

Minutes

Meeting Title: Truro Town Deal Board meeting

Date: Friday, 16th September 2022

Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chaired by: Alan Stanhope (AS)

Attendees: Voting Members: Phil Allen (PA), Bert Biscoe (BB), Cllr David Harris (DH), Alun Jones (AJ), Nigel King (NK), Rob Nolan (RN), Jack Pentecost (subs for Cherilyn Mackrory MP), Loic Rich (LR), Nick Seaton-Burridge (NSB), Carole Theobald (CT – attended 15.56 to 16.39hrs), David Walrond (DW).

Officers: Gareth Beer (GB), Melissa Burrow (MB), Sarah Corbett (SC), Claire Hurley (CH), Emily Kent (EK), Aurore Parkin (AP).

Observers: Cllr Louis Gardner (LG – attended 15.28 – 16.26hrs)

Presenters: Andrew Archer (AA – attended 15.25 to 16.14hrs), Chris Jones (CJ – attended 15.25 to 16.16hrs), Roger Gazzard (RG – attended 16.03 to 16.25hrs), Kieren Couch (KC – attended 15.25 to 16.25).

Apologies: Cllr Chris Wells, Cherilyn Mackrory MP, Rachel Hammond, Rachel Picken, Simon Hendra, Nigel Knuckey, Glenn Caplin-Grey, Phill Woods.

1 Consent of all present to record meeting

- There were two minutes' silence to mark the death of Her Majesty the Queen.
- All present consented to the meeting being recorded for the purpose of assisting with minute production.

2 Welcome and Apologies

- Apologies noted above.

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.
- LR declared an interest in Truro River Working Group as an unpaid director.

4 Minutes and action tracker

- The minutes of the last meeting on 16th June 2022 were agreed as an accurate record.
- All actions had been completed.

5 Matters arising

- None.

6 Election of Chair

- DH nominated AS to be Chair and this was seconded by BB.
- Nine board members were in favour, so the decision was carried.
- PA nominated BB to be Vice Chair and this was seconded by DH.
- Nine board members were in favour, so the decision was carried.

7 Revised Terms of Reference

- EK gave an overview of the main changes to the board's Terms of Reference.
- **ACTION 1:** any board members who would like to be on the Nominations Committee to email EK or SC. Suggested membership to be brought to next board meeting.
- The need for continuity among board members was noted. Board members will continue to have a three-year term.
- Following the discussion, the revised ToR were formally approved and adopted.

8 PMO Update

- MB gave a verbal update.
- All 32 business case summaries had been submitted to Government by the deadline of 15th July.
- The PMO had been dealing with detailed enquiries from Government about the business case summaries over the summer.
- Government had requested further information about value for money in relation to some projects, which had been provided by Cornwall Council. Further information may be requested at a later date.
- In August Cllr Louis Gardner, Economy Portfolio holder, visited the Town Deal projects in Truro.
- Mace Ward had been recommissioned to take forward stage two of the development work on Cornwall Council-led projects in Truro.
- Putting in place grant funding agreements (GFAs) with projects had been a priority for the PMO over the summer. Contracting meetings were being held with projects to update any information that needed to be fed into contracts. Information was awaited from some projects in order to progress to draft GFA.
- GFAs were expected to be in place by Christmas, for those projects which are ready. Project delivery would not be delayed as cashflow funding could be drawn upon.
- **ACTION 2:** CH to circulate timetable for putting GFAs in place.
- The board would be kept informed of progress through the project sub groups. Any decisions made by sub groups that affect the programme would be brought to the Board. A reporting dashboard for the Board was also being developed.
- LR noted that some councillors also sit on Planning committees and enquired about how they should handle Town Deal projects if they come before these committees. MB advised that this should be discussed with Planning colleagues if/when it happens.

- Board members were advised that the agenda pack included details of the sub groups and next meeting dates if they wish to attend. The pack also contained written updates on The Hive and Lemon Quay projects.
- A concern was raised about the speed with which projects were able to progress through Planning and knock-on effect on their ability to obtain match funding, in particular the Community Hub.
- **ACTION 3:** MB to follow up with GCG re. Community Hub and ongoing discussions with Planning.
- More information about reporting from projects to the board, project development and how much influence the sub groups have over changes to budget etc was requested.
- **ACTION 4:** AS and PMO to discuss this before the next Board meeting.

9 Project Updates

Green Transport

- Andrew Archer (Cornwall Council) and Kieren Couch (MWJV) gave a verbal update.
- MWJV had been recommissioned and were picking up work on Green Transport.
- MWJV are in the process of securing some additional funding from the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), some of which would be used to strengthen the link between the Newham Trail and the city centre.
- Priorities for the project had been agreed with the Transport Sub Group, a group of stakeholders, including Town Deal Board members, who are able to guide the development of the project and provide feedback. Priorities were Malpas Rd, the crossing at the Trafalgar Roundabout and Morlaix Avenue.
- Due to budget limitations the path between Gas Hill and Lighterage Quay was not being developed further and alternatives were being looked at.
- Options will be presented to the Transport Sub Group in late October/early November.
- Public engagement to take place before Christmas and in February 2023.
- **ACTION 5:** written update on Green Transport to be circulated after the meeting by AA.

Truro Harbour and Lemon Quay

- Chris Jones, Cornwall Council, gave a verbal update and John Mitchell (Cornwall Council) provided a written update on Lemon Quay in the agenda pack.
- Engagement with the Compton Castle was ongoing.
- Town Quay – working with MWJV on the Masterplan for the area.
- The cost of purchasing and running a dredger would be prohibitive so they had decided to use contract dredging.
- They had draft designs for the Maritime Office and pontoon.
- Lighterage Quay – they were engaging with the Marine Management Organisation regarding the timescale for obtaining the licence needed for the bridge.

New Life for City Buildings and Boscawen Park

- Roger Gazzard (Truro City Council) gave a verbal update.
- Truro City Council had approved the establishment of Truro Regen Company CIC.
- They were informally engaging with landlords.

- Once Government ratifies the project they need to obtain permission from Truro City Council to trade.
- Boscawen Park – government approval was expected soon. Further work was to be done on the cost base, VAT advice and confirmation of a loan.
- They were looking at whether funding is available to create an all-weather pitch.
- Public consultation likely early October, date to be confirmed.
- **ACTION 6:** RG to provide details of the public consultation to be circulated to the board by the PMO.

10 Verbal reports from board members re. projects

Community Hub – BB

- The board were advised that the Community Hub was holding a public engagement event on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th September at Truro Methodist Church.
- As the building is listed and located in the Conservation Area, plans for the Community Hub had been revised to address concerns that had been raised. However, Cornwall Council had requested an additional pre app which could delay the project and its ability to obtain match funding.

The Hive – CW

- A written report was provided in the agenda pack.

Royal Cornwall Museum – AS

- SH had sent his apologies so AS gave a verbal update.
- RCM were applying for revenue funding from other sources outside the Town Deal.

11 Communications Update - AP

- AP gave an update on communications being planned for the announcement of the release of Town Deal funding by Government which included a press release, film and social media.
- **ACTION 7:** AP to circulate details of the Community Hub engagement event on 23rd and 24th September 2022.
- RP had put together a kit for engagement events which projects can borrow. Email RP to borrow the kit.
- A press release and film were being prepared for the announcement of the release of Town Deal funding, expected at the end of September.
- **ACTION 8:** AP to circulate link to online engagement event for Boscawen Park.
- AP/RP had been working with Lemon Quay on their engagement activity, which they hope will take place at the beginning of October.

12 AOB

- None

13 Next Meeting

- Thursday 24th November 2022, 3.00-5.00pm

Meeting ended: 16.57hrs