

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Newark Towns Fund Board Meeting held on Friday, 11 September 2020 at 8.30 am.

PRESENT: Councillor D Lloyd, Leader, NSDC - Chairman
Tom Cartledge, Chief Executive, Benoy - Chairman

Alan Mellor, Clerk, Newark Town Council
Cllr Keith Girling, Deputy Leader, NSDC
Darren Scott, Team Manager for National Careers Service
David Wright, Area Lead, D2N2
Frank Horsley, Head of Business & Innovation
Godfrey Mpundu, Factory Manager, British Sugar
Jackie Insley, Chief Officer, Citizens Advice Bureau
Jo Bradley, Business Development Lead, YMCA
John Robinson, Chief Executive, NSDC
Lesley Owen-Jones, National Heritage Lottery Fund (Arms Length Body representative from DCMS)
Matt Lamb, Director of Growth & Regeneration, NSDC
Mick Baker, Councillor, Farndon Parish Council
Neil Cuttell, Economic Growth Business Manager
Nicola McCoybrown, Place Manager, Group Manager Growth and Development, NCC
Sandhya Ward, Homes England
Sanjiv Kohli, Deputy Chief Executive, Director of Resources and S151 Officer, NSDC
Sarah V Forgione, Communication and Marketing Manager, NSDC
Simon Witts, Founder & CEO, Aviation360
Steff Wright, Chief Executive, Gusto UK
Tom Marsden, Lincoln College Group
Tony Aspbury, Chairman of Development Committee, Newark Showground

1.0 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

TC welcomed members to the meeting, no apologies were given.

2.0 Update from Chairman

ML provided a presentation of slides to the Board. The presentation updated on the submitted Town Investment Plan, and that the Government were now in the process of appraising the plan and would enter into negotiations and clarification on proposals with a view to informing of the outcome of the bid in October 2020.

3.0 Governance:

Board members were informed that some had not yet responded and completed necessary forms, including Biographies for the website. NC would be chasing outstanding documents from members over the next 2 weeks. This would allow

compliance to the Nolan Principles for the Town Board. It was additionally suggested that an adviser role on the board would be created.

4.0 Towns Fund Accelerated Projects for March 2021

Projects discussed were:

- Innovation, Supply Chain and Logistics Hub; Focus Consultants have been appointed to lead a study and report back on options for delivery, expected prior to Christmas 2020
- IASTI; a governance and delivery board have been established to work through firstly education pathways, and then a permanent physical home
- Infrastructure; updates were provided on the A46 Bypass, Southern Link Road and A1 overbridge
- TM referred to industry and RAF involved working towards a business case & timeline to allow first cohorts within existing infrastructure and buildings. TC highlighted this will bring in new employment opportunities with not all details presenting in the public domain. FH outlined significant engagement with an expected skills shortage in 2020 – 2024.
- Activity Village YMCA – secured grant from D2N2 and build tenders received. Subject to Towns Funding works can commence.
- Accelerated Projects up to £750,000 – 3 appropriate projects, as reflected in submitted TIP;
 - TM of Newark Construction College aware it would be a tight timeline, TC would provide future methods of modern construction, suggesting a visit to the Laing O'Rourke site at Worksop, to be discussed after the meeting. TC and TM to action
 - TA to recruit locally as much as possible, available to start the training. ML advised grant arrangements will be put in place.
 - NC provided update to 32 Stodman Street (former Marks and Spencer) – archaeological work being carried out by Historic England, the building having a 1930s art deco frontage. Internal and external demolition work is expected with the proposal to go to Planning by the end of March 2021. TC advised that the proposal would be for c30 residential to the upper floors and smaller retailers to the ground floor. TC referred to possible wider opportunities, subject to funding.

5.0 Identification of Roles & Responsibilities in Programmes and Projects of the TIP

ML informed the Board that further work would need to be undertaken to identify roles and responsibilities for the identified programmes and projects. Whilst some projects were more established and had progressed with identifying a lead and project team, others were still in their concept stage and required the Board to establish ownership and role within each project.

ML and NC would map out the current programmes and projects and report back to the Board.

6.0 Summing up from Chairman

DL highlighted the task in hand to work towards project teams that are business led and hooking in to the process by local businesses, engaging people and those businesses driving it, not the Council.

TC referred to unemployment levels, whilst creating ambition and hope for families going forward.

SW highlighted other groups, other initiatives providing revenue rather than capital projects. SW highlighted digital connectivity referring to the community conversation working in Collingham and progressing to other areas for example in Scampton.

7.0 Date of Next Meeting

6th November 2020

Meeting ended at 9.05 am.