

ROTHERHAM TOWN DEAL BOARD
Wednesday 24 November 2021

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**NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE ROTHERHAM TOWN DEAL BOARD
HELD ON 24TH NOVEMBER, 2021**

Rotherham Town Deal Board

Microsoft Teams Meeting due to Covid-19

24th November 2021, 9.00am-10.15am

<p style="text-align: center;">Attended By:</p> <p>Neil Baxter, Engie – NB (Chair) Councillor Denise Lelliott – DL Peter Hill , HMP Bespoke Construction Ltd – PH Andy Lock, Coalfields Regeneration – AL Lisa Pogson, Airmaster – LP Simon Moss, RMBC – SMO Steve Morris, Signs Express – Stm Tim O’Connell, RIDO RMBC – TOC Lorna Vertigan, RIDO RMBC – LV Ray Kinsella, Great Places – RK Justin Homer, BIES/CLGU – JH Sam Pollard, BIES/CLGU - SaM Tracey Mace-Akroyd, RNN Group -TMA Vicki Norman, RIDO RMBC – VN Lucy Mitchell, RIDO RMBC – LM Gurminder Sanghera, AHR – GS Helen Revitt, AHR – HR Karen Hall, DWP – KH*** Deborah Bullivant, Grimm & Co – DB</p>			<p style="text-align: center;">Apologies:</p> <p>Sarah Champion MP – SC* Jacquie Falvey, Sarah Champion’s office – JF* Phil Hayes, Rotherham Conf. of Communities – Pha Stuart Kerr, Wilmott Dixon – SK Nikki Jones, AMRC – NJ Duncan Armstrong-Payne, Harworth – DAP Paul Woodcock, RMBC – PW Paul Harper, DWP – PH*** Lizzie Dealey, CRT – LD Andrew Denniff, BRCC – AD Deborah Bullivant, Grimm & Co – DB Isobel Hunter, RIDO – IB Dan Needham, Muse Developments – DN Simeon Leach, RIDO RMBC – SL Mike Smith, NHS – MS Colin Blackburn, SCR – CB</p>		
Action Points:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 151 Officer will be invited to the next Board meeting – NB - Town Centre Overview being produced to be brought to this Board when completed – Project Team - An extra meeting to discuss Eastwood, to be arranged – VN - Station project update to the next meeting – SMO/LM - Project Champions update to the next meeting – SL - Local company to help with comms, any suggestions to NB/VN – ALL - Discussion with RNN Group re young people rep on Board – Project Team/TMA 					
36/21	Apologies for Absence/Introductions and Declarations of Interest				
	Apologies listed above.				
37/21	Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting held on the 20th October 2021				
	The minutes were accepted as a true record.				
	Project Champion update at next meeting. Vice Chairman role, NB to speak to potential volunteer and get back to the Board.				
38/21	Project Update				
	Rotherham has received nearly £40m from the Levelling Up Fund; £19.5m for the town centre aligned with the FHSF/TD monies and £19.9m for the visitor economy/skills. This will provide infrastructure to support what we are doing already and is very important that everything links together.				

<p>Inception meeting to be held next week.</p> <p>The 5% TD funding is to be drawn down, which is fantastic news as lots of work is already happening and we will be looking at the business cases next. GS and the team are now in place, supplying the support we currently need through external consultancy. Turner and Townsend also assisting. The Designs are worked up and costings in place. The resource issues internally are now in hand, with potential new staff working notice periods.</p> <p>NB requested that the 151 Officer be invited to the next Board meeting.</p> <p><u>Templeborough</u></p> <p>GS went through a presentation outlining the progress to date on Templeborough including images and suggested plans. AHR have held discussions with Magna and with PT regarding the Tram Train Station, car park enhancements and improved connectivity and now understand the aspirations for the area. There has been input from Queensbury who feel there is a strong market for small business units and Tuner and Townsend are looking at cost appraisal. The lack of amenities in the area was discussed; there is a demand, which would complement Magna, while the tram train would increase footfall in the area. An independent business would be preferred but we could look at a chain as well. Green issues are also being considered.</p> <p>There is a presentation to the Magna Board next week and it is intended to submit a pre-application prior to Christmas. The project is coming in at £7m with the funding standing at £6.5m, but can be developed in a phased manner, to fit within budgets.</p> <p>NB asked if the small units would be for rental or sales? Queensbury still exploring possibilities but may work better as rental, discussions still ongoing.</p> <p>StM asked about the proposed amenities, in a particular location? How would people get there walk/cycle/car? Needs to be accessible. How would we get people to stay and not drive to Meadowhall?</p> <p>GS replied this is being looked at in detail by Queensbury, , trying to make it more accessible for all, looking at parking, making it more visible. Cycle parking/cycle route, walking – all aspects are being considered. A design and access agreement, as part of the pre-app, will be produced.</p> <p>LP said RIDO are receiving live requests for buildings/land from businesses wanting to come into his area, need to include this team in discussions. TOC agreed and confirmed that RIDO are sharing that information with Queensbury.</p> <p><u>Guest and Chrimes</u></p> <p>The levelling up fund will help connect this site to the town centre, as part of the wider masterplan. The proposed bridge link over the River Don enhancing the whole riverside area, makes it a special site. AHR are currently developing this scheme and working up costs, with what is being proposed in budget. They have spoken to the football club, who are on board with the plans. The cultural aspect complements and enhances</p>	<p>NB</p>
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match days and events at the stadium, creating an exciting atmosphere on match days throughout the whole day through a fan zone.

The proposals include looking at the existing building (the tower being Grade II listed) as a venue with a capacity of up to 800, to include a festival area, when not match days, the Cutlers Arms with its successful and popular music events could move across and include a micro-brewery and a coffee bar by day and music/entertainment in the evening. Queensbury are currently discussing with both RUFC and Chantry Brewery. Project progressing to pre-app stage.

PH said that ROAR (Rotherham Open Arts Renaissance) currently has nowhere in Rotherham to display their artwork/sculptures, perhaps this could be considered as part of the discussions?

DB said the brewery is a great idea, but why not juxtapose that with a “dry bar” and eating venue, ensure we include all cultures from across the town and celebrate these cultures, not just take the easy option, think what makes it unique. With regards to artwork, she added we need to curate quality of the work.

NB commented that all these points link in with the Communications Policy.

Riverside

The bid for the levelling up fund was successful. Images of what we are trying to achieve were shown to the Board, including the bridge link to the new residential developments which gives opportunity to unlock sites around the area. There is massive potential to a river that travels through the town centre, the walkway routes are very special, to include dwell areas and public realm. The CRT are carrying out amphitheatre work also.

StM asked for an overview of how all this relates and how the plans/proposals all fit together – overview important so Board members involvement gives better contributions. A clear understanding/clear overview is needed.

GS referred to the Masterplan –part of this is connectivity, issues with permeability and design lines, if sites don’t happen there is still the connectivity and permeability and it will still benefit the remainder of the TC, the infrastructure will already be in place with pockets of development possibilities.

SMo confirmed everything we do is underpinned by the TC Masterplan. He then shared an overview plan with the Board. He agreed underpinning the infrastructure and getting the framework of the TC right is crucial, we do not want to miss this opportunity.

HR said AHR are looking at boundaries between the funding strands to identify any additional areas that we should be looking at and are starting to develop this.

LV added we are working on a helicopter view of the TC map showing everything in colour code, but this is a massive task, and the Levelling Up Fund has changed it all once again but wanted to reassure the Board that the masterplan is evolving.

	<p>StM mentioned a strap line for Rotherham, as previously raised by NB, what is overall objective for the TC and surrounding area? Children’s Capital of Culture (CCOC)? Say what we are aiming for, where do we see Rotherham in 10 years’ time? Why come to Rotherham? Everything we do leads to CCOC.</p> <p>LV confirmed that all of the above is picked up in the Strategic and Town Investment Plan and needs to be carried forward. She added there will be more information on leisure, culture and Eastwood at the next meeting. With regards to Eastwood due to the reduction in funding, the community reps have asked that we look at other potential investments as well as the bridge, more work internally is being carried out. An extra meeting to discuss Eastwood is to be arranged.</p> <p>NB said we must make sure what we do is of value, great it has come now.</p> <p><u>Mainline Station</u></p> <p>S Mo referred to the Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) which came out last week. On the whole it was underwhelming and light on detail for impact on Rotherham. It is not a NO, but reference in IRP states <i>Northern Power Rail future possible options to Sheffield, Rotherham and Hull depending on the IRP pipeline</i>. Not clear at all, we are currently liaising with Transport for the North on what this means. A political response is expected. One view is that it is not a NO but does lay groundwork for us to work on proposals for improvements – quote of “no regrets” station. There is a case for us to keep pushing and working up acquisitions, with, a unique opportunity for us to safeguard the land for the future. The strategic case stills stands.</p> <p>NB asked about lobbying, using the MP on this Board. Not in a position to put forward as a business case in June, what will happen?</p> <p>JH said it is beyond the control of the Council and TD Board – highlighted as a risk, might be flexibility with June deadline, something to keep a close eye on. Advice will be taken from DFT and Network Rail. No guarantee that if it was to fall that the £10m might not be there for anything else, but there is still a strong strategic case.</p> <p>S Mo confirmed the Council are currently working on a plan and building resources on the station project and will provide an update to the next Board.</p>	<p>Project Team</p> <p>VN</p> <p>S Mo/LM</p>
39/21	<p>Programme Update</p> <p>LV confirmed the programme table is a work in progress, Board Members need time to digest before they sign off the business cases. Assurance and business cases need to be looked at the next board.</p> <p>Comms and consultation also need to be worked on. The programme is all coming together but is a huge piece of work and is in development.</p> <p>NB said we must be mindful of time, as a Board we need to go through the business cases prior to meetings, with the expertise on our Board, hopefully won’t lead to longer meetings as has happened with other TD Boards.</p>	

40/21	<p>Project Champions</p> <p>SL to provide a full update at the next meeting.</p>	
41/21	<p>Communications</p> <p>NB comms very important, at the close down meeting with Arup, it was noted that clear a Comms Plan is needed. There is a meeting with the Rotherham Comms Team to discuss way forward, need to include an external consultancy, as wider than just TD, now Levelling Up also. Any local organisations that could help? may need tendering process – any suggestions to NB/VN.</p> <p>It was agreed that Comms is key!</p>	All
42/21	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>NB said that LP and the Business Growth Board discussed at last week’s meeting the structure of the Council’s External Boards; TDB, BGB, Ambition Rotherham and Employment & Skills, Chairs of all 4 Boards to meet in January to look at membership and ensure the right people are on the right Boards.</p> <p>NB said inclusivity and proper representation is needed, this Board very much business led, the community involvement has dropped, we need to think how we get the community back on board, plus representation by young people is needed. There are a variety of initiatives with young people involved, example the G&C site need to provide for all the community, and we need to get Board representation right.</p> <p>LP mentioned the Youth Cabinet links, Grimm & Co., RUCST, colleges and UCR. TMA added could get involvement from the Student Union and reps, events could be held at college/UCR around the plans and also via an online tool which can reach 10,000. To be discussed outside meeting.</p> <p>DL said we should also try to engage young people outside these organisations, those that are working, do not want to miss a large cohort of young people, need to engage with them from all across the board. We could get the message out there via the comms strategy.</p>	TMA Project Team
	<p>Date of next meetings:</p> <p>15th December 2021 (9.00-9.30am) – Eastwood Discussion - CANCELLED 12th January 2022 (9.00-10.15am)</p>	