

Minutes

Meeting Title: St Ives Town Deal Extraordinary Board Meeting

Date: 24th November 2020

Time: 17:00 to 19:00

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chaired by: Sarah Stevens

Attendees: Members: Andrew Baragwaneth (AB), Libby Buckley (LB), Steve Cross (SC), Neil Davis (ND), Kirsty Kilmurry (KM), Gareth Jones (GJ), Vanessa Luckwell (VL), Ian McChesney (IM), Andrew Mitchell (AM), Sarah Stevens (SS), Rowena Swallow (RS), Derek Thomas MP (DT)
Officers: Beth Briggs (BB), Emily Kent (EK)

1. Apologies: James Butterworth (JB), Lucy Davis (LD), Tony Harris (TH – subs. Kirsty Kilmurry, KM), Poppy Naylor (PN), Linda Taylor CC (LT), Phill Woods (PW)

Minutes

Action

2. Declarations of Interest

- It was noted that EK, VL and DT would leave the meeting for discussion on Bay to Bay (Item 3) due to it being a Cornwall Council project, but would speak to provide an update to the Board before leaving.
- Before proceeding with project-based discussions, SS and EK advised the Board that LD had submitted her resignation as Town Deal Coordinator. They would work with her on a handover.

3 Discussion of projects

- **Sports and Wellbeing Hub** – SS advised that, following a meeting on 18th November, the decision had been taken that this project was unfortunately not the right strategic fit and would not be deliverable under the Town Deal.
- It was noted that a steering group would continue to consider this project and how best to support it via other channels.
- **Bay to Bay** – EK presented the information she had received from her transport colleagues regarding this project.

- EK noted that a revised infographic had been circulated.
- EK advised that costs had been updated and with the stretch within the St Ives red line (St Ives to St Erth) now estimated at £7.5m.
- EK advised that an additional £500k match funding had been identified by Cornwall Council due to another bid no longer going ahead. She noted that the feasibility costs, estimated at £53k would be covered by Cornwall Council.
- EK noted that feasibility work to commence immediately, on advice from the Board that they wished to include the project in the TIP.
- EK advised that the feasibility work could be completed by January 2021, with the construction to take place 2023-25.
- It was noted that Penzance Town Deal were considering the section within their red line for TIP inclusion.
- Members had concerns over the route, with the planned route appearing to follow the road in sections.
- Members were also concerned over the disproportionate ask from Town Deal funds.
- EK advised that highway was more affordable and achievable, but possibly less favourable. More of the trail being away from the road would require more planning costs and likely more land acquisition.
- EK, DT and VL left the meeting at 17:31.
- Members discussed fit with the Town Deal criteria. It was noted that this project would be a good fit with a multimodal hub at St Erth, E-Bikes, and the Cornwall Council Transport Strategy in terms of encouraging people to leave their cars outside town.
- It was also noted that Local Transport was one of the intervention framework themes.
- Members considered that the scheme could provide secondary job creation but this would likely be dependent on completion of the whole scheme from St Ives to Penzance, at which point it would be a major asset to the Town.
- Members felt that the decision could not be made until the feasibility work had been done.
- Members agreed in principle that the feasibility work should commence.
- EK, DT and VL re-joined the meeting at 17:46.
- SS fed the decision back to EK, who noted that she would in turn feed back to her Transport colleagues.
- EK appreciated the Board's position but noted that Cornwall Council does not have the ability to allocate spend without budget, and therefore felt that they would be looking for an indication of interest from the Board that the project fits with the TIP assuming satisfactory results from the feasibility study, considering the upfront expenditure.

- SS commented that the Board wished to see a breakdown of the total cost, with justification of spend.
- SS also requested that Cornwall Council look into additional match funding.
- **ACTION:** EK to follow up with Transport colleagues. EK
- **Rugby Club** – SS noted that, the absence of LD, there was limited information as to the progress of this project.
- SS requested that Cornwall Council provide an update on this project. LD / SS
- **ACTION:** LD to provide SS with update.
- **Leach** – It was noted that an updated proposal had been circulated with to the Board in the agenda pack.
- LB noted that the feasibility study was due later that week.
- LB left the meeting at 18:04.
- Members considered this to be a good project which fit the criteria, noting the strong community links, and it was noted that the revised proposal included some of their longer-term aspirations which had not been included first time.
- Members would like to see further details on costings as well as the concept of a ‘top of town’ partnership as previously discussed.
- Members also considered a link with the town centre would be positive and wondered if transport options, such as a cycle path, could be factored in.
- Members agreed to this project proceeding to scoring, subject to sight of more detailed costings.
- SS commented that if any Members had specific questions, they should email her.
- LB re-joined the meeting at 18:17.
- **BID** – SC left the meeting at 18:18.
- SS noted that LD had been heavily involved in this conversation so, in her absence, she was not clear on the latest update.
- Members noted that there may be issuing with funding the required feasibility study and there was a question around whether the Town Deal might be able to cover this cost.
- There was discussion around the possibility of capitalising such works as part of the full business case, but EK advised it was unlikely revenue could be found prior to funding being received.
- VL considered that the consultation required for this project could form part of the Town Deal project consultation.
- Members agreed that this matter should be considered and voted on via email in order to expedite.
- **ACTION:** SS to liaise with SC to confirm information and circulate to the Board. SS / SC

- **Acquisition of town centre building** – it was noted that some Members had conducted a site visit.
- The various possibilities around the purchase of the building were discussed, with EK advising that Cornwall Council were not in a position to purchase the building on behalf of the Board.
- SC was following up on the possibility of private investors, and RS advised that the Workstation CIC may be able to facilitate a transaction and/or possibly provide some design resource, but this would need further discussion as RS was not able to speak on behalf of the Board.
- Members noted that the opportunity had presented itself late in the day and it would likely prove difficult to secure the arrangements in time for TIP inclusion.
- Members agreed that the project be pursued further at the moment with SS, RS and SC to explore options.
- **ACTION:** SS, RS, SC to follow up on aspects of project.

SS / RS
/ SC

4. Next steps

- SS summarised the actions agreed throughout the meeting.