



Camborne Town Deal Board

Extraordinary meeting

- Date:** Wednesday 16th September 2020
- Time:** 1.00-2.30 pm
- Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting
- Chaired by:** Anna Pascoe (AP)
- Attendance:**
- Chair:** Anna Pascoe
 - Vice-Chair:** Rose Hitchens-Todd (RHT)
 - Co-ordinator:** Len Smith (LS)
 - Partner Group Chairs:** Creativity: Tonia Lu (TL); Prosperity: Justin Olosunde (JO); Vision: Charlotte Caldwell (CC)
 - Business and Community representatives:** Val Dalley (VD), Rose Goodship (RG), Zoe Hall (ZH)
 - Camborne Town Council:** Cllr Trevor Dalley (TD)
 - Cornwall Councillors:** Cllr David Atherfold (DA), Cllr John Herd (JH), Cllr Phillip Desmonde (PD – joined at 1.50pm)
 - Cornwall Council Officers:** Beth Briggs (BB – Towns Fund Support Officer), Matthew Brown (MB – Strategic Planning Manager), Glenn Caplin-Grey (GCG – Service Director for Economic Growth), Phill Woods (PW – Place and Regeneration Manager),
 - Local Enterprise Partnership:** Mark Duddridge (MD)
 - Member of Parliament:** Andrew Smyth (AS – sub. For George Eustice MP (GE))

Minutes**Action****1. Welcome and Introductions**

- AP welcomed AS, who was substituting for GE.

2. Apologies

- Lauren Burt (LB), Sue Bradbury (SB – Comms & Engagement Partner Group Chair), Samantha Hughes (SH), CC Paul White (PWh).

3. Declarations of Interest

- VD declared an interest, although not a pecuniary interest, as a trustee for Camborne Community Centre, with regards to any discussion around the Donald Thomas Centre.

4. Camborne Town Deal Capacity Funding

- AP noted that this item had been deferred from the Board meeting held on 10th September.
- AP thanked LS for working with Cornwall Council colleagues to produce the report.
- RHT queried staffing costs and whether these had been approved by the Board.
- PW advised that BB salary being shared across the four towns was agreed at the Board meeting held on 20th March 2020 (item 4).
- PW noted that the replacement of the Coordinator with LS had been time critical but that the Chair was kept up to date with this process and the Board were involved in the tender evaluation process.
- AP noted that the Board had not had sight of the cost or timeframe for the Co-Ordinator and Administrator appointments and this needed to be provided with the next report.
- **ACTION:** PW to provide.
- GCG advised that Officers were working to bring in extra resources, but the impact of Covid and the pressure on Cornwall Council's budget made this difficult.
- GCG suggested that all four Cornish town Chairs could write a joint letter of request for additional funds.
- PW noted that there was a meeting being arranged for all Chairs and Officers to discuss these matters in more detail and that he could produce a letter including issues from all four towns.

PW

- **ACTION:** following Chairs meeting, PW to produce letter regarding resource/funding issues across four Cornish towns.
- GCG noted that there were unseen resources including staff time on the Economic Growth team.
- It was noted that LS priority going forward needed to be on production of the TIP.
- CC noted that this must be a nationally recognised problem and suggested lobbying MPs.
- AS commented that he would raise the issue with GE.
- **ACTION:** AS to raise issue of funding with GE.
- AP noted that she had also raised this concern with Arup at a recent meeting.
- MB requested that committed spend and proposed spend be differentiated on the budget.
- GCG commented that the use of an economist to appraise the economic impact of the TIP would be considered by Economic Growth.
- PW also noted discussions with David Rodda's team around BCRs which could be produced at the appropriate time.
- Members then went through the budget line by line, with the following decisions being made:
 - £550 overspend on Arcadis commission – proposed by JO, seconded by DA and agreed by the Board
 - Up to £1,000 contribution to Deal Maker project – proposed by RHT, seconded by AP and agreed by the Board, subject to the group approaching local businesses to support the initiative going forward, following initial £1,000 spend.
 - Everest media commission – Members considered this worthwhile but too costly in consideration of remaining budget. This spend was not agreed.
- Regarding the Everest Media decision, GCG advised that whilst consultation was important there were practical things for the Board to focus on and suggested that the decision around further engagement be delayed until the draft TIP had been produced and consultation be carried out within the project framework.
- AP noted that there was tariff weighting for innovation in digital engagement and we would score zero points for this if an alternative was not found.
- PW advised that he would seek advice on this and consult with Arup regarding their guidance on the consultation process.

AS /
GE

LS

- **ACTION:** PW to liaise with Arup to provide further information on community engagement consultation. PW
- JO raised spending on Cycleways project and advised that this project could not commence without funding of feasibility study, costs of around £30-50k.
- MB felt that this level of detail may not be necessary for TIP and offered to engage with Transport colleagues to review this cost.
- JO and AP advised that this cost had come from Transport.
- **ACTION:** MB to liaise with Transport and keep JO updated. MB

5. Camborne Town Deal TIP submission date

- AP invited each member to comment in turn with their views on this issue.
- The majority of Members indicated that they were in favour of delaying to a January submission date, noting their concern over the timeline in order to produce the TIP in time for the October deadline, and feeling that a stronger TIP could be produced given the additional time.
- These Members felt that deferment to January would allow adequate time for the Board to scrutinise the TIP following its production and allow due diligence on the projects included.
- BB read the comments provided in advance by those unable to attend.
- Some Members felt that a push for October was favourable, noting that resubmission was an option if the TIP was not accepted first time, and that MHCLG provided detailed feedback on any areas that needed to be improved.
- AP wished to note concerns of delaying until January with regards to:
 - The scheduled October Government spending review and the potential that funding could be cut;
 - The Government negatively viewing the deferment to January;
 - The ability of Cornwall Council to get all four TIPs through internal processes at once;
 - The Christmas break minimising the additional time the delay would allow;
 - The number of days left of LS commission and more money being required to fund his contract and that his weekly hours would need to be reduced;

- Her time being more limited after October due to work commitments;
- PW noted that Officers would work with the deadline agreed by the Board for either submission date.
- PW advised that there had been no feedback to suggest a concern around funding from Government to date, something Josie Gough and Henry Seymour had confirmed. He advised that they had also indicated that delaying was not viewed as a negative as quality was key.
- A large number of towns had taken up the opportunity to defer based on the effects of the accelerated fund causing inevitable delays to TIP production.
- PW reassured Members that Officers were working hard on a timeline based on January submission and working back to establish key dates for internal sign off.
- PW advised that LS was brought in on a part time contract and had necessarily front-loaded hours to begin with. PW and LS would review and reprogram LS hours going forward and he would revert to his original part time hours.
- The voting patterns was 9 votes to 5 in favour of January submission, with 1 abstention.
- **ACTION:** PW to advise government. PW
- **ACTION:** PW and LS to revise work plan.
- JO wished to note thanks to AP for additional work undertaken as Chair. LS / PW

15. Any other business

- None

16. Date and time of next meeting

- Due to the Board's wish to meet more often, a date would be confirmed.
- Next scheduled ordinary Board meeting: Thursday 15th October – 2-4pm via Microsoft Teams.