

Minutes

Meeting Title: Penzance Town Deal Board

Date: 2nd November 2020

Time: 08:15 to 10:15

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chaired by: Martin Tucker

Attendees: Voting Members: Nicole Broadhurst (NB), Dick Cliffe (DC), CC Tim Dwelly (TD), Henry Garfit (HG – joined at 08:39), Hester Hunt (HH), Emmie Kell (EKell), CC Jim McKenna (JMck), Cornelius Olivier (CO), Rob Parsons (RP – left meeting 09:34 to 09:57), Mark Roberts (MR), Susan Stuart (SSt), Derek Thomas MP (DT), Martin Tucker (MT), Tim Wotton (TW), Rachel Yates (RY).

Non-Voting Members / Officers: Beth Briggs (BB), Claire Hurley (CH), Emily Kent (EK), Jess Morris (JM), Mark Roberts (MR – Conscious Creatives), Phill Woods (PW).

Apologies: Voting Members: Sarah Shaw (SS)

Non-Voting Members / Officers: James Hardy (JH)

Minutes

Action

1 Welcome and Apologies

- Apologies noted above
- It was noted that HG would be arriving to the meeting late

2 Declaration of Interests

- EKell declared an interest in Item 8(a) due to her involvement with Cornwall Museum Partnership and the provision of funding to Penlee.
- TW declared an interest in item 7 due to his employment by LiveWest and involvement with the proposal.
- JMck declared an interest in item 8(c) due to his position as Newlyn Pier and Harbour Commissioner.
- RP declared an interest in item 8(c) and anything relating to Newlyn Harbour due to his position as Harbour Master.

- DC declared an interest in item 8(a) due to his position as a Town Councillor.
- NB declared an interest in item 8(a) due to her position as Town Mayor.
- PW advised that Cornwall Council Officers would remove themselves from the meeting for any items directly involving Cornwall Council.
- EK declared an interest in any discussion relating to the Oasis Nursery proposal due to a relative who is employed there.

3 Minutes of the Last Meeting

- Minutes approved for accuracy by Board.

4 Matters arising not covered on the agenda

- **Ganges proposal** – CO advised that the request was to fund the compulsory purchase of the building and updated Members that Adam Birchall (AB – Cornwall Council) had indicated that Cornwall Council were prepared to commit to delivering the renovation on the building.
- A document had been circulated to Members in advance of the meeting and MT asked Members for comments on this paper.
- Members requested clarification on the future use of the building. CO advised it was to form part of the town's offer as an arts destination and would house live-work studios, art studios.
- DC felt that Government would not view this project favourably due to lack of economic benefits.
- EK advised she was meeting with the Cornwall Council Culture Team to discuss a strategic approach to arts, culture and heritage.
- EK advised that it was key to the TIP to be clear on the role projects are playing in terms of economic infrastructure.
- Some Members felt that this project would be better pursued through Heritage Lottery funding.
- TD noted he would follow up on this and felt that the Board could support as part of a wider remit, not necessarily via the TIP.
- Members supported the concept of the project but it was felt that deliverability and economic impact were not clear enough to consider the project at present.
- There was also concern over the amount of officer time this project would require and that this time was at a premium with a focus on the importance of drafting the TIP.
- The phasing of projects was discussed, with CH confirming that a project included in the TIP could be part of a longer term investment but that the phase for which funding was being request must be delivered and the money spent by the 2026 deadline.
- It was agreed not to take this project forward to scoring.

- **Oasis nursery proposal** – MT noted that there had been a large amount of dialogue and correspondence in the two days prior to the meeting with regards to this project proposal.
- MT reminded Members that any paperwork to be considered by the Board should be circulated in reasonable time before the meeting.
- MT also reminded Members that contacting CH, individual Board members or external parties in order to lobby a position prior to a meeting was not appropriate.
- MT noted that conversations regarding this proposal were ongoing, and that Sally Hawken had offered to prepare some information.
- It was noted that this matter would be considered further under item 7.

5 Town Investment Plan update

- CH advised that the draft was underway but that there were gaps, and that a final list of projects was critical to finalising the draft.
- Feedback from Cohort 1 was reiterating how important it was that the TIP adhered to the guidance – it was key to demonstrate that the TIP was investing in interventions that would produce the outcomes the Government was looking for
- Advice from CLGU and Arup was that the projects must be cohesive, and outliers would be detrimental to the TIP. It was preferable to have a smaller but more robust plan.

6 Overall Project List

- CH shared this list with the Board.
- The importance of establishing deliverability on all projects was noted.

7 Projects briefed to take forward

- TD requested clarification on the role of Arup in producing the TIP. CH confirmed that they would not score individual projects but would provide feedback on the TIP as a whole during the check and challenge process.
- **LiveWest proposal** – TW reiterated his interest in this item and left the meeting at 09:17.
- Members were largely supportive of the project, but felt that more information was required in terms of outcomes and deliverability.
- CH noted that the full proposal had been condensed for the summary provided to the Board and therefore the full proposal may allay some concerns.
- It was agreed to proceed to scoring, subject to receipt of specific detail on outcomes.

- TW returned to the meeting at 09:22.
- **Creative centre of excellence** – HG declared an interest in this item and the left the meeting at 09:24.
- This project was considered of merit, but there was concern over inclusion of projects of this size and scale in the TIP.
- Members considered that a clustering of similar projects might be most appropriate.
- It was agreed that each cultural project needed to be scored individually on its own merits, but then considered as part of a cultural bid, or for eligibility for the proposed discretionary fund.
- It was agreed that this project progress to scoring, subject to more detailed information on outcomes, and the above considerations.
- HG re-joined the meeting at 09:33.
- **Cultural and Heritage Capital Investment** – CH noted that the considerations discussed under Creative centre of excellence were also relevant here.
- It was noted that there was an upcoming meeting to discuss Cultural projects and these matters would be considered in more detail.
- It was agreed that this project progress to scoring, subject to more detailed information on outcomes, and the above considerations regarding cultural clustering and/or discretionary fund.
- **Oasis nursery** – It was agreed that this item would be deferred to the next Board meeting on 16th November in order to receive feedback from Sally Hawken and to allow both parties to be consulted further.

8 Recommendations following evaluation, to include:

- It was noted that the Board had previously been briefed on the projects under this item, which had then been through scoring. The decision now was whether these should be included in the TIP.
- a) Penlee proposal**
- The discussion earlier in the meeting in terms of a wider cultural proposal was noted, and therefore a definitive decision could not be made on this project until it had been considered in this context.
 - There were concerns over the business plan and deliverability. NB confirmed that the Town Council were confident of delivery.
 - It was noted that more detail was also required as to the outputs and outcomes of this project.
 - It was agreed to keep this project under consideration for now, possibly in the context of a wider cultural proposal, but that further work would be required before it could be included in the TIP.

b) The Ritz proposal

- Members agreed with the recommendation to include this project. They felt that the strategic fit was evident and that it provided a tie between town centre regeneration and culture.
- However, Members requested more information on environmental sustainability outcomes.
- Members agreed that this project should be included in the TIP.

c) Newlyn Fishing Skills proposal

- RP and JMck reiterated their interest in this item left the meeting at 10:07.
- Members noted their disappointment in not recommending this project, but felt that the proposal lacked information regarding the economic benefit and sustainability and therefore the project did not fit with the board vision or the town deal guidance.
- Members noted the desire of the Board to include a Newlyn project, and the tight timescales making it difficult at this stage to attract a workable project.
- It was agreed that this project could not be included in the TIP in its current form.
- RP and JMck re-joined the meeting at 10:16.

d) EA Flood proposal

- Members considered that there was a need to understand the full project list before agreeing inclusion of this project.
- It was noted that EA has own timescales for developing full business case and that this may not hit the 12-month deadline required by Government.
- TD felt that this was an important strategic project but that the analysis conducted by the EA would not be focused on the same outcomes as the town deal and therefore the Board may miss important information relating to its strategic fit and requested that officers liaise with the EA.
- Members agreed to keep the conversation going with the proposers.

9 Penzance Enterprise Grants

- CH advised that this was a Board promoted project, involving the development of a delivery mechanism to support micro enterprise in key sectors.
- CH updated Members on discussion with CDC, who had offered to be the proposing body, take on the cost and capacity of working up to full business case, and be the delivery body.

- There was some discussion around the specifics of delivery, but it was noted that this would be worked up during full business case development.
- EK noted that the need to change delivery organisation in future and that flexibility should be built into this project.
- It was agreed to include a discretionary fund in the TIP.

10 Conditions

- A document detailing conditions applicable to all proposers had been circulated with the agenda.
- CH noted that this document was currently for information but would be considered further at the December Board meeting.

11 Any other business

- It was noted that there would be a budget update available at the next Board meeting.

12 Date of next meeting

- Monday 16th November, 08:15 to 10:15.