

Minutes

Meeting Title: Truro Town Deal Board meeting

Date: Thursday, 16th June 2022

Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chaired by: Alan Stanhope (AS)

Attendees: Voting Members: Phil Allen (PA), Bert Biscoe (BB), Rachel Hammond (RH), Cllr David Harris (DH), Simon Hendra (SH), Alun Jones (AJ), Nigel King (NK), Rob Nolan (RN), Cllr Jordan Rowse (subs for Cherilyn Mackrory MP), Loic Rich (LR), David Walrond (DW), Nick Seaton-Burridge (NSB), Cllr Chris Wells (CW).

Officers: Gareth Beer (GB), Glenn Caplin-Grey (GCG), Sarah Corbett (SC), Aurore Parkin (AP), Helen Nicholson (HN), Melissa Burrow (MB), Rachel Picken (RP)

Presenters: Andrew Archer (AA)

Apologies: Nigel Knuckey (NK), Carole Theobald (CT), Claire Hurley (CH), Phillip Woods (PW), Harry Pickering (HP)

1 Consent of all present to record meeting

- All present consented to the meeting being recorded for the purpose of assisting with minute production.

2 Welcome and Apologies

- Apologies noted above.
- The Chair let the board know that CH was on extended leave.

3 Declaration of Potential Conflicts of Interest

- NK declared an interest in Old Bakery Studios and Richmond House.
- DH declared an interest as a Cabinet member at Cornwall Council
- PA declared an interest as a member of Truro Boating Association.

4 Minutes and action tracker

- Two sets of minutes – from the last ordinary board meeting on 17th March 2022 and the extraordinary meeting on 27th April – were reviewed.
- The minutes of the meeting on 17th March 2022 were agreed as an accurate record. Proposed by BB and seconded by DH with all in favour.

- The minutes of the meeting on 27th April 2022 were agreed as an accurate record. Proposed by BB, seconded by DH with all in favour.
- Actions – 17/3/22:
 - Action 1 – MB advised that interdependencies between projects will be highlighted as part of the Section 151 process. A map had been circulated in the agenda pack showing Truro Town Deal projects and some other projects.
 - Action 2 – If there is sufficient interest across the four Town Deal boards a workshop can be arranged with ARUP. **ACTION 1:** board members to let MB know if they would like to attend a workshop by 22/6/22.
 - Action 3 – CM not available to provide an update.
 - Actions 4 and 5 – complete
 - Action 6 – no questions received.
 - Action 7 – MB had been advised that the best way to ensure projects proceed through planning at pace would be to do as much pre-app work as possible. However, it was felt that it would still be beneficial for the head of Planning to attend a meeting to give the board assurance. **ACTION 2:** GCG to contact Louise Wood in Planning.
- Actions - 27/4/22:
 - Action 1 – Mace Ward Joint Venture are recommencing work on the Truro Harbour & Lemon Quay project to help deliver it.
 - Action 2 – in progress - PMO confirming how much match funding the Community Hub project has secured. It was noted that the amount of match funding to be provided to the Community Hub by the Pydar Street project had reduced significantly: £500,000 had been approved by Cornwall Council's Cabinet, but it was not clear whether this was the amount due from Pydar Street or in addition to it. **ACTION 3:** GCG to look into how much match funding Cornwall Council are providing for the Community Hub.
 - Action 3 - NK left the meeting temporarily due to a conflict of interests regarding Old Bakery Studios (OBS). The OBS business case had been handed over by NK to Truro City Council so Truro City Council and the New Life for City Buildings (NLCB) development company would be able to review the project.
 - It was noted that the board had referred OBS to NLCB for them to consider against their usual criteria, with no expectation that the project would be guaranteed funding. NSB, as a director-elect of NLCB development company, confirmed that NLCB were happy to consider OBS on this basis and that it would have to follow same application process as any other project.
- DW requested a detailed summary of how commuted costs for Lighterage Quay bridge had been calculated in order to assist with the board's stewardship of funds.
- **ACTION 4** – MB to provide summary of commuted costs to the board.

5 Matters arising

- None in addition to those covered above.

6 Verbal reports from board members re. projects

Boscawen Park – NK

- It might be necessary to reduce the project due to construction cost inflation, but because the building is modular NK and the project lead remained confident it could be delivered.

Green Transport – LR

- LR had met with Newham BID re the Green Transport project. To be covered later in meeting.
- LR extended his thanks to AA, MB and the Green Transport group for their work on the project.

The Hive – CW

- Demolition work had started on site.
- Design development process progressing well with stakeholder consultation ongoing. Public consultation due first week of July 2022.
- Reserved Matters application to be submitted in the autumn.

Community Hub – BB

- The listed buildings committee of the Methodist Church supported the revised plans and discussions were ongoing ahead of a planning application.

New Life for City Buildings – NSB

- Good progress was being made, subject to Section 151 and Government approval.
- Working on marketing and finding out which buildings were available.
- Developing grant application process.

Lemon Quay – NSB

- No update

Truro Harbour – PA

- To be covered later in the meeting.

Royal Cornwall Museum – SH

- Business case had been submitted.
- RCM had not secured match funding yet but were making applications.

7 **Update on Green Transport project**

- Newham BID had written to Truro TD Board with concerns about the proposed Green Transport project – they were concerned that increasing the number of pedestrians and cyclists on Newham Rd would be unsafe as the road is used by large vehicles and there is a pinch point where access is already constrained.
- MB advised that a funding shortfall of £1.26m in the Green Transport project had been discovered through the business case appraisal process. The confirmed match from Cornwall Council was £300k, so total project funding was £2.2m.
- A query was raised about whether Truro Town Deal had been allocated less Cornwall Council match because of the issue mentioned above, but MB advised that this was not the case.
- **ACTION 5:** GCG to provide note to the board explaining the Cornwall Council cabinet match funding allocation.

- An options report for the Green Transport project been circulated to the board and was presented by AA. It addressed options as a response to the issues raised relating to the pinch point on Newham Rd.
- The report suggested some alternatives to ensure the Green Transport project could continue and provide connectivity from Truro city centre to the lifting bridge via Newham Road.
- AA sought a view from the board on which of the options aligned best with the Town Investment Plan and a response to Newham BID regarding Newham Road.
- The board discussed the matter, considering the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, the views of businesses and importance of Newham to Truro's economy and alternative routes for pedestrians/cyclists.
- It was also noted that many interventions had been dropped to accommodate the lifting bridge and this was now having an impact on the amenity value of the quays and the viability of the Harbour Quay project.
- It was felt that it would be beneficial to separate the Green Transport project and the road widening proposal to address the pinch point on Newham Road and to find funding so that the development of Newham could be considered separately to the Town Deal. GCG advised that the Shared Prosperity Fund might be able to fund an economic study.
- **ACTION 6:** GCG to scope and cost an economic study of the Newham area and seek funding to for the study.
- As the options in AA's paper had not been developed in detail the board asked AA to develop them further and report to the board.
- **ACTION 7:** AA to develop the options in his paper. Any change in priorities will be updated at board, following engagement with the Green Transport sub group.
- It was agreed that no projects would be withdrawn at this stage.

8 **Reallocation of Accelerator Funds - MB**

- A report had been circulated to the board.
- There was a £2,740 underspend to be redirected to projects within Truro.
- The report proposed that the funding be issued to Truro City Council for one of the four accelerator fund projects, as selected by Truro City Council.
- This was proposed by DH and all were in favour.

9 **Programme Management Office verbal update - MB**

- The Town Deal programmes had been approved by ICB and the PMO were working to get Section 151 approval for the projects. The deadline for submission to Government was 15/7/22.
- After submission, contracting meetings will be held with projects.
- Mace Ward were being commissioned to work on the Truro Harbour and Lemon Quay project. Their priority would be engagement with stakeholders and wider groups for their feedback.
- MB proposed quarterly board meetings from September 2022 and six-weekly meetings of the sub groups which board members could join if they wished.
- It was agreed that election of the Chair and Vice Chair would be included on the agenda for the September board meeting.

10 **Communications update - RP**

- RP was due to meet Truro City Council the following week regarding community engagement activities for projects that were further forward.
- A press release had been issued after the last board meeting and there had been some misunderstanding in the community about the paragraphs about moving the lifting bridge into another project. However, RP was aware of this and monitoring how the Town Deal is being talked about.

5 **AOB**

- None

6 **Date of Next Meeting**

- 16th September 2022
- Another meeting might be needed before then to discuss the lifting bridge/Newham.

Meeting ended: 17.08hrs