

ROTHERHAM TOWN DEAL BOARD
Wednesday 10 January 2024

- 1 NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE ROTHERHAM TOWN DEAL BOARD
HELD ON 10TH JANUARY, 2024**

Rotherham Town Deal Board

Via Microsoft Teams

10 January 2024, 8.45am-10.00am

<p>Attended By: Neil Baxter, NB (Chair) Councillor Denise Lelliott – DL Ray Kinsella, Great Places – RK Steve Morris, Signs Express – StM Ryan Shepherd, SYMCA – RS Paul Harper, DWP – Pha Tracey Mace-Akroyd, RNN Group - TMA Lisa Pogson, Airmaster – LP Sarah McLeod, WW – SMC Kevin Tomlinson, Magna - KT David Sutton, Maltby Academy - DS Julie Dalton, Gullivers - JD Paul Woodcock, RMBC – PW Simon Moss, RMBC – SMO Tim O’Connell, RIDO RMBC – TOC Lorna Vertigan, RIDO RMBC – LV Simon Powell, RIDO RMBC – SP Joel Hamer, RIDO RMBC – JoH David Plumtree, VAR – DP Katie Davis, Crossroads Care - KD</p> <p>Observer(s): Sam Townsend, BIES/CLGU – ST</p>			<p>Project Officers Attended: Rory Battye, RMBC - RB Dejan Ajzenkol, RMBC – DA Megan Hinchliff, RIDO RMBC- MH Catherine Davis, RIDO RMBC – CD Eleanor Bainbridge, RIDO, RMBC – EB</p> <p>Apologies: Sarah Champion MP – SC Jacquie Falvey, Sarah Champion’s office – JF John Healey MP – JHe Greg Kuczmaida, John Healey’s office - GK Alexander Stafford MP – AS Sophie Dack, Alexander Stafford’s office - SD Stuart Kerr, Wilmott Dixon – SK Peter Hill , HMP Bespoke Construction – Phi Lucy Mitchell, RIDO RMBC – LM Maria Smith, RIDO RMBC – MS Nicola Glynne-Jones, RIDO RMBC - NGJ Vicki Norman, RIDO RMBC – VN Simeon Leach, RIDO RMBC – SL Carrie Sudbury, BRCC – CS Raife Gaile, Muse Developments – RF Keely Beighton, Never Average Marketing – KB Lizzie Dealey, CRT – LD Nikki Jones, AMRC – NJ David Trevis-Smith, WW – DTS Andy Boulton, Neighbourhoods, RMBC – AB Deborah Bullivant, Grimm & Co – DB Justin Homer, BIES/CLGU – JH</p>		
<p>Action Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide an update to the board for long-term plan for towns at February meeting. - CD to begin developing communications to raise awareness of the partner works. - Provide an update by the end of the month regarding what information can be shared about Snail Yard. - KT requested a meeting to manage delays on Sheffield Road. 					
1/24	<p>Apologies for Absence, Declarations of Interest and Confidentiality Reminder</p> <p>Apologies listed above.</p> <p>Members were reminded of the confidentiality of the information discussed at these meetings.</p> <p>Members were asked to declare any interests in the Pathfinder programme or projects – none were declared.</p> <p>StM declared an interest in signage.</p>				

2/24	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting held on 13 October 2023</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true record.</p>	
3/24	<p>Pathfinder:</p> <p>LV gave a brief review of Pathfinder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathfinder gives 10 different local authorities across the UK a simplified approach to delivering government funded projects. • Local authorities are given flexibility to move funding between projects. • The Funding Agreement has now arrived from Government and is being reviewed by the Council’s legal team. 	
4/24	<p>Long Term Plans for Towns</p> <p>PW explained the new Long-Term Plan for Towns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money for 55 towns was announced just before Christmas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This includes an initial £50k enabling fund, with a further £200k enabling to be provided in April 2024. • RMBC needs to submit a long-term plan by the end of August 2024, and can bid for up to £20 million worth of funding. There is a requirement to move swiftly on developing this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 25% of this money is for revenue • Guidance states that a Town Deal type Board should take ownership of the Long Term Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion required as to whether this board could take on that role ○ ST stated that it would also be possible to develop a sub-board to focus on the development of the plan • This funding is assumed to just include the town centre • NB questioned whether we need to put a meeting in prior to the next board meeting to decide on the format of the board. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PW stated that something will be tabled at the February meeting. 	
5/24	<p>Project Updates:</p> <p>Riverside Residential Quarter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RB stated that the scheme has gone for planning, and they are currently awaiting environment agency response. • Currently looking at piling to create the river walk and analysing depths. • Progress with land swap is positive. <p>Leisure & Cultural Quarter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RB stated that Riverside gardens and corporation street had merged into one scheme. • There is currently a funding bid going to SYMCA for transport funds to improve bus routes and travel times. 	

30 – 36 Corporation Street

- RB stated that progress has been slow on this project, but a project manager has now been appointed.
- Schedule has been received and this has now raised risks.
 - Meeting this month to understand what the proposals of the client are.

3 – 7 Corporation Street

- LV stated that RMBC have now completed on the property.
- A tender exercise was run but there was no interest, likely due to the smaller size of the scheme.
- It is being considered whether this scheme be packaged with adjacent schemes in RMBC ownership such as the Riverside projects.
- The demolition is complex due to vegetation and asbestos and as such will happen in two parts starting with the nightclub and followed by the curry house.
 - This is due to start March / April 2024.
- NB requested that the public be made aware of the two-stage demolition.
 - **CD to look at undertaking some communications work to raise awareness of the works.**

Templeborough

- EB stated that the market tested price has now been returned
 - Workshop taking place today to go through cost plan in detail.

Town Centre Music Venue

- There is still work to do on the scope of the project and more detail will be given in the February meeting.
- The project needs to be established as a new project with milestones.

Eastwood/Parkgate Bridge

- SMO stated that risks are still present in terms of the timings of the project works and national rail requirements to future proof the railway line.
- It is thought that some complementary funding may be required at some stage in the project.
- NB asked for an update from the feasibility meeting that took place.
 - SMO stated that various options were presented, and the leader of the council remains keen on the project going ahead.

Eastwood Play Area

- LV stated that procurement should be complete for February 2024, and completion should be by summer 2024.

Mainline Station

- LV stated that the outline business case will be submitted to SYMCA in the spring.
- A final masterplan option has been determined including a business district adjacent.
- Requests for information will now be issued to buildings regarding the land acquisition required to bring the scheme forward.

	<p>Pocket Park/Snail Yard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LV stated that there has been a delay in formulating a suitable drainage design • The Council’s Highways team are currently working on a pre-construction programme • LP questioned what information she is permitted to share as there have been various questions asked at the Business growth board. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SMo committed to providing an update by the end of the month regarding what information can be shared. 	
<p>6/24</p>	<p>Wentworth Woodhouse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMC had to leave the meeting before Wentworth update so no update provided. <p>Magna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KT stated that they are on target for completion. <p>Maltby Academy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DS stated that the project is on schedule to complete 14th April 2024, with opening in September 2024. • Power has now gone live and contractors have been in this week to remove the clocktower and refurbish. <p>Gulliver’s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JD stated that due to the weather the project was running between 6 and 8 weeks behind schedule. <p>Grimm & Co.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DB was not present to provide an update on Grimm. <p>Rotherham Markets & Library</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RB stated that enabling started in September 2023. • Cabinet has now approved the full scheme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Schedule of works should be finalised by March 2024. <p>Rother Valley Country Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RB stated that market tested costs have now been received on both Country Parks which are higher than the current budget. Options are under consideration and a recommendation has been made. The Council’s preferred approach will be known this week and communicated to the Board. <p>Thrybergh Country Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As above 	
<p>7/24</p>	<p>Finance Update</p> <p>LV provided a finance update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When pathfinder was announced a reprofiling exercise took place but there has already been a slippage against this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This slippage is largely due to the Riverside Enabling and designing a solution for piling. ○ This is taking time to resolve so spend has been shifted. ○ Further slippage is expected before the end of the year due to the country parks projects. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NB questions whether any buffer has been built into reprofiling for other projects. • LP stated that there may be a new way to contract / go to tender that would enable smaller businesses to have confidence to bid. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ StM stated that there is no opportunity to demonstrate the strength of relationship that is important on these sort of regeneration projects when bidding for schemes. Suggested that a value element related to relational working be added to procurement exercises. • NB questioned whether non-collaborative contractors are aware of the impact they are having. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LV stated that this is being fed back. • NB questioned whether the board needs to realistically consider whether a project may need to be removed to ensure all others are completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PW stated that this would require engaging with government regarding scope changes or other funding would need to be sought. 	
8/24	<p>Town Centre Regeneration Promotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD ran through communications for Forge Island including the cinema topping out next week, press release in December 2023, and a potential jobs fair in spring. • The markets press release in December 2023 reached over 30,000 people. Further work will be done to support indoor market traders. • Corporation street online consultation finished in December 2023, and there was public consultation in November 2023. 	
8/24	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>The Amended Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amended Terms of Reference were approved by the board. <p>StM highlighted a meeting is taking place with representatives of Sheffield Road businesses and the Council’s Transport Team regarding issues in relation to the Sheffield Rd transport works.</p> <p>NB requested that for future meetings, information be provided to be shared 5 days in advance of the meetings. Further information will be provided on specifics in due course.</p> <p>KT requested a meeting on the works on Sheffield road</p>	
	<p>Date of next meeting: 21 February 2024</p>	