

Skegness Place Reference Group Meeting

Wednesday 22nd July 2020 @ 2.00pm

Via Zoom

In attendance

Cllr Sidney Dennis
Cllr Steve Kirk
Stuart Hardy
Amy Thomas
John Chappelle
Tanya Vaughan

Consultants

Ivan Annibal
Martin Collison
John Henry Looney

ELDC

Lydia Rusling
Martin Kay
Jon Burgess

Invited Guest

Andrew White

Apologies

Peter Ives
Robert Parker
Cllr Sue Blackburn

Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Dennis opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting

Minutes

The minutes were read and approved without division

Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Sue Blackburn, Robert Parker and Peter Ives

Accelerated Funds

Cllr Dennis outlined that Skegness had received £750.000 accelerated funds from the Town Deal and that the meeting was to receive three presentations with a view to them all looking for support funding.

The meeting received presentations from;

- Andrew White with respect to the Police Training Centre Skegness.
- Jon Burgess with respect to the Skegness Foreshore.
- Tanya Burgess with respect to the Skegness Business Park.

After deliberations and questions it was agreed that the Skegness Foreshore was the only scheme to be taken forward but it was also agreed that conversation should be picked up with the police with a view to what possibilities could be looked at for future support from the Towns Deal.

With the Skegness Business Park it was concluded that it would be better to get the road element completed and that the Business Park was to return to the Town Deal to look at the longer term investment to manufacture not just warehousing as this would show in part, a recovery plan post Covid 19.

Action points

1. Work with Jon to get a better understanding of foreshore costs
2. Look at the second phase for the business park working with Tanya
3. Work with the police to see if there is any added value to looking at the main Towns Fund.

Town Investment Fund Preparation

We have;

- Redrafted the program plan to the end of October
- Received FAQ's and new guideline documents from Government
- Accepted projects that are coming thick and fast
- Now working on live documents towards an October submission of the Town Investment Plan
- (Will be) Arranging another series of PRG's and Board Meeting for the end of August

It is very aware that the application to Government is more of a deal than first thought. We will submit at the end of October and this will be considered by Government for a two month period. A Heads of Terms will follow to where we will then have one year to get our final refined Town Investment Plan submitted.

It is clear that the Fund is 90% Capital and 10% revenue with an emphasis on clean growth and responding to Covid 19 and it is important from here on in that all parties involved should be working cohesively.

It is intended that we have a soft cut of dates for projects at the 9th September to allow time for all submitted projects to be looked at fairly and in good time.

Whilst the Town Deal cites a value of £25million it is clear that towns can apply for more and Skegness could be one of the towns to benefit.

It is important to note that the Towns Deal is important for opening up other avenues for funding within government. We must try to use the Grimsby example to do similar.

Further evidence submitted by Mac Jones towards the Police Training Centre Skegness;

From: "Jones, Marc" <Marc.Jones@lincs.pnn.police.uk>
Date: 26 July 2020 at 11:20:38 BST
To: Sarah Louise Fairburn <sarahlouise@fairburnseggs.co.uk>
Subject: Urgent Police Training Centre Skegness

Dear Sarah Louise

Thank you for your email asking for clarity regarding funding for the proposed scheme at the former magistrates court in Skegness.

Please accept my apologies for any confusion caused, I have no doubt that it is entirely unintentional.

I can clarify that the project does not sit within the current capital budget for the Force and as such funding has not been established for the scheme. I have agreed this week to progress to the next stage as there are elements that will be time critical should the project proceed. I will incur costs if we do not proceed but that is not the same as having agreed the funding for the whole of the scheme. If I am unable to secure appropriate funding then I will review my decision to allow work to start. The option to 'mothball' the building for years to come would be a regrettable one and something I would dearly like to avoid. In addition to this I have a significant empty building in Lincoln which is also outside of the capital program. If I do not progress with the Skegness site then it is possible that I can move forward with a project in Lincoln subject to funding which could provide additional facilities. To be clear, there is significant benefit to community safety in the East of the County for us to deliver in Skegness and I am very keen to do so. It will mean more Police Officers in the area, less time for existing Officers travelling to Lincoln for training, transforming a key building in the town and many other benefits besides. Delivering this project on time and to budget would show Government how effective the Skegness Town Deal is going to be and I would love to see the maximum future investment in the area following the success of this project. I would be very keen to discuss these matters with members of the Board as you suggest. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

Marc

Marc Jones

Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

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Further details submitted with reference to the Skegness Foreshore following on from the Place Reference Group Meeting;

- We have subsequently actioned an updated fee proposal to get the designs and costs for the Boating Lake and Bowling Green areas to RIBA stage 2.
- We will also be working up and submitting a planning application to progress a £750K scheme of pedestrianisation and public realm works on Tower Esplanade and Princes Parade – as the enabler for redirecting traffic into a new proposed car park entrance of Princes Parade and creating new events, enhanced trading and increased dwell time space on Tower Esplanade beyond the mini roundabout towards the foreshore.
- We are meeting with interested private sector parties that are seeking to invest in the Foreshore.
- We have met with LCC to enable further investment into cycling/public realm intervention, linking the foreshore development with additional investment from the LEP/LCC and the National Trust along the coast.