Rotherham Town Deal Board

Microsoft Teams Meeting due to Covid-19 30th March 2022, 9.00am-10.15am

Attended By:

Neil Baxter, Engie – NB (Chair)

Tony De-Ath, RNN Group – TD**

Stuart Kerr, Wilmott Dixon - SK

Andrew Denniff, BRCC - AD

Ryan Shepherd, SCR - RS

Paul Harper, DWP – PHa

Helen Revitt, AHR – HR

Paul Woodcock, RMBC – PW Simon Moss, RMBC – Smo

Tim O'Connell, RIDO RMBC - TOC

Lorna Vertigan, RIDO RMBC – LV

Simon Powell, RIDO RMBC - SP Simeon Leach, RIDO RMBC – SL

Vicki Norman, RIDO RMBC - VN

Isobel Hunter, RIDO – IB

Deborah Bullivant, Grimm & Co - DB

Raife Gaile, Muse Developments - RF

Jacquie Falvey, Sarah Champion's office – JF*

Peter Hill, HMP Bespoke Construction – PHi

Apologies:

Sarah Champion MP – SC* Councillor Denise Lelliott – DL Steve Morris, Signs Express – StM Lisa Pogson, Airmaster – LP Ray Kinsella, Great Places – RK Lizzie Dealey, CRT – LD Tracey Mace-Akroyd, RNN Group -TMA** Phil Hayes, Roth Conf. of Communities – PH Nikki Jones, AMRC – NJ Mike Smith, NHS – MS Lucy Mitchell, RIDO RMBC – LM

Observers:

Justin Homer, BIES/CLGU – JH M. Blackburn, BEIS/CLGU - MB

Guests:

Catherine Davis, RIDO RMBC – CD Rachael Ellis, Comms RMBC – RE David Mason – Housing RMBC - DM

Action Points:

- Separate meeting on sharing promotional videos with students and getting students further involved in comms CD/TMA (from 23.2.22 meeting)
- Voluntary sector comms to be looked at to get more information out to public CD/PHa (from 23.2.22 meeting)
- RS to speak to SYMCA Music Board staff for advice on possible G&C music venue.
- The Programme to be updated and circulated prior to each Board meeting SP/VN

17/22	Apologies for Absence/Introductions and Declarations of Interest	
	Apologies listed above.	
	Declarations of Interest: AD declared an interest in the Templeborough area.	
	Duncan Armstrong Payne was thanked for his time on the Board, he is to leave Harworth and the Board.	
18/22	Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting held on the 23 rd February, 2022	
	The minutes were accepted as a true record. Two Action points as above to be updated by relevant members.	
19/22	Town Centre Housing	
	DM was welcomed to the meeting.	

	He outlined the Rother Living Trilogy Collection ; Westgate Riverside, Wellgate Place and Millfold House. A show house is open at Wellgate Place with the first residents moving in this week. The properties are a mix of shared ownership and council rented, there was low interest in the shared ownership initially, but this is now increasing.	
	DM also outlined the flood alleviation works that have been carried out at the Riverside site during the planning stages, along with the costs and funding for all 3 the sites.	
	DM added that the Council is to up its performance on Net Zero going forward embedding into the masterplan and business cases and are currently working with developers to work on the detail. Heat network low carbon heating coming in on Sheffield Road/Westgate. Water source heating to be explored too as sites are next to the river. A green housing strategy for Rotherham is being developed, the Council is very keen to raise the bar, as creating a new community in the town centre is a good chance to set the standard for the rest of the borough.	
20/22	Project Updates:	
	<u>Riverside</u> LV said that the Town Deal's role on Riverside is acquisition and we have received back valuations to approach owners. The LUF provides the infrastructure on Riverside Walk and Sheffield Road improvements and pulls the area together. The designs are progressing, and the business cases are on track for June incorporating acquisitions and infrastructure. We are relatively confident of delivering in budget, issue is whether the owners will engage with us.	
	<u>Guest and Chrimes</u> LV said this site has moved on significantly and we are looking at a scheme that would be acceptable to Historic England, which is respectful to the building. This may mean demolition and rebuild as not all the building can be saved but keeping the footprint. Ideally, we want to retain the façade, but all depends on the surveys, as the building is in bad condition in particular the tower.	
	Still looking at turning into a music venue, possibly a National/International venue, this is an ambitious project for Rotherham. The pre-app will be in asap. Looking at putting the scheme forward, the budget is over but only scheme that Historic England will support, also looking at more money within the programme. Working with the Football Club who own the building. Lots of work still to be done, but a massive step forward.	
	RS said he had spoken to the Director of the SYMCA Music Board, they are not working at the moment but are available to advise. RS to take forward. LV confirmed that Cultural Services are involved and are looking at getting the Arts Council involved.	RS
	<u>Leisure and Culture</u> LV presented a plan showing the extent of works/areas of public realm in the town centre. The TD and LUF are working together on these projects.	
	PW said that progress has been made this week on Forge Island and Muse are now working on funding for buildings and work on the 2 bridges, tendering to start in October (construction).	

<u>Templeborough</u> LV said that the comments from this group at the last meeting were taken on board and the agent and AHR have been looking at a more middle ground option – a drive up rather than a drive thru. Where people can meet and it is visible from the road, causing less issues with traffic congestion and we are happy with the progression on this. Officers to speak to Magna on their involvement. The design is more like the original vision.

AD said this site is opposite the Chamber's building, and the Chamber Board has a keen interest and would like to be involved, even moving their Rotherham Office to one of the units if possible, he added it is important that this is flagged up now to discuss in the long term perhaps on a partner basis to take further outside of this meeting.

Jaguar Developers have sold more units and will be bringing up to 200 more workers into the area, they had positive comments on the F&B option.

<u>Eastwood</u> With regards to the bridge there are risks around budget having a significant overspend but have an allocation from the Mayors Active Travel Fund, which is currently going through a process. Engineers have been appointed, transport colleagues and a transport project manager are also involved. A request has been submitted to Network Rail, but this takes time, probably not get response before business case deadline in June, and there will be unknowns until we can fully engage with Network Rail.

Plan also included the acquisition of the Erskine Road site; the valuation is back and is more than we have in budget. Other options are therefore being looked at and the Board will be kept informed.

<u>Mainline Station</u> SM said at the end of March there will be organisational changes at TFN, and they will be less involved, with SYMCA and the Council taking more of a lead role as scheme promoter. There is a handover taking place and TFN have been very helpful. The site has already been formally put forward as the preferred site by TFN. The next steps are to refine the acquisitions and have conversations with Government to build confidence. LCR have been appointed to work on masterplan opportunities.

<u>Snail Yard</u> TOC updated on the TD Accelerator, bid monies spent on asbestos removal and demolition. The project, like many, has been hit by inflation issues and will come in above the £1m budget, although additional/supplementary funding has been found. Having difficulties getting contractor on board. Completion to be late 2022. PW added it has been an internal challenge, the Council have agreed to continue this along with other projects, where costs have increased, currently working with the Council's finance team on how to cover the gaps.

NB asked with regards to the June deadline for the business plans, if there are still some unknowns, how does this work with regard to signing off cases to secure monies? LV said there are different solutions depending on the project.

JH said the business cases will come in with financial profiles from Councils and funding will be provided on an annual basis. Where things are less developed, there will be issues to go through before next stage of funding comes through.

21/22	Programme/Business Cases	
	Business cases procurement and design will keep going – confident that we can produce an early draft for 11 th May Board meeting for comments before we launch into sign off. We are confident that we can do this with the Board's support.	
	SP went through the previously circulated programme update, most of the content has been covered in Project Updates above, but it is worth noting issues with materials that would have come from Ukraine.	
	LV said there are supply chain issues and it is a contractor's world at the moment, we are market testing looking at the best route for contractors i.e., packaging projects together. There will also be practical issues on site, all at same time, the town centre will look very different need to plan this in.	
	The Programme to be updated and circulated prior to each Board meeting.	SP/VN
22/22	Communications and Consultation Plan	
	RE was welcomed to the meeting. She went through the latest comms for the town centre including a radio advert on Greatest Hits Radio (formerly RotherFM), the new hoardings at Snail Yard and similar being looked at for Templeborough. She mentioned the latest Facebook posts and the videos being accessible on the town centre website.	
	LV said that with regards to consultation we are currently looking at appointing a consultation team, a couple of local firms have been approached because of their Rotherham knowledge. A delivery plan is the next stage.	
23/22	Any Other Business	
	PW said that the next round of the LUF is 6 th July 2022, the Council are working on resubmitting the unsuccessful bid from last time, the deadline is short.	
	DB gave an update on Grimm & Co., the building works are now underway, the roof slate is good according to the Conservation Officer. Works to be completed by the beginning of October. Local company to be used. Costs now horrendous, the fit-out costs still outstanding, looking for funding. Hope to be open this time next year with a grand opening in May.	
	Date of next meeting:	
	20 th April 2022 (9.00-10.15am)	