

# Minutes

**Meeting Title:** Truro Town Deal Board

**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**Time:** 13.30 to 15.30

**Location:** Microsoft Teams

**Chaired by:** David Walrond (DW)

**Attendees:** Voting Members: CC Bert Biscoe (BB), Rachel Hammond (RH), Cllr David Harris (DH), Simon Hendra (SH), Alun Jones (AJ), Nigel King (NK), Cherilyn Mackrory (CM), Harry Pickering (HP), CC Loic Rich (LR), Nick Seaton-Burridge (NB), Alan Stanhope (AS), CC Dulcie Tudor (DT), David Walrond (DW)

Officers: Beth Briggs (BBr), Glenn Caplin-Grey (GCG), Mark O'Brien (MB) Mel Richardson (MR), Phill Woods (PW)

**Apologies:** Roger Gazzard (RG), Carole Theobald (CT), Nigel Knuckey (NKn)

## 1 Welcome and Apologies

- Apologies noted under Attendees above.
- PW advised that, in CT absence and to allow AS to focus on presentation of project update, DW had agreed to Chair the meeting.
- There was consensus that the Board were happy with this arrangement.

## 2 Declaration of Interest

- No declarations of interest were declared.

## 3 Minutes of the last Meeting

- It was proposed by BB, seconded by AS and agreed by the Board that these minutes be adopted as an accurate record.
- Actions from last meeting:
  - Item 6: MR advised that the check and challenge date was now booked for 14<sup>th</sup> December.
  - Item 6: PW confirmed this action was completed

## 4 Matters arising not covered on the agenda

- Members noted that LJ had stepped down from her role as Coordinator and the role was now being undertaken by MR (with a focus on TIP production) and MB (with a focus on stakeholder engagement and liaison with Cornwall Council).

- It was noted that MR had stepped down from her position as voting member of the Board.
- Members were advised that a replacement was being sought, initially from Newham BID.

## 5 Project portfolio update

- AS had shared a written update prior to the meeting. AS took Members through this paper.
- Members expressed thanks to AS for all his work to date.
- The need for further project-based discussions with the Environment Agency was highlighted.
- CM noted that she would be happy to facilitate a meeting with the EA.
- There was extensive discussion around the Board's investment in a community centre, and which option was most feasible and best value for money.
- There was consensus that a community centre was needed in the town, and the merits of the possible projects were considered.
- AS noted the recommendations in his report which needed to be voted on by the Board.
- The recommendation was to adopt the project portfolio as set out in AS report, and also to incorporate provisional expenditure relating to the following:
  - Pydar project (for site clearance/land remediation, subject to government advice) or, subject to further discussion, an alternative contribution.
  - Sustainable transport scheme linking the Truro central with Langarth
  - Development of Truro Community Hub
- It was clarified that the vote was to approve progress of project development to establish direction of travel, the Board were not voting that these projects were for definite inclusion in the TIP.
- The Board agreed to adopt the recommendations in the report, subject to further work being undertaken with regards to clarifying specifics on the Pydar project, including appropriateness of funding for contribution to certain aspects of project (e.g. demolition works).
- Nine Members voted in favour. Two Board Members were unable to support the projects portfolio in its current form.
- It was noted that further development work and discussion was required around the community centre proposals.

## 6 Progress on Truro Town Deal Investment Plan

- MR advised that she had been working with Arup to get an early steer, that the feedback had been positive and that she was making good progress on the draft.
- It was noted that the design template, commissioned by Cornwall Council as an additional resource to the Board, had also been circulated with the agenda pack.
- Example submissions from earlier cohorts were available online, and the Board requested these be circulated.
- **ACTION:** MR/BB to circulate examples.
- There followed an extensive discussion regarding the use of the term 'capital' when referring to Truro and concern over sensitivities around the aspirations of Truro and other Cornish towns and the need to advance the interests of the county as well as the town.

- MR noted that in consideration of the ‘tippex test’, Truro’s identity had to be clearly identifiable and wanted the TIP to be as bold as possible, noting that the injection of funding of up to £25m would be of benefit to the county.
- MR noted Members’ comments and would consider them whilst producing the next draft of the TIP.

#### 7 **Communications and Engagement update**

- A paper had been circulated with the agenda.
- RH reported on the good work one by Agile PR.
- RH noted that the second lockdown had hindered plans for out-of-home advertising and that Agile had reallocated costs to other forms of marketing.
- It was noted that the contract would be discussed under item 9, Capacity Budget.

#### 8 **Submission timeline of milestones**

- PW advised the Board of the milestones for internal sign off, prior to TIP submission on 29<sup>th</sup> January.
- **ACTION:** PW to circulate the timetable to the Board.
- PW noted that, although the TIP would start going through the internal approval process early in the New Year, there would be a caveat that the TIP may change throughout and that it would come back to the Board.

#### 9 **Town Deal capacity budget**

- A summary was circulated with the agenda pack.
- The Board noted that the budget allocated to Comms (originally based on an October submission date) required increase/extension.
- It was agreed by the Board that CT and AS address this situation under their delegated powers and Agile PR be retained until TIP submission.

#### 10 **AOB**

- It was noted that an update on accelerated fund projects had not been included in this meeting due to time constraints, but would be provided in at the next meeting of the Board.

#### 11 **Date of Next Meeting**

- It was agreed that the meeting be moved from 18<sup>th</sup> December to 21<sup>st</sup> December to allow MR time to incorporate changes following the check and challenge session on the 14<sup>th</sup> and circulate the revised draft to the Board prior to the meeting.
- It was also agreed that the meeting be extended from the usual 2 hours to 3 hours to allow adequate time for review of the draft TIP.
- Proposed meeting date/time: 21<sup>st</sup> December, 9.30-12.30
- **ACTION:** BB to poll members and circulate invite accordingly.