



Minutes of the Connected Coast Board meeting held on Monday 27 February 2023 held via Teams.

Attendees	Position	Initials
Chris Baron	Chair	CB
Claire Draper	Mellors Group (vice chair)	CDr
Cllr Craig Leyland	East Lindsey District Council - Leader	CL
Cllr Colin Davie	Lincolnshire County Council	CDa
Cllr Steve Kirk	Portfolio Holder for Coastal Economy - ELDC	SK
Adrian Clarke	TEC Partnership	AC
Robert Caudwell	Association of Drainage Boards	RCa
Kirsty James	National Trust	KJ
John Latham	University of Lincoln	JL
Pat Doody	Chair of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP	PD
George Bell	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	GB
John Henry Looney	Sustainable Direction Limited (Director)	JHL
James Brindle	Magna Vitae Trust for Leisure & Culture	JB
Sidney Dennis	Visit Lincs Coast BID (Chairman)	SD
Stephanie Dickens	HM Government	SDi
Rebecca Clark	Boston College	RCI
Adrian Humphreys	Boston College	AH
Deborah Campbell	Environment Agency	DCam
Robert Parker	Micronclean	RP
Chris Reed	Victoria Atkins MP Office	CR
Mike Brophy	Head of Social Value, Nuclear Waste Services	MB
Samantha King	Head of Siting Operations, Nuclear Waste Services	SK
Ann Hardy	TEC Partnership	AH
Maria Jesus Alfaro-Simmonds	University of Huddersfield	MJAS
Anna Tarrant	University of Lincoln (UKRI Future Leaders Fellow)	AT
Victoria Godfrey	HM Government (DLUHC)	VG
Support Officers in Attendance		
Ivan Annibal	Rose Regeneration on behalf of SELCP	IA
Lydia Rusling	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	LR
Martin Kay	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	MK
Tim Sampson	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	TS
Jon Burgess	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	JBur
Michelle Gant	The Engaging People Company	MG
Sam Benson	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	SB
Sandra Watson	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	SMW

Item		Action
1.	Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence	CB
	<p>The Chair welcomed the Board to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies for absence were recorded from Caroline Killeavy; Jacqui Bunce; Justin Brown; John Latham; Ruth Carver; Michelle Sacks; Adrian Humphreys.</p> <p>The Chair congratulated the team on funding announcements for Levelling Up and UKSPF and the recent turf cutting ceremony for the Campus for Future Living.</p> <p>Further dates arranged for Sutton on Sea Colonnade and Mablethorpe Leisure and Learning.</p>	
2.	Declarations of Interest	ALL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Baron (Destination Lincolnshire Board) • Claire Draper, Fantasy Island (Cultural Development Fund) • Pat Doody (Lindum Board) • John Henry Looney (CSS project on a SIA) 	
3.	Minutes of Board Meeting held on 1st December 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 about outstanding points as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TS to show £50k for the Changing Places toilets at the Colonnade and Culture House on the crib sheet, which has been agreed. • Ensure ongoing economies of scale moving forward on all projects. • Covenants on the playing fields to be chased by JBu and an update will be circulated outside the meeting. • Reminder on old college building use. LR to talk to the Council's Assets Team and update the Board at a future meeting. Chair suggested it could be used as an incubator unit, enabling new businesses or restarts. 	<p>TS</p> <p>JBu</p> <p>LR</p>
5.	Theddlethorpe - Presentation on the Introduction to Geological Disposal	MB/SK
	<p>The Board received a presentation from Mike Brophy (MB) Head of Social Value, Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) and Samantha King (SK) Head of Siting Operations, NWS. Presentation circulated with the minutes.</p> <p>The Chair advised it would be useful for the Board to know what is happening outside the original Towns Fund area. Theddlethorpe was referenced in the Mablethorpe Town Investment Plan as a potential area for future development, although outside the scope of the Towns Fund boundary.</p> <p>MB/SK offered updates at future meetings of the Board if required.</p> <p>The Chair asked who administers the £1m a year fund. MB advised it is administered by NWS and managed by the Community Partnership. A sub-committee called a Community Investment Panel make the decision on awards of up to £100k, recommendations are made to a NWS committee for over £100k.</p> <p>The Chair asked if this covers the Mablethorpe and Theddlethorpe area. MB confirmed that it covers the two wards. Investments can be made outside the wards, but a decision would have to be made by the panel and demonstrate benefits for the residents, for example if there is no secondary school in the area.</p>	

	<p>The Chair asked if the funds could be accumulated. MB confirmed that the funding must be spent within the year. If a community panel makes an award, NWS take this as committed funds, which can be spent over more than a year.</p> <p>The Chair asked if there is anything further planned for the area. SK responded that NWS is working to understand other opportunities for co-location for the site. SK updated on a chat entry for youth and children: NWS do not currently have under 18yrs represented on the community partnership. Board to put forward details of organisations who can represent.</p> <p>AT introduced herself, she is a Researcher at the University of Lincoln working with Nuffield Foundation on how place effects life chances and aspirations. AT offered any feedback from the field which may help NWS Community Engagement team.</p> <p>The Chair asked if there could be any links with the Campus for Future Living. MB advised the Board, discussions have taken place and LR provided an example of self-employed carers project. IA updated the Board that an application has been submitted for job creation for people to become self-employed carers. IA/LR/MB to meet to discuss.</p> <p>RC asked about the £1m per year and what restrictions on use, i.e. capital or revenue (on going year after year) if capital, is it is restricted? MB responded that the funding needs to be awarded per year and cannot be used for statutory funding, there are 3 national priorities: 1) employment and skills, 2) environment and 3) community wellbeing. Beyond this, the community investment panel can create local specific criteria, but there is no restriction on capital vs revenue. SK commented that funding could be used for a role created.</p> <p>PD asked about engaging with the university and skills shortage (future work force), how funds like this can address shortage of engineers for example. MB responded, use in immediate future i.e., intro to higher education project could benefit students in the area, supporting students from area to summer schools raises aspirations and understanding of University life or funding a bus pass to get to colleges. Using a supply chain and give career examples, how can NWS lever playing a part in public investment.</p> <p>The Chair thanked MB/SK and advised a yearly update for the Board.</p>	<p>MB/SK/AT</p> <p>IA/LR/MB</p>
6.	Risk registers and Update on projects	IA
	<p>The Board received a report from IA summarising the status of programme risk and project updates.</p> <p><u>Skegness</u></p> <p>Skegness Foreshore</p> <p>The expressions of interest received for the four packages on the foreshore are currently being evaluated and a workshop with the proposed investors to further interrogate the outline proposals is scheduled for March 2023.</p> <p>JBu updated the Board that lot 1 lodge site preferred scheme is easy enough to progress and in line with existing consents. Lot 2 has 2 competing interests for new investments. Lot 4 extensions of existing offers within Skegness. Lot 3 Southern Boating Lake, there is a preferred EOI.</p>	

	<p>Some detail missing from proposed funding models and time required to understand the finer mechanics of each proposal. A short list confirmed and agreed by end of March.</p> <p>The Chair advised that the lodge development would not form part of the town funds expenditure. Is the proposal for Lot 1 needing funding from TD Board or is it separate? JBu responded that this would be part of conversations to be resolved, with potential investment into the utility infrastructure on the foreshore releasing development opportunities, rather than any development subsidy on individual lots. If there is a requirement around utilities connection that will also serve adjacent plots. Commissioned utility infrastructure capacity study.</p> <p>Skegness Interchange (Station)</p> <p>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 has a significant programme team leading the station project. The Grant Funding Agreement has now been signed for the project.</p> <p>Discussions around parking have been held with the East Coast Transport Board and a connection with the Estates Management team at Lidl has been identified for a possible Park and Ride arrangement. The taxi arrangements at the station are also 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>IA/Steve Brooks to meet to discuss the Skegness Traffic Model.</p> <p>The Chair updated the Board on the visit to Skegness Interchange to understand the layout and possibility of further parking outside the front on the station. It was good to hear there will be minimal disruption to passengers in July/August and work will start in the Red Star building in May and June, visitors should have a trouble-free entry to the town.</p> <p>Police Training Centre and Hardy’s Multi-User Trail</p> <p>Both projects are completed and have been able to draw down funding.</p> <p>Town Centre Transformation</p>	<p>IA/SB</p>
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	<p>A very well attended heritage tour of Skegness has been held as a promotional event by the project sponsors, Heritage Lincolnshire.</p> <p>The project has built up some good momentum in Skegness. There are 5 shop fronts in Skegness, mainly Lumley Road in for Planning consent, with a further 4 shop front grants, approved in principle by the Grants Panel. In terms of the public realm, a contract has been let to develop Tower Gardens.</p> <p>Skegness Town Council has agreed to make a financial contribution to the implementation of this scheme. The plans for the redevelopment of Tower Gardens are now complete and a contractor has been appointed. A number of agreed approaches to the design of key installations including waste bins have also been agreed.</p> <p>The Chair advised that there has been a VAT query on 4 of the properties and HTL/EMR are liaising around seamless way finding.</p> <p>Learning Campus</p> <p>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.</p> <p>AC updated the Board and advised on target timescales for opening Christmas 2024. Planning permission secured on 31 January 2023, with reasonable outstanding issues being dealt with. PQQ returned earlier in the month and went out to tender, initially 5 selected contractors' one of which has withdrawn. Tender return due on 30 March 2023. Concerns around the pre-tender estimate putting project over by £600k, an internal workshop to be held to carry out value engineering.</p> <p>In terms of next steps, the tender went out as a bill of quant, land purchase completion imminent, Grant Funding Agreement received to be signed and will be returned to ELDC as soon as possible. Gemma Robinson is the new Campus Director and Assistant Associate Principal and started on 27 February.</p> <p>Culture House</p> <p>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</p>	
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	<p>to a start in terms of physical refurbishment works in late spring/early summer 2023.</p> <p>MK updated the Board that the Culture House was on hold at present awaiting the outcome of the CDF application. Both the gas and water diversion are now resolved. LK2 progressing with fire and asbestos surveys. Discussion with MV around programme and access going forward. The Chair asked regarding the tender of costs against the original budget and MK advised of value engineering and would advise further outside this meeting.</p> <p><u>Mablethorpe</u></p> <p>Campus for Future Living</p> <p>The build contract for the project has now been let and the turf cutting ceremony was held on 8 February 2023. It was exceptionally well attended and generated significant positive publicity. Detailed discussions are taking place to enable the preparation of an ITT process to identify an operator in parallel with possible partnership users including the Talent Academy, University of Lincoln, ICS and others. This has included the scoping out of the potential to use the Campus as a base for a radical re-imagining of adult domiciliary care and a bid to the NWS Theddlethorpe Fund has been made as part of the process.</p> <p>Health Education England have approved a £50,000 Digital Literacy Grant.</p> <p>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 Institute of Rural Health at the University of Lincoln.</p> <p>The Chair commented on the quality of the hoardings which are superb, the sheer scale of the site is amazing and worth a visit. IA commented on the quality of the hoardings and thanked those involved.</p> <p>National Trust at Sandilands</p> <p>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 has been appointed. The two entrances for the car park are being amalgamated, and there will be fully accessible path. The facility will also have a ranger base which wasn't originally planned for in the Towns Fund, but will now be included. Planned construction to commence in early summer 2023 and the facility</p>	<p>MK/CB</p>
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	<p>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 the internal National Trust Executive Board.</p> <p>IA advised the Board that the National Trust guide book now has an entry for Sandilands.</p> <p>Leisure and Learning Campus</p> <p>The build contract for this project has now been let and the contractor is on site. The current facility will continue to operate whilst the new development is put in place with no facility being available for only 16 weeks.</p> <p>JBu updated the Board that there is a turf cutting ceremony planned for 9 March and an order has been placed to get same design hoardings as Stanley Avenue to wrap the site (currently board hoardings).</p> <p>The Chair asked if this is a fixed price project and how the price compared to the budget.</p> <p>IA made an amendment to the papers supplied for the meeting.</p> <p>JBu was not involved in the contracting, but confident it is a fixed priced project.</p> <p>There was a cost overrun in terms of FBC but covered off with additional report the Council approved late last year to increase direct contribution to cover inflation on ELDC led schemes</p> <p>The Chair asked TS to update the crib sheet to explain where the £3.5m has been allocated to projects and if there are funds remaining.</p> <p>Town Centre Transformation</p> <p>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 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> <p>Mobi-Hub</p> <p>With the modest sum of £700,000 now available to deliver the proposed intervention detailed discussions have been initiated with the current site owners. The scheme is to be re-evaluated in terms of the costing and the land values and a technical study in this context has just been commissioned (in February 2023).</p>	<p>TS</p>
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	<p>IA confirmed that a further £300k is required to give flexibility to proceed with the project</p> <p>A discussion took place and the Board agreed in principle that a deadline for a Heads of Terms should be set for the end of April 2023, an alternative option should put forward after this date and submitted to the next Board meeting in May 2023.</p> <p>Colonnade</p> <p>IA made an amendment to the summary document and advised that contractor has not yet been finalised and discussions are in progress around costs.</p> <p>JBu advised the Board that a meeting has been scheduled to go through the recently submitted cost plan. JBu advised that an event on 10 March will be for publicity and engagement on the project but will not include a turf cutting ceremony. JBu will update the Connected Coast Technical Sub Group at its next meeting on 14 March 2023.</p> <p>Risk Register: The Risk Register was circulated to members of the Board.</p>	<p>IA</p> <p>JBu</p>
7.	Levelling Up, Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural Economy Prosperity Fund	ALL
	<p>The Board received a presentation from Lydia Rusling, which has been circulated with the minutes.</p> <p>LR proposed the 3 projects be integrated into the format of the Town Deal Board and included in the relevant sub group discussions. Spilsby to be integrated within the Tourism, Art, Culture and Heritage sub group and Alford integrated within the Regeneration and Enterprise sub group.</p> <p>LR provided update on UKSPF. The Chair asked if the funds have to be spent or committed by 2023. LR advised there has been approx. 60 applications across the partnership (including SHDC and Boston) and a handful of projects potentially would be suitable for a payment in the early stages, technically there will be an underspend and DLUHC has advised there is flexibility due to the notification of awarding being delayed.</p> <p>The Chair apologised to FC and CD as heads of the sub groups for not discussing the additional projects added to their groups but hopefully they will agree that their groups expertise will add value to these projects and is the best way forward.</p>	
8.	Year of the Coast 2023	LR
	<p>The Board received a presentation from Lydia Rusling, which has been circulated with the minutes.</p> <p>The Chair asked about the date for the notification of the CDF application outcome, MK advised it was confirmed as 18 March 2023.</p>	

9.	Skegness Gateway	LR
	<p>LR updated the Board on the social value workshop (JBun/CK and external organisations i.e. Active Lincs and Lincolnshire CC were present). The Board were asked to approve a draft letter of support for the Skegness Gateway development based on components of the social value discussion and circulate to the Board to support. DC advised the Board that there had been an objection raised by the Environment Agency following receipt of the Local Development Order and asked for this to be noted and they cannot at this stage. Cllr Leyland advised this would not stop the Board supporting this in principle. The Board supported the letter of support for the project. LR to circulate.</p>	LR
10.	Update on membership of the board*	ALL
	<p>The Board received a paper on resignations received and proposed 4 new members. LR waiting to hear back from those 4 new members, who have asked for further information or on leave. LR introduced Anna Tarrant from University of Lincoln to provide an update on the project she is working on around youth and young people engagement and to give a brief update. AT updated the Board briefly on research, which is part of a UK study that includes 3 sites (Mablethorpe, a site in Huddersfield and Milton Keynes). A participatory action research study with young people aged 10-15 using art based methods to gain a sense of changing significance of their local neighbourhoods and also their lives and perspectives and priorities for change. The research is also interested in young people's everyday lives and life chances and role of place. Mablethorpe is a key and important area for this research. The project started in September 2022 and will finish in May 2024. Currently recruiting people within this age group and connections with Mablethorpe school and youth groups with Magna Vitae. AT asked the Board to provide any connections they aware of to provide support with recruitment. AT is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Lincoln. Working around deprivation and disadvantage, low-income family life and community life. AT also advised that they would like to ensure that young people's voices are heard in local priorities and policy discussions and discussion around young people's participation in the new nuclear site. Any way in which the work can be used in the work being done by the CCB. The Chair asked if any of the Board members have suggestions which could strengthen knowledge away from the coast, please let LR know.</p>	
11.	Changes to ToR*	ALL
	<p>The Board agreed final version of the Terms of Reference (ToR) which included funding sources and geographic changes and have now been uploaded onto the Connected Coast Website Terms-of-Reference-Feb-2023.pdf (connectedcoast.co.uk)</p>	
12.	Communications overview	MGa
	<p>The Board received a written and verbal update from MGa. Summary of comments, it has been a very busy month working on Campus for Future Living. The biggest impact has been around the Campus for Future Living and</p>	



	the railway station. Good response to the blog for the Culture House. The Chair asked the Board to comment if anything needs to be presented differently, more or less often to let MGa know.	
13.	Any Other Business	ALL
	<p>The Chair updated the Board on the workshop held at the end of January on Monitoring and Evaluation. Reminder for a crib sheet (or incorporated into one of the other two) on outputs the projects have committed to and if project managers can let the Board know if there are any changes, for example the High Street Transformation and needs to be kept on the agenda.</p> <p>The Chair thanked those Board members involved in the sub groups which make the Board meetings easier and are an important tool to enable detailed discussions.</p> <p>The next Board meeting has been arranged for 11 May 2023 at 10:30 Venue: U@E - Embassy Theatre, Grand Parade, Skegness PE25 2UG</p>	TS/ALL