Minutes of the Connected Coast Town Deal Board meeting

22 May 2025 at 13:00

at The Embassy Theatre (upstairs VIP lounge),

Grand Parade, Skegness, Lincolnshire, PE25 2UG.

IN PERSON ONLY

Attendees	Position	Initials
Chris Baron	Chair	CB
Claire Draper	Vice Chair, Skegness Pier (Mellors Group)	CD
Chris Lilley	Church of England's Partnership Dean for East Lindsey	CL
Adrian Benjamin	Coastal Community Team	AB
Ann Hardy	TEC	AH
Jacqui Bunce	NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board	JB
Gemma Robinson	Boston College	CF
Caroline Killeavy	National Trust	CK
Cllr Adrian Findley	Skegness Town Council	AF
Cllr Steve Kirk	Lincolnshire County Council	SK
Julie Corden	University of Lincoln	JC
Paul McCooey	Duncan Toplis	PMc
Alice Ullathorne	Heritage Lincolnshire	AU
Support Officers in attendance		
Jon Burgess	South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership	JBu
Michelle Gant	The Engaging People Company on behalf of SELCP	MG
Sandra Watson	East Lindsey District Council	SW

Item	Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence	Action(s)
1.	**Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence**	**CB / SW**
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the board meeting. Apologies for absence were recorded from: Claire Foster; Cllr Carl Tebbutt; Deborah Higton; Deputy PCC Sara Munton; Emma Tatlow; Freddie Chambers; James Brindle; Janet Stubbs; Tracy Stringfellow; Debbie McLatch; Pranali Parikh; Robert Caudwell; Robert Parker; Sandra Williamson; Tim Allen Justin Brown; Jason King; Kirsty James; Louise Ransbery; Roxanne Warwick; Steve Larner; Shuan Gibbons; Malcolm Abbott; Darrall Bishop; Sam Burgess; Claire Hughes; Gareth Dawkins; Jon Hinde and Matthew Hogan	
2.	**Declarations of Interest**	**ALL**
	• Chris Baron, Chair of Destination Lincolnshire CB updated the board on the situation with Destination Lincolnshire and advised that the work completed so far would not be lost. Websites remain live and operational and conversations with Lincolnshire County Council and the Mayoral Combined Authority ongoing to promote the visitor economy moving forwards.	

CONNECTED COAST
BUILDING TO EMPOWER COMMUNITIES

3.	**Minutes of Board Meeting held on 20 March 2025**	**ALL**
	The minutes from the last Connected Coast Board meeting were approved as a true and accurate record.	
4.	**Matters Arising**	**JB**
	A paper was provided to the board covering items from previous board meetings. • It was agreed that the current Connected Coast Board Terms of Reference would be amended to reference Plan for Neighbourhoods, but the more detailed Terms of Reference would be required at the sub group level as the new Plan for Neighbourhoods Board • CB encouraged resolution of the young people proposal, using available capacity funds for Skegness. AB mentioned that the Mablethorpe youth forum are in the process of setting up a youth council who would be keen to be involved, however, would LCVS still be required as a Chaperone. • It was agreed to amend the progress of Burgh Windmill in the Matters Arising paper which was marked as completed, JB has recently raised a query with a colleague on the progress. • The Chair requested that future face to face meetings take place on a Friday to enable attendance by MPs and that consideration be given to inviting the Mayor for Greater Lincolnshire to join the Board. • The Chair requested a list of those board members who have not returned their Register of Interest forms and board meetings attended over the last year. • It was agreed to have minutes issued within 14 days.	
5.	**Communications**	**MG**
	MG covered the headlines from the report circulated to the board, noting priorities around refreshing Plan for Neighbourhoods content and work underway to prepare for ongoing community consultation and engagement.	
6.	**Town Deal Programme Update**	**JB**
	A spreadsheet was provided to the board to note. JB agreed to revert back to project summary as a separate Word document, rather than inclusion in spreadsheet. Key areas of risk noted around: • **Mobi Hub phase 1**. JB to liaise with Matthew Hogan to provide urgent update position statement by the end of June. • **Skegness Foreshore –** allocation of £600K for Scarbrough Esplanade works subject to ongoing dialogue with Arts Council on associated contract variation to reallocate Pier Field chalet funding to further enhance the Embassy Centre fit out • **Skegness Railway station –** a re-tendering exercise is now complete and contracts are due to be signed imminently by the agreed contractor . Officers following up with EMR on revised programme and operational elements linked to completed works	

7.	**Sub-Group Updates**	**JB**
	a. **Skegness TEC presentation** It was agreed the presentation would be circulated after the board meeting, noting the positive enrolment numbers. CB added that it would be a good news story, for TEC to send out a Press Release following demand for places at the college. A formal opening and community engagement event would be confirmed as soon as possible. b. **Mablethorpe – draft notes of the subgroup meeting on 30th April** A copy of the notes from the meeting held on 30th April and were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.	
8.	**Other Funds**	**JB**
	a. **Levelling Up Fund Round 2: Programme Update** • The Alford Manor House is in a good position in terms of delivery and an anticipated start date of July • Spilsby Session House: planning application submitted, pressures on costs and shortfall of funding estimated at c£1.3M for full scope of works. The grant funding available will make the building water tight. b. **Cultural Development Fund – Programme Update** Awaiting Arts Council decision on change of scope of works. Board noted proposed staffing proposed within Magna Vitae, as advised by CB c. **Plan for Neighbourhoods – Update** MG is working up a stakeholder map and website to develop content with right tone, language and a feedback wall for sharing ideas. Conversations continue with MHCLG and we are currently awaiting a revised data pack to enable submission of the revised plan, expected by December 2025. PM highlighted the need to get out to the local community as soon as possible and to help with the consultation. JB confirmed there is a total of £420k funding to enable engagement to go forward. PM added that there is a need to expand social networks and use easy to understand branding and language that is distinct from local Councils. Encourage face to face consultation in areas of highest footfall over the summer period. PM added that the prime goal is to ensure we have done as much as we can, and reached out to as many community members, groups, public as possible. Asking them the right questions to get their feedback. d. **East Lindsey Investment Fund** No further update	
9.	**Combined County and Local Government Review**	**JB**
	It was agreed this would remain as a standing item on the agenda but no further formal progress for Board Members to note at this meeting.	

10.	**Any other business**	**ALL**
	The Board thanked Brendan for his informative tour of the Embassy Theatre works. Key actions and matters arsing for the next meeting agreed as: • Finalising and appointing arrangements for youth engagement and representation to support the Board • Progress community consultation on Plan for Neighbourhoods • Provide further updates for Board on Seaview Colonnade operating arrangements, Mobi Hub costs and programme and East Midlands Railway retender • Issue press release on Skegness TEC student enrolment and engagement	
11.	**Date of the next meeting**	**ALL**
	Thursday 10th July 2025 – venue to be advised	