

WHITBY TOWN DEAL BOARD

FRIDAY 17th JANUARY 2020

9.30am @ GREEN LANE CENTRE, WHITBY

NOTES OF MEETING

IN ATTENDANCE

Robert Goodwill MP RG	Mel Bonney-Kane MBK CAVCA
Cllr Steve Siddons SS SBC	Saul Walker SW Whitby Seafoods
Mike Greene MG SBC	Pam Dobson PD WTC
Alex Richards AR SBC	Cllr Linda Wild LW WTC
Rosie Du-Rose RDR Beyond Housing	David Rodwell DR Whitby Museum
Richard Flinton RF NYCC	James Farrar JF YNYER LEP
Gareth Edmunds GE Sirius Minerals	Paul Fellows PF NYMNP
Ian Vasey IV Port Authority SBC	Kerry Levitt KLV SBC
Dr John Field JFi Whitby Civic Society	

APOLOGIES

Richard Bradley, SBC
Peter Campey, MHCLG
Trevor Mitchell, Historic England
Barry Harland, Whitby Seafoods

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

1. AR/KLV to circulate Nolan Principles to Board members with the minutes
2. AR/KLV to circulate draft Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct documents ahead of the next meeting
3. AR/KLV to circulate presentation slides with the minutes
4. KLV to liaise with the Chair to set a schedule of meetings for the coming months
5. AR/KLV to invite representatives from Further Education, Small Business sector and the Environment Agency to attend Board meetings
6. RG to discuss with the Secretary of State for HCLG and look to arrange an early visit to the Borough to either Whitby or Scarborough
7. AR/KLV – to organise a workshop with an external facilitator to identify the Key Themes for the Investment Plan

8. **ALL** – to identify stakeholder groups and the best way to engage with them
9. **ALL** – to nominate suitable Officers/members of staff that could sit on a project team/s to support AR and the SBC team once key themes have been identified
10. **ALL** – AR to arrange visits to stakeholder group meetings over the coming weeks to present information on the Towns Fund if organisations require
11. AR/KLV to circulate details on the #mytown campaign
12. AR/KLV to pull together a paper outlining all of the current investments and the Strategies in the Borough.
13. KLV – to look into a communication tool for the group to use such as a What's App group

Round table introductions.

1. Town Deals and the Town Deal Board

AR gave a presentation to the Board on the Towns Fund, the Town Deal process and what is required for each town of Scarborough and Whitby. The slides from the presentation will be circulated with the minutes.

AR informed the Board that central Government have set a number of conditions for the operation of the Board, these include;

- Members adhering to the Nolan Principles – these will be circulated with the minutes
- The Board must have published Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct documents – draft documents will be circulated prior to the next meeting for comment and signed off at the next Board meeting
- Conflicts of Interests must be declared at meetings.

Comments received in response to ARs presentation

RF – the Board needs to identify what investment is currently being delivered in the Borough from other agencies such as the Environment Agency, heritage investment and transport investment to paint a bigger picture of the current level of investment.

RDR – a % of homes in the Borough are 2nd homes – need to look at how this impacts on the statistics reported of above average home ownership in the Borough because this may not be an accurate statistic for those that live in the Borough.

SS – need to consider emerging devolution plans.

JF – the Board should focus on what can or needs to be done to change the negative (red) indicators of deprivation to positive (green) indicators and how the

Towns Fund money can assist with this rather than just coming up with ideas on how to spend £25m. This funding is only one element of a Strategic long term plan for investment in the town.

MG – cultural arts and the creative and digital sectors will have a big part to play in the regeneration of the area.

2. Election of Chair of the Board

AR advised the Board that the recommendation from Government is that the Chair of the Board is from the private sector.

GE put himself forward for the position of Chair of the Board. Seconded by RG.

The Board agreed to appoint GE Chair of the Whitby Town Deal Board.

3. Ideas and emerging thoughts

JF – A visual representation of Whitby is needed. What assets does the town currently have and what investment is currently taking place? PF – it would be interesting to see how people who live outside Whitby view the town.

RDR – the Board needs a clear steer and vision. The ToFR need agreeing and a schedule needs to be set up. GE – draft Terms of Ref will be circulated before the next meeting.

RG informed the Board that central Government is keen to relocate services and departments out of London. Scarborough and Whitby are both attractive towns and could be marketed as a possible relocation destination. RG has been conversing already with the Secretary of State for HCLG and the Board could invite him along for an early visit to either Whitby or Scarborough.

MG/RF – need to carry out a piece of work quickly to highlight work themes. A workshop session facilitated by an external body to identify 4-5 headline themes. Following this project teams can be established with technical officers/staff. Board members to nominate team members that are available to sit on the project boards and assist with the process.

PD – Transport is a big issue, especially parking in the summer. There is little opportunity for jobs and wages are poor. Whitby is known as a cultural and heritage centre from around the world – this needs to be enhanced. Whitby offers a slower pace of life than a city.

4. Wider stakeholder engagement

AR asked the Board if they felt any sectors were missing from the Board and needed to be included. Suggestions put forward included further education, small business sector and the Environment Agency.

The Regeneration Team and the capital funding received is to support the work of the Board. It is proposed that consultants are appointed to engage with the community and stakeholders and prepare the Investment Plan document.

MBK – the Board needs to look at more creative ways of consultation to engage with the community.

PD offered to get all Whitby Town Councillors together for a workshop session to feed in ideas. IV – The Harbour Consultation Group meets on Monday (20th) which could be an opportunity to inform them of the Towns Fund. AR agreed to spend the next few weeks visiting various community group/stakeholder meetings to update them on the Towns Fund.

MG – it may also be worthwhile to look back at old consultations and pull together some ideas from existing consultations instead of repeating them and asking the same questions.

Set up a facilitator workshop session to agree the themes the Board need to concentrate on. A series of workshops with wider stakeholders can then be arranged based on the themes identified.

Everyone on the Board needs to identify stakeholder groups and best way to engage.

5. Meeting schedule

Meetings will take monthly. Dates to be circulated in line with the Chairs availability.

6. AOB

SS suggested a digital group such as What's App is created to help with ease of communication between members. SBC to investigate.

AR – an existing social media campaign has been set up by central Government for the Towns Fund using #mytown. Any press/media releases must include this hashtag and specific guidelines followed. These will be circulated with the minutes. If the Board require further social media presence than already established for Scarborough and Whitby this can be discussed at the next meeting

RR suggested Officers from other LAs that have already been through the process be invited along to a Board meeting to share their knowledge and expertise. MG - Grimsby and Calderdale have already been through the process so they could be approached for sharing advice or invited to a future meeting.

RF requested if a Civil Servant could be invited to the Board meetings. AR informed the Board that Peter Campey from MHCLG was invited but was unable to make it.

The Board agreed that the need for urgency to progress actions and the work plan was required because the time available to pull together the required Investment Plan by September 2020 is very limited.