



Minutes of the Connected Coast Board meeting for Mablethorpe and Skegness held on Thursday, 1st December 2022.

Meeting held in person at The Bacchus Hotel, 17 High St, Sutton on Sea, Mablethorpe, LN12 2EY.

Attendees	Position	Initials
Chris Baron	Chair	CB
Claire Draper	Mellors Group (vice chair)	CDr
Jacqui Bunce	Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board	JBu
Cllr Colin Davie	Lincolnshire County Council	CDa
Cllr Adrian Benjamin	Cllr the Revd Prebendary Adrian Benjamin MA Oxon	AB
Adrian Clarke	TEC Partnership	AC
Cllr Tony Tye	Skegness Town Council	TT
Cllr Freddie Chambers	Lindum Group	FC
Robert Caudwell	Association Drainage Boards	RC
Paula Finlayson	Sustainable Direction (representing John Henry Looney)	PF
Kirsty James	National Trust	KJ
John Latham	University of Lincoln	JL
Pat Doody	Chair of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP	PD
Adrian Humphreys	Boston College	AH
Deborah Campbell	Environment Agency	DCam
Robert Parker	Micronclean	RP
Chris Reed	Victoria Atkins MP Office	CR
Support Officers in Attendance		
Ivan Annibal	Rose Regeneration on behalf of SELCP	IA
Tim Sampson	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	TS
Jon Burgess	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	JBur
Michelle Gant	The Engaging People	MG
Sandra Watson	East Lindsey District Council	SMW
Adrian Sibley	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	AS

Item		Action
1.	Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence	CB
	The Chair welcomed the Board to today's meeting. Apologies for absence were recorded from Victoria Atkins MP; Sandra Williamson; Ruth Carver; Matt Warman; Lisa Fairlie; Cllr Leyland; Janet Stubbs; Sidney Dennis; Cllr Tebbutt; Caroline Killeavy; Ann Hardy; John Looney; Justin Brown; Claire Foster; James Brindle; Sarah Louise Fairburn; Stephanie Dickens; Cllr Steve Kirk; Lydia Rusling; Martin Kay; Michelle Sacks; Mick Lazarus	
2.	Declarations of Interest	ALL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freddie Chambers, Lindum 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claire Draper, Fantasy Island 	
3.	Minutes of Board Meeting held on 8th September 2022	ALL
	The minutes from the last Connected Coast Board Meeting were approved as a true and accurate record, with no amends.	
4.	Matters Arising	ALL
	<p>The Board were advised that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 crib sheets have now been created to outline anticipated start dates of the projects and a financial summary to provide the Board with information on TF funding and matched funding. It was agreed that both crib sheets would be circulated with the minutes. Board members are asked to forward any comments to Tim Sampson or Sandra Watson (tim.sampson@boston.gov.uk or sandra.watson@e-lindsey.gov.uk) Outstanding item from the last meeting minutes regarding changing places toilets funding and if this was available for other projects. AS confirmed there was £50K in grants available for the Colonnade and Culture House projects re. Changing Places toilets which could be moved to these projects as additional funds. Discussions took place about maximising value of consultants used on future projects and it was agreed, where possible, to have one consultant for a certain type of expertise e.g., Energy usage to work across several projects even with different main contractors. AS to speak to MS. 	<p>AS/JBur</p> <p>AS/MS</p>
5.	Presentation on ELDC led projects, including an update on Mobi-Hub	AS/IA
	<p>The Board received a presentation from Adrian Sibley on the 6 ELDC led projects.</p> <p>Each scheme has a project sponsor, QS and project manager.</p> <p>Close correlation with Comms across the Council and Connected Coast Comms. A discussion took place re. the request for £3.5 million of additional funding for ELDC lead projects and the importance of the board being made aware of these proposals asap to ensure a consistent PR message is delivered.</p> <p>Colonnade:</p> <p>AB advised there had been some negative feedback.</p> <p>AS advised there had been no negative feedback through the portal.</p> <p>More communications are required around the scheme to engage the community.</p> <p>CDa the communications strategy is important. When there is negativity, a positive message needs to go out to promote the long term benefits of the projects.</p>	

DCamp inflation rate risk transfer to contractor.
AS advised the contractor will carry inflation costs.

Campus for Future Living:

AS informed the board that £300k had been moved from the revenue allocation to capital.

AS advised awarding the build contract in 2 weeks, start on site Jan/Feb 2023.

Discussions still taking place around the operator contract.

Decision has been made to take the build forward without an operator.

IA advised that there is an Advisory Group in place to secure commitment with Pharma, MTIF Nottingham Trent and University of Lincoln and Health Space (Jacqui Bunce and Sandra Williamson).

Recruiting for a new Project/Business Manager, with Medi-Tech and Pharma background.

Mobi-Hub:

Further discussions need to take place through the Technical Subgroup.

IA the project needs to be clear by the end of the year.

AS confirmed that this is the project which is currently at risk.

AB there is a need to engage with other businesses in Mablethorpe.

The site could generate an income for ELDC.

RC when is the cut off date, is it this financial year.

IA advised that the build and operation has until 2025, average lead time is approx. 1 year from Heads of Terms to spades in the ground.

Culture House:

AS advised the main improvement will be to the access of the building with improved frontage. A very different project, which will go out to tender in early 2023 and start late Spring.

Different sources of funding for example CDF (Cultural Development Fund).

CB there will be a significant amount of extra funding if the above is successful,

The board agreed to await the outcome of the Arts Council Fund bid, hopefully in March 23, to agree a start date.

Foreshore:

AS updated the Board on the project, there are 5 lots and 13 long list of Expressions of Interest received, reduced to 11 short listed.

AS confirmed there has been interested in 4 lots. The lot north of the pier is currently excluded from the available plots, as subject to another funding bid.

DCamp reminded the Board that there are restrictions in the lodge's location.

CB requested artistic impressions of the pier frontage, to be circulated to the Board, if available.

	<p>CDr advised the Board that the frontage of the pier was a small element of the bid for CDF, and the vast majority was for public realm to include free space for the public, easy dining, and entertainment. Community space, events places and small shops to generate revenue.</p> <p>A wind turbine is being installed at the end of the pier, to be tested on how much energy is generated (over the winter period).</p> <p>AS confirmed that 5 projects are progressing nicely, the Mobi-Hub is at risk at present.</p> <p>All projects have been subject to financial pressures, the next 3 to 4 months are key.</p>	
6.	Risk registers and Update on projects	IA
	<p>The Board received a report from Ivan Annibal summarising the status of programme risk and project updates.</p> <p>Skegness Foreshore: A good range of responses to the opportunities for all sites within the portfolio has been received. The initial expression of interest period is now over and shortlisting is underway. It is anticipated that the final package of investments will be completed by the end of January 2023. There are links between this project and the application to support the development of the Pier, which has been made by Mellors Group.</p> <p>Skegness Interchange (Station): This initiative has been renamed to reflect the wider agenda it is now able to encompass by linking with the potential (outside of the Towns Fund envelope) bus station redevelopment. East Midlands Rail have a significant programme team leading the project.</p> <p>It has not been possible to date to secure a signed funding agreement from EMR who are the lead agency for this project. Discussions around parking are currently scheduled with the County Council. The taxi arrangements at the station are to be reviewed.</p> <p>The concept and the tender design have now been signed off by Network Rail. It is proposed to move to the detailed design process once the refurbishment contract is in place. In terms of progress the contractor needs to be bought on board due to rising costs, on-site early 2023 and completion is scheduled for early 2024.</p> <p>Police Training Centre and Hardy’s Multi-User Trail: Both projects are completed and have been able to draw down the full value of the grant proposed in each case.</p>	

Town Centre Transformation: A very well attended heritage tour of Skegness has been held as a promotional event by the project sponsors Heritage Lincolnshire.

The project has built up some really good momentum in Skegness. There are 5 shop fronts in Skegness, mainly on Lumley Road in for planning, with a further four shop front grants, approved in principle by the Grants Panel. In terms of the public realm, a contract has now been let with Gleeds to develop Tower Gardens. Skegness Town Council has agreed to make a financial contribution to the implementation of this scheme.

Skegness Learning Campus: All the pre-application work is complete with no negativity received over the plans and the planning application for this project has been submitted. The land procurement is with solicitors, awaiting a sales contract. A dedicated Skegness College Principal role has been agreed with a remit to prepare a path for the opening of the new facility.

Adrian Clarke updated the Board on progress:

Planning application submitted October 2022 and validated November 2022 decision should be by early January 2023.

As much cost price certainty as possible.

Purchase of the land is being finalised and documents to be signed, in terms of the timescales, subject planning permission completion.

Risks: no public comments only statutory comments on the portal and price tenders once it goes to market.

CB asked if the FA is involved in the sports area. AC confirmed that the FA have opportunity for input and he will check the portal.

Culture House: Martin Kay from the Towns Fund team is now part of the project development process providing additional capacity. The project has achieved planning permission. It is proposed to let the construction tender in January 2023 with a view to a start in terms of physical refurbishment works in late spring/early summer 2023.

Mablethorpe

Campus for Future Living: Planning permission has been agreed. The council is taking the lead in letting the build contract and also (with the support of core partners) managing the building.

Health Education England has approved a £50,000 Digital Literacy Grant to support the preparation of the ground for the project. A Steering Group has

been established amongst its users to plan the roll out of the operational activities associated with the initiative. This is Chaired by Professor Mark Gussy from the Lincoln International Institute of Rural Health at the University of Lincoln.

National Trust at Sandilands: Temporary facilities including a pop-up café have now been installed on the site of this project. There is office space on site and a few members of staff working in the unit. The car park transfer between NT and ELDC legal team to follow in the next few months. Full planning permission is anticipated imminently. A new internal project manager for the initiative has been appointed. The two entrances for the car park are being amalgamated, and there will be a fully accessible path. The facility will also have a ranger base which wasn't originally planned for the Towns Fund, but which will now be included. It is planned for construction to commence in early summer 2023 and the facility will open to the public in 2024. Volunteer recruitment will begin in winter 2023. The project board have had the £6.4m (£2m from Towns Fund) project signed off by internal National Trust Executive Board.

Leisure and Learning Centre: Planning Permission was granted on 1st September 2022. Fully costed contractor's proposals were expected by the end of July 2022, this timeline slipped to mid-September due to some packages not receiving a priced return from the supply chain and further work being required to secure bona fide returns. The total contract sum returned was above the available project budget. Options are being worked through to enable the project to proceed to delivery. The latest programme issued by the contractor shows the earliest possible start on site being within the next two months with completion in June 2024.

An Agreement for Lease is in progress with the end user/ operator of the facility (Magna Vitae). This will be required before the Council enter into the construction agreement.

Town Centre Transformation: Following the agreement to scale this project back to provide enough resource to deliver an outcome for the Mobi-hub, a good pipeline of projects has come forward. The first tangible evidence of the initiative will involve the refurbishment of the café on High Street. It is hoped that this will stimulate interest from all the shops within the wrought iron canopy area to have a refurbished frontage. An ongoing dialogue about how the funding can be used to address some of the wider strategic streetscape challenges in the area is in train.

	<p>Mobi-Hub: A discussion has been scheduled for 25 November and progress will be reported at the next meeting.</p> <p>Colonnade at Sutton-on-Sea: The Section 30 Agreement is now in train with the Environment Agency. The issues raised by Natural England are not expected to have a negative material impact on the progress of the project. It is anticipated that the build will start in March 2023 and the project will be completed by April 2024.</p> <p>Risk Register: The Risk Register was circulated to members of the Board.</p>	
7.	New TF guidance to the Board (to note)	ALL
	The new TF guidance document was circulated to the Board to note.	
8.	Update on membership of the board	ALL
	The Board noted there were 3 resignations. The Board agreed to the proposed new members of the Board to widen membership to the whole of East Lindsey due to the revised remit of the board.	
9.	Communications (attached Communications Plan and verbal update)	MG
	The Board received a verbal update from MG.	
10.	Skegness Coastal Communities Skills Event, Levelling Up, UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Towns Fund: Performance Reporting	ML
	<p>The following written update was provided by Mick Lazarus:</p> <p><u>Skegness Coastal Communities Skills Event</u> Minister Davison was unfortunately unable to attend in person, but she did share a pre-recorded message for a Coastal Communities Skills Project event in Skegness event on 30 November, see link below. https://we.tl/t-NGBkvAFioV</p> <p><u>Levelling Up Fund and UKSPF</u> I would like to say thank you all for being so patient, the intention was absolutely to have made an announcement on both fronts by now, however good news in that the recent Autumn Statement confirmed that the second round of Levelling Up Fund will allocate at least £1.7bn, matching what was made available in round one. Successful bids will be announced before the end of the year. On UKSPF, I appreciate that delays in announcing will likely have an impact on planned activity and spend as set out in investment plans, in particular for this year 2022/23. Not a current confirmed policy position but as way of assurance, Government recognises that places may need to reprioritise any 22/23 activity given the delay in announcing. With this in mind there is appetite to provide some flexibility to local authorities, certainly in terms of delivery of proposed activity and associated spend in 22/23. I (Mick) can pick this up with officers separately when more detail becomes available. And</p>	ML

	<p>finally, some local authorities are concerned that the UKSPF funding pot has shrunk, I can confirm that that the UKSPF quantum remains at £2.6bn, over 3 years.</p> <p><u>Towns Fund: Performance Reporting</u> DLUHC is required to carry out performance and assurance reviews of previous payments before it releases further funding and ensure delivery of the fund’s objectives. As per previously shared Monitoring and Evaluation guidance, Government requires all places to report formally twice a year to enable annual payments the beginning of the next financial year 2023/24. DLUHC has recently updated towns fund reporting guidance and requirements, the department has provided tutorial and held webinars for local authorities to help them understand the new process.</p> <p>The latest performance returns are due by 16 December, I expect Tim (and others) will have this fully in hand but if any support and/or clarity is required then please do let me (Mick) know if advance of this submission date.</p> <p>Shared Prosperity Fund IA advised the Board that a bidding prospectus was being prepared. It was agreed that this item should be discussed further at the next meeting of the Board.</p>	
11.	Any Other Business	CB
	<p>CB queries what would happen to the old college building and AC advised the keys will be handed back.</p> <p>Attached are two crib sheets for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anticipated start dates ● Town Fund financial summary <p>The next Board meeting has been arranged for Thursday 9 February 2022 at 10.30 am -venue to be advised.</p>	