Lindum Group

Tech Partnership (Grimsby Institute)

Skegness Town Council

Collison Associates Ltd

Environment Agency

District Councillor for Sutton on Sea

Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group

CEO Magna Vitae

MicronClean

Lincolnshire County Council

Mablethorpe & Sutton Town Council

CLA

BEIS East Midlands

Distract

CEO YMCA

MP for Louth & Horncastle

Lincolnshire County Council

Mellor Group

Platform Housing Group

BEIS East Midlands

MP Boston & Skegness

British Garden Centres

CEO of Boston College

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), Jon Burgess (Economic Development Manager), Lisa Collins (Place Manager), Michelle Howard (Assistant Director-People)

1. Apologies for absence:

No Apologies received

2. Minutes of Meetings

Minutes of last meeting were approved by the board.

3. Programme and Bidding Timescales Review

Mick Lazarus- 13 towns have gone forward in the first submission. Helpful to prioritise projects and ministers will look at which ones they want to take forward. Reflections on areas for improvement from first submissions- no comparison to national data, need to reflect on community and business engagement and how that has led to projects, show a forward looking engagement plan, provide evidence of value for money on projects. Towns that bid for more than £25million will have higher scrutiny. Mablethorpe and Skegness have both received their accelerated funding.

4. Draft Town Investment Plans and Feedback from Check and Challenge Process

Check and Challenge took place on Monday to get feedback on the draft Town Investment Plans (TIPs). This was to highlight the strengths and weaknesses of the plan and to analyse what projects ticked all the boxes and which ones needed more work. This helped with the project ordering and even if the project is not ranked highly and is unlikely not to be in the Towns Fund then we can look at other sources of funding for these.

5. Mablethorpe and Skegness Projects Update

Projects have been scored using the ARUP prioritisation tool for the Towns Fund. Reiterated some projects might miss out but further funding from other avenues is being sourced and are still valued ideas for the longer term vision of our coast.

Skegness- Lydia

FE campus- numerous project meetings held with local providers and aiming for prospectus for education on the coast. Designs from Tech Group have been received today.

Foreshore- accelerated funding received for pedestrianisation of esplanade.

Town centre transformation- Lumley road transformation in terms of regeneration with work from Heritage Lincolnshire.

Railway station project- EMR has submitted. Destination station to upgrade the station.

Key to make sure all the projects link together and follow community engagement.

Hardy's multi-user trail also included in green RAG projects.

Highlighted from amber list RAG list-

Police training centre- strengthened proposal now received which adds value to the project. Link their training facility with FE Campus along with hire space.

Magna Vitae- work on art and culture offer along the coast. Looking at the embassy theatre and illuminations on the coast.

Pete Holmes- State why costs are higher with mitigating local risks- e.g flooding. Discussions with EA have been in place to help resolve these issues with our projects.

FE campus (Ivan) - detailed costings received, taking into account infrastructure and flood risk. Consultation with other providers has taken place and concerns listened too. Is a big ticket item but helps define our story of place in Skegness and fills the education and skills gap. Agreement in principle with the Tech Group (Grimsby Institute) for 10 years' worth of meeting all the revenue costs.

Action- comments from Clare on the discussions with other education providers in Skegness.

Mick- In our assessment we will engage with other departments (DfE) and get their views on the project.
Pete- look and show what match funding opportunities you have explored. The more match funding you can secure the potential for more projects you have. Reasons why there isn't any match funding.

Rob- concerning to see that the match funding projects aren't in the flagship group.

Action- Re-visit RAG sheet in terms of match funding.

Cllr Colin Davie- important to re-visit amber list and utilise match funding projects. Echo's Rob's thoughts.

Lydia- update on town centre regeneration. Costings have been received for this. Incorporating Tower gardens into this. Project pro-forma is being completed for this.

Mablethorpe- Ivan

All projects explored in the PRG and whole set of projects approved.

Colonnade- accelerated funding approved for the demolition. Designed and consulted on.

Campus- nationally significant project with revenue and capital match funding. Various partners that want space in the facility. Designed project.

Station leisure- costed, match built in and ready to go.

Amber projects- national trust and town centre regeneration/Mobi-hub/gear up/sea-view car park package are both key ones which on reflection we feel should be taken forward. The latter will bring small improvements throughout the town and connect with midlands connect on transport in rural towns. These projects along with the 3 flagship projects will take us to the £25 million. Coastfields is out the boundary and other issues means it will not be included in the Towns Fund. Opportunities for the projects that don't make the towns fund should be looked at by the investors in the coast proposed model.

Helen- can arts and culture link with colonnade? Hard to combine the two due to the funding requirements for each but further funding can be looked for.

Robert Caudwell- is the national trust project a firm commitment from them for their match funding?
Match funding is made up of- purchase of site, work being done to the site, £1million of revenue costs over the first 5 years, as well as training costs. Bidding on other funding to create a nature reserve for the centre. Will bring national attention to the coast.

Cycling (Martin C)- response to Covid to get people out doing leisure activities and to attract new visitors to the coast. Clean and green area for the coast which helps change the offer and provide a year round offer. Will link in with other projects in the TIPs.

Request to identify additional representatives:

Consultants- Martin Collison & Ivan Annibal

Chair of PRG- Helen Matthews

LEP- Clare Hughes

LCC- Nicola Radford & Tanya Vaughan

Representatives for MP's- Stephanie Dickens & Mark Storer

Chris- Is the station leisure location a definite? Cllr Craig Leyland- the site needs to be sustainable going forward for ELDC and other land assets are held in Mablethorpe which could be looked at. Helen- current position strengthens the high street offer. Mark- practical operational success also depends on location and current location is better for this. Mick- confirming specific location is not needed for the TIP's.

Action- further work on station sports to be shared with board- specific location agreed.

Jacqui- make sure the projects have the golden thread with their outcomes. All help with the health agenda for the area and recognise projects that have this as added value.

Adrian B- Campus for Future Living will help with the training and upskilling. Need to make sure connectivity is highlighted within the Mobi-hub and town centre regeneration ideas and this needs looking at in detail. Martin C- talking with Midlands Connect and other providers for the transport in Mablethorpe and the Mobi-hub.

Action- talk to Mablethorpe PRG about the Mobi-hub and what they want. Must be deliverable.

Chris- what other projects in Mablethorpe are going forward. National trust and Mobi-hub (plus town centre improvements). Is the Mobi-hub deliverable for £2.9million? Yes, but all projects will go back through scoring criteria once board have decided projects to take forward. Agreed the Mablethorpe PRG agreed to these projects. Was highlighted the Mobi-hub was well received at the check and challenge. Also the isolation of Mablethorpe and its poor connectivity is a major issue that needs addressing and hopefully this will do that.

Rob- the need for match funding is key. We need to re-visit the level of match funding being put into these projects. Re-assured that match funding is their but primarily in revenue match funding. Lydia- asked Mick about where full match funding needs to be shown. Mick- don't expect all match funding to be present in the TIP but to explore the possibilities of it and how likely it will be secured. Rob- don't want projects to miss out because we haven't explored full match funding possibilities. Lydia will look into within the week.

Action- share updated RAG project assessment.

Tony- question about £25 million being taken up for flagship projects in Skegness. SLF- projects not in Towns Fund will be looked into for further funding including investors in the coast. Mick- agreed that longer term vision and projects should be present.

Deborah- work is still ongoing in terms of flood mitigation and costs are not set in stone for projects so could go up and down. Further funding with EA to help with flooding for the future of the coast. All types of flooding need to be looked into and the opportunities water presents.

Board are happy with the direction of the Town Investment Plans and the projects at the current moment depending on match funding that can be obtained.

6. Lobbying Plan

Martin C- getting people to support the long term vision/strategy is key to success. Lobbying for other sources of money especially in the business community. Go and search for the investment and attract funds to the coast. Talking with partners about wider issues in the coast and try and access their funding that they have got for improvements along the coast. Look national, regional and local both private and public for funding opportunities. Need the board to share content with their wider audiences and contacts to spread the word and attract investment.

There is a need for ongoing engagement beyond the submission and into the future for further development within the coast. There is a need to keep the excitement after bid submission. People need to be constantly engaging with the content and promote the coast as a great place to invest. Peter- need to carry on showing the community we are listening to them and they are pushing the projects forward. Still a need to showcase the coast to potential investors and we need to look at how these projects and further projects can do this. Also a need to engage with our MP's more and get them to promote our two bids.

Action- call for anyone who wants to be interviewed to contact the team.

Victoria Atkins MP- good to hear there is agreement among the board and the way forward and our plans. Question over connectivity to our coast which the county council was looking into. Justin- working on a local transport plan to help resolve some of the concerns.

7. Investors in the Coast

Will help get the public and private sector to start working together more intensively. Scoping the prospect of this group out with an initial meeting around this with a list of members that have expressed an interest. Group can help to progress some of the projects that don't make it. This will allow for the longer term vision for the coast and projects that can keep pushing it forward.

Action- Any board members that want to be involved please let the team know.

Action- Any board members that can help with specific projects please let the team know.

8. Any Other Business

Adrian B- any update on the ideas fund application regarding railways in Mablethorpe? Victoria Atkins-application being chased. Also note the investment government are putting into electric charging points and looking out for these grants for our coastal towns.

Meeting ended 15:47

Next meeting: 16th October