

ROTHERHAM TOWN DEAL BOARD
Wednesday 23 February 2022

- 1 NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE ROTHERHAM TOWN DEAL BOARD
HELD ON 23RD FEBRUARY, 2022**

Rotherham Town Deal Board

Microsoft Teams Meeting due to Covid-19

23rd February 2022, 9.00am-10.15am

<p style="text-align: center;">Attended By:</p> <p>Neil Baxter, Engie – NB (Chair) Steve Morris, Signs Express – StM Lisa Pogson, Airmaster – LP Jacquie Falvey, Sarah Champion’s office – JF* Phil Hayes, Roth Conf. of Communities – PH Lizzie Dealey, CRT – LD Peter Hill , HMP Bespoke Construction – Phi Deborah Bullivant, Grimm & Co – DB Ray Kinsella, Great Places – RK Andrew Denniff, BRCC – AD Ryan Shepherd, SCR – RS Tracey Mace-Akroyd, RNN Group -TMA Helen Revitt, AHR – HR Councillor Denise Lelliott – DL Paul Woodcock, RMBC – PW Simon Moss, RMBC – SMO Lorna Vertigan, RIDO RMBC – LV Simon Powell, RIDO RMBC - SP Simeon Leach, RIDO RMBC – SL Vicki Norman, RIDO RMBC – VN Isobel Hunter, RIDO – IB</p>			<p style="text-align: center;">Apologies:</p> <p>Sarah Champion MP – SC* Stuart Kerr, Wilmott Dixon – SK Nikki Jones, AMRC – NJ Duncan Armstrong-Payne, Harworth – DAP Sam Pollard, BIES/CLGU – SaM Gurminder Sanghera, AHR – GS Sharon Thorpe/Paul Harper, DWP – PHa Mike Smith, NHS – MS Lucy Mitchell, RIDO RMBC – LM Tim O’Connell, RIDO RMBC – TOC</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Observer:</p> <p>Justin Homer, BIES/CLGU – JH</p>					
<p style="text-align: center;">Guest:</p> <p>Catherine Davis, RIDO RMBC - CD</p>					
<p>Action Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing Officer to attend March meeting to update on TC residential sites including Riverside – LV/VN - Programme overview to be circulated – VN - Business Case Timeline to be circulated, any questions to VN – VN/ALL - Sharing of links to promotional videos of TC with Board – CD/VN - Separate meeting on sharing promotional videos with students and getting students further involved in comms – CD/TMA - Voluntary sector comms to be looked at to get more information out to public – CD/PHa - Change of dates for the April and May meetings was agreed, amended outlook invitations to be sent – VN 					
9/22	<p>Apologies for Absence/Introductions and Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Apologies listed above.</p> <p>Declarations of Interest: StM declared an interest in signage/graphics.</p> <p>Raife Gaile (Muse Developments) was welcomed to the Board as a new member.</p>				
10/22	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting held on the 12 January 2022</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true record.</p>				

	<p>SMo confirmed Place Based Investment Plan – Consultant now in place, working towards a draft document by the end of March. Input/comment will be sought in due course. Taking a steady approach; highlighting existing priorities and developing pipeline strategies/masterplans.</p> <p>SL confirmed he had spoken to TMA and the college are happy to use their social media system to get information out to students.</p>	
<p>11/22</p>	<p>Project Updates and Live Log Questions/Responses</p> <p>LV said that all the projects are progressing in terms of design and discussions with landowners, in particular at Templeborough and Guest & Chrimes with valuations being received this week for the Riverside quarter.</p> <p>Guest and Chrimes – HR showed the Board the latest alternative designs utilising the southern blocks and an area of the northern section, following Historic England’s request that we must show strong justification for demolishing these buildings. Also, looking at connectivity across the site including the bridge, riverside walk and Don Street improvements.</p> <p>LV added we have looked at a hierarchy of retention; keep all buildings, just the water tower etc., and are moving forward with retention of most buildings, some area of brickwork, landscaping and the relationship of the site to the river. Pulling together a statement from a historic expert including structural information, though this is difficult as cannot get into some of the buildings due to their poor state of repair.</p> <p>LV confirmed discussions with a company regarding a music venue, as they need to move their established venue. Fan Zone area still being considered but will leave open space that can be developed in the future.</p> <p>PW said this site is a good example of how schemes can change and are complex.</p> <p>StM asked about the end user, is the music venue a goer? We do not want a white elephant in the town centre. PW confirmed that the venue would not be council run we are in discussions with end user companies, but we believe a music venue would be welcome and the private sector could make it work.</p> <p>NB asked could something like a capacity study be carried out to understand demand? LV confirmed the company we are speaking to already have a successful and popular business in the town centre but need to move to a different venue, this is not something new, it already exists and works, but as with anything, it is not entirely risk free.</p> <p>DL said that music venues are very popular and with the new TC living and connectivity of the tram train etc, it is a marvellous opportunity to work with an organisation that is already tried and tested with an achievable vision and is great to see the masterplan developing but agree that nothing is risk free.</p> <p>StM said it is important the music venue has other uses, to make it vibrant, different uses during the day and be inclusive. TMA added it needs to be accessible to all.</p> <p>SMo confirmed that when the business cases are completed in June, they will include all these different elements</p>	

	<p>Templeborough – HR shared the latest designs for the area, including a “drive thru” unit with options to park/drop off. She added the key is to create a gateway into Templeborough and form a link into the heart of the area.</p> <p>LV added that the “drive thru” is being considered following advice from agents, the view is most people want something as easy to access as possible and that people who work in the area will use. This would not be enough footfall alone, a unit with a “drive thru” would attract new customers from outside the area and passing visitors too. There would be a seating area inside, we want it to be a destination as well as a “drive thru”.</p> <p>AD said he is based in Templeborough and agreed there is not enough people working in the area yet, how do we get them to visit and stay? He added concerns with regards to Sheffield Road as a gateway into Rotherham, narrow lanes as cycle lanes each side, impact on road capacity, a new entrance/exit might cause issues. He said the new tram train stop incorporating a park and ride scheme to encourage people to stay in the area will be good for the area.</p> <p>LV confirmed that discussions are taking place with highways and their input will be included in the pre-app.</p> <p>StM asked that the protection of the wildlife in the area be considered when the new links are created i.e., new tram train stop.</p> <p><i>The Board was asked to agree to proceed with the “drive thru” to pre-app option. There was no objection from the Board on moving this option forward.</i></p> <p>Riverside – HR confirmed that the concept for riverside residential has not changed, currently concentrating on riverside walk and how we can extend to Main Street along with the bridge and how they will work.</p> <p>LP asked do we need to be mindful of concerns regarding possible flooding of this area, the River Don was very high over the weekend due to the storms. PW answered that flood/drainage assessments have been carried out and this section is good. There are currently bids of up to £50m for water courses/catchment proposals in South Yorkshire. He added that any plans for new housing must go through flood analysis before approval.</p> <p>HR confirmed there is a sustainability adviser on board for this site.</p> <p>LV suggested that a colleague from the housing team attend the next meeting to give more detail to the board on this site and others in the TC.</p> <p>Corporation Street 2 – HR said this area is linked with the culture and leisure quarter of Forge Island. We are currently looking at opportunities for the former Bingo Hall and Wilko buildings with options being considered for full residential or including new Theatre/performing arts area.</p> <p>NB asked is there demand for commercial units? LV answered it is difficult to say if demand is there, and delivery of the infrastructure, will hopefully create demand.</p>	<p>LV/VN</p>
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	<p>Eastwood – HR shared images of the proposed bridge across the canal/railway track to Parkgate retail world, this is expensive and beyond the budget so looking at other options of connecting the 2 existing bridges. The existing canal bridge is in good condition, with the railway bridge to be looked at and assessed. In the very early stages of negotiation on this and there are challenges on ownership of both bridges. LV added the scheme will also include pathway improvements with the Wildlife Trust, linking the bridge area and the Eastwood community.</p> <p>Mainline Station - LCR are now formally appointed and have prepared a draft brief for the station masterplan commission. This will be shared for comment with project partners before final sign off.</p> <p>Business case(s) - the 'Case for intervention' is close to finalisation – just awaiting final comments from Network Rail and SYPTE.</p> <p>Work has started on the Towns Fund business case preparation, focussing on the benefits of the station, the regeneration opportunities around it and articulating the need to acquire the land to facilitate delivery of the station opportunity.</p> <p>Work has also started on a Strategic Outline Business Case for the mainline station itself. It is anticipated that this will be an appendix to the Towns Fund business case and enable the station project to be considered by funding partners for further development work (in the absence of the Northern Powerhouse Rail Strategic Outline Business Case). Discussions are taking place with SYMCA to explore whether this could/should also be a joint business case for the tram train station.</p> <p>Land Acquisition - Gateley Hamer have completed the land referencing work for the station land and the report made available. The findings of this work will inform the station location sifting exercise that NPR have committed to complete before the end of March.</p> <p>Next Steps - A briefing has been prepared for CEX/PW in advance of meeting to advise on current position re the station and IRP implications and how local partners now need to drive the project - seeking senior RMBC support to pursue this with SYMCA (in absence of NPR) and explore with SYMCA opportunities for station project development funding.</p>	
<p>12/22</p>	<p>Programme/Business Cases</p> <p>LV introduced Simon Powell, new Programme Manager, to the Board.</p> <p>SP updated the Board on progress and shared an overview of the programme which will be circulated after the meeting. SP said that the key risks are the broader implications connected with other funding sources such as Levelling Up. Currently firming up timescales on some projects in particular around acquisitions.</p> <p>LV shared the Business Case timeline document with the Board, this to be circulated after the meeting with any questions to VN to pass onto the Project Team.</p>	<p>VN</p> <p>VN ALL</p>
<p>13/22</p>	<p>Project Champions – conclude way forward</p>	

	<p>SL said that Project Champions are now in place for most of the themes and are available to get involved. Comms and Transport are still be looked at, but as Transport is a wide area and we have experts on each project this may not be needed.</p>	
14/22	<p>Communications and Consultation Plan</p> <p>CD was welcomed to the meeting. She shared an overview/snapshot of what has happened over the last 12 months with regards to comms/marketing including a series of 5 videos of regeneration, she played one on the town centre works. Links to these videos to be shared with the Board and any future videos.</p> <p>CD/TMA to speak outside this meeting regarding showing the videos on large screens around college and getting students further involved.</p> <p>CD added that comms are also producing hoardings around development sites showing progress/images and are creating lamppost banners for the town centre.</p> <p>NB suggested lamppost banners would be good on the gateways into the town 2-3 miles out, to attract people into the TC, this is the case in Derby where he lives. AD also suggested signage on the main gateway routes into the town.</p> <p>StM said the multi-channelled approach is essential and is the best way of changing public opinion, do this and we will move forward. He suggested showing the videos in the train and bus stations, hitting them with good news wherever they are.</p> <p>AD said there is a huge opportunity of informing people as they come into Rotherham, on the Rotherham side of the Sheffield Parkway, could be done as part of the works on the new lanes. Signage saying Welcome to Rotherham and letting them know what is on/available. As there will be costs, businesses could sponsor signage.</p> <p>PHa comms and positive PR very important, voluntary sector has lots of different comms such as Home Matters magazine and weekly bulletins and can help to get the message out there. CD/PHa to discuss outside this meeting.</p>	<p>CD/VN</p> <p>CD/TMA</p> <p>CD/PHa</p>
15/22	<p>Levelling Up Fund (LUF)</p> <p>SMo said the role of this Board could include overseeing the Levelling Up Fund (LUF) projects, but with the priority being the Town Deal up to June 2022. LUF ties in with TD on work such as the Riverside link.</p> <p>LV shared images of the Riverside area showing how intrinsically the two funding streams are linked, it is important that all works together as a programme and makes sense that they are monitored at the same time by the same group of people.</p> <p><i>It was agreed that the way forward for the Town Deal Board would be to take on the Levelling Up Fund also.</i></p>	

16/22	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>The change of dates for the April and May meetings was agreed – VN to amend outlook invitations.</p> <p>28th April to 20th April 25th May to 11th May</p>	VN
	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>30 March 2022 (9.00-10.15am)</p>	