Rotherham Town Deal Board

Microsoft Teams Meeting due to Covid-19 **20**th **October 2021, 9.00am-10.15am**

Attended By:	Apologies:
Neil Baxter, Engie – NB (Chair)	Sarah Champion MP – SC*
Peter Hill , HMP Bespoke Construction Ltd – PH	Phil Hayes, Rotherham Conf. of Communities – Pha
Andy Lock, Coalfields Regeneration – AL	Nick Bussey, Rotherham CAB – NBu
Stuart Kerr, Wilmott Dixon – SK	Tom Hawley, Homes England – TH
Dan Needham, Muse Developments – DN	Nikki Jones, AMRC – NJ
Colin Blackburn, SCR – CB	Duncan Armstrong-Payne, Harworth – DAP
Simon Moss, RMBC – SM	Lisa Pogson, Airmaster – LP
Simeon Leach, RIDO RMBC – SL	Sharon Thorpe, DWP – ST***
Tim O'Connell, RIDO RMBC – TOC	Steve Morris, Signs Express – Smo
Lorna Vertigan, RIDO RMBC – LV	Stuart Kerr, Wilmott Dixon – SK
Ray Kinsella, Great Places – RK	Councillor Denise Lelliott – DL
Mike Smith, NHS – MS	Paul Woodcock, RMBC – PW
Justin Homer, BIES/CLGU – JH	Paul Harper, DWP – PH***
Tracey Mace-Akroyd, RNN Group -TMA	Lizzie Dealey, CRT – LD
Jacquie Falvey, Sarah Champion's office – JF*	Andrew Denniff, BRCC – AD
Vicki Norman, RIDO RMBC – VN	Deborah Bullivant, Grimm & Co – DB
Lucy Mitchell, RIDO RMBC – LM	Isobel Hunter, RIDO – IB
Gurminder Sanghera, AHR – GS	Helen Revitt, AHR - HR
Karen Hall, DWP – KH***	
Catherine Davies, RIDO - CD	

Action Points:

- High-level programme to be shared with the Board early next week LV/VN
- Anyone interested in being a Project Champion or wanting more information to contact NB/VN – ALL
- Anyone interested in the vacancy for the Vice/Deputy Chair role on the Board to contact NB/VN ALL

29/21	Apologies for Absence/Introductions and Declarations of Interest Apologies listed above.	
	MS declared an interest in Magna, where he is a Trustee.	
30/21	Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting held on the 15 th September 2021	
	The minutes were accepted as a true record.	
	NB gave an update from a recent set of workshops and the last TD Chairs' meeting where branding and funding were discussed, he added that all TD Boards are in a similar situation. The next meeting of the Chairs will be a face-to-face meeting at the beginning of November.	
	The About Towns Team support will be ending in November, but the website will still be available after this date.	

•	Link to TIP'	s https:/	//townsfund.org	g.uk/towns-overview
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 About municipal investments - How it works - Abundance (abundanceinvestment.com)

31/21 **Project Update**

GS of AHR gave an update to the Board and went through a conceptual presentation which, is currently **confidential and not to be shared** as the design proposals are still "blue sky thinking" and the affordability of each scheme is being looked at. The slides included:

- Eastwood Connectivity
- Templeborough Masterplan
- Guest and Chrimes
- Riverside

RK asked about the proposed Tram Train Stop at Magna and the possible connectivity of Templeborough to the nearby Nature Reserve. GS confirmed that AHR have spoken to SYPTE who are developing and delivering the Stop about how this can interface with our own scheme, this is the next stage of the study as is the connectivity to the Nature Reserve.

32/21 Programme Update

LV to share the high-level programme with the Board early next week.

LV/VN

The Project Team are currently working up concepts and working towards submitting pre-apps by the end of the year, for the June deadline for FBC submission. Officers will keep the Board up to date at each stage.

With regard to funding, the team are currently working on costs. There is a small amount of the enabling fund remaining, but are currently waiting on the 5% to come forward. JH said there are no issues he is aware of and basically the 5% will be sent when the Department's next payment run is due with the grant offer letter coming first to the Chair and the CEX.

SM added that we are coming to the crunch part of the programme and it is really challenging. With the external and internal teams being put in place, we are seeing the reality of the work involved, the timescales and the details of the cost and programming.

NB asked about match funding. LV confirmed she is to meet with JH to discuss the balance on deliverability vs unsecured match funding, working on schemes that can be delivered without match, while looking at scope to bring it in.

JH said we will not be aware of what match funding is required until we work through the schemes. With an award of£31.6m opposed to £35m some match has been lost such as on the post office scheme., meaning finalising the match funding at the end of the process. He added that business case summary is required not all detail is needed.

<u>Mainline Station</u> SM said we are currently waiting for the Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) from the Government, which is anticipated will be part of the

Autumn budget. In the meantime, the Rotherham Mainline Board has been established with key partners plus working groups feeding into the board. A Land Acquisition Strategy is looking at different approaches, but all depends on next week's announcement. Key progress on master planning work is an area of focus.

LM added they had road mapped a programme on how the station could fit in with the Town Deal and currently have consultants working on land valuation/acquisition.

JH said his Department has been keeping in touch with the DfT and the IRP should hopefully give some certainty, he will report any further developments to the Board.

33/21 **Project Champions**

Whilst the Project Team were looking at designs, the themes below were identified as requiring Project Champions. It was stressed that the Champions do not have to be experts in that field, just have knowledge and be able to add value to the projects/schemes. It will be made clear what exactly is expected of the role. If there are skills gaps in the Board, we may look further afield. NB asked are we lacking in third sector contributions? this will be answered through the skills set mapping.

Youth and protected characteristics are very important. The young people of today are the ones who will be living with the projects the programme will deliver. TMA suggested involving schools was very important

Areas are:

- Protected Characteristics
- Climate Change/Zero Carbon
- Design Quality
- Youth
- Heritage/Conservation
- Culture/Leisure
- Housing/Residents
- Transport
- Comms
- Business Engagement
- Social Responsibility/Social Value

VN confirmed that some Board members had already been in touch, but anyone else interested in being a Project Champion or wanting more information should contact NB/VN.

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34/21 Communications

CD/IH are working on a new draft Comms Strategy, mapping out the stakeholders required and whether another E-Village Hall is needed/is appropriate. LV agreed with TMA and said we are to engage more with schools.

NB added when talking to other Board Chairs, Comms is a challenge for all, some more than others.

35/21	Any Other Business Due to Julia Bloomer's retirement, there is a vacancy for the Vice/Deputy Chair role on the Board, anyone interested in putting themselves forward or for more information to contact NB/VN.	
	Date of next meeting: 24 th November 2021 (9.00-10.15am)	