

# Rotherham Town Deal Board

Via Microsoft Teams

10 January 2024, 8.45am-10.00am

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Attended By:</b><br/> Neil Baxter, NB (Chair)<br/> Councillor Denise Lelliott – DL<br/> Ray Kinsella, Great Places – RK<br/> Steve Morris, Signs Express – StM<br/> Ryan Shepherd, SYMCA – RS<br/> Paul Harper, DWP – Pha<br/> Tracey Mace-Akroyd, RNN Group - TMA<br/> Lisa Pogson, Airmaster – LP<br/> Sarah McLeod, WW – SMC<br/> Kevin Tomlinson, Magna - KT<br/> David Sutton, Maltby Academy - DS<br/> Julie Dalton, Gullivers - JD<br/> Paul Woodcock, RMBC – PW<br/> Simon Moss, RMBC – SMO<br/> Tim O’Connell, RIDO RMBC – TOC<br/> Lorna Vertigan, RIDO RMBC – LV<br/> Simon Powell, RIDO RMBC – SP<br/> Joel Hamer, RIDO RMBC – JoH<br/> David Plumtree, VAR – DP<br/> Katie Davis, Crossroads Care - KD</p> <p><b>Observer(s):</b><br/> Sam Townsend, BIES/CLGU – ST</p> |  |  | <p><b>Project Officers Attended:</b><br/> Rory Battye, RMBC - RB<br/> Dejan Ajzenkol, RMBC – DA<br/> Megan Hinchliff, RIDO RMBC- MH<br/> Catherine Davis, RIDO RMBC – CD<br/> Eleanor Bainbridge, RIDO, RMBC – EB</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b><br/> Sarah Champion MP – SC<br/> Jacquie Falvey, Sarah Champion’s office – JF<br/> John Healey MP – JHe<br/> Greg Kuczmaida, John Healey’s office - GK<br/> Alexander Stafford MP – AS<br/> Sophie Dack, Alexander Stafford’s office - SD<br/> Stuart Kerr, Wilmott Dixon – SK<br/> Peter Hill , HMP Bespoke Construction – Phi<br/> Lucy Mitchell, RIDO RMBC – LM<br/> Maria Smith, RIDO RMBC – MS<br/> Nicola Glynne-Jones, RIDO RMBC - NGJ<br/> Vicki Norman, RIDO RMBC – VN<br/> Simeon Leach, RIDO RMBC – SL<br/> Carrie Sudbury, BRCC – CS<br/> Raife Gaile, Muse Developments – RF<br/> Keely Beighton, Never Average Marketing – KB<br/> Lizzie Dealey, CRT – LD<br/> Nikki Jones, AMRC – NJ<br/> David Trevis-Smith, WW – DTS<br/> Andy Boulton, Neighbourhoods, RMBC – AB<br/> Deborah Bullivant, Grimm &amp; Co – DB<br/> Justin Homer, BIES/CLGU – JH</p> |  |  |
| <p><b>Action Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide an update to the board for long-term plan for towns at February meeting.</li> <li>- CD to begin developing communications to raise awareness of the partner works.</li> <li>- Provide an update by the end of the month regarding what information can be shared about Snail Yard.</li> <li>- KT requested a meeting to manage delays on Sheffield Road.</li> </ul>  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1/24   | <p><b>Apologies for Absence, Declarations of Interest and Confidentiality Reminder</b></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><b>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting held on 13 October 2023</b></p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true record.</p>   |  |
| 3/24 | <p><b>Pathfinder:</b></p> <p>LV gave a brief review of Pathfinder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pathfinder gives 10 different local authorities across the UK a simplified approach to delivering government funded projects.</li> <li>• Local authorities are given flexibility to move funding between projects.</li> <li>• The Funding Agreement has now arrived from Government and is being reviewed by the Council’s legal team.</li> </ul>   |  |
| 4/24 | <p><b>Long Term Plans for Towns</b></p> <p>PW explained the new Long-Term Plan for Towns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money for 55 towns was announced just before Christmas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This includes an initial £50k enabling fund, with a further £200k enabling to be provided in April 2024.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 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"> <li>○ 25% of this money is for revenue</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Guidance states that a Town Deal type Board should take ownership of the Long Term Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Discussion required as to whether this board could take on that role</li> <li>○ ST stated that it would also be possible to develop a sub-board to focus on the development of the plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>• This funding is assumed to just include the town centre</li> <li>• 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"> <li>○ <b>PW stated that something will be tabled at the February meeting.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> |  |
| 5/24 | <p><b>Project Updates:</b></p> <p><b>Riverside Residential Quarter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RB stated that the scheme has gone for planning, and they are currently awaiting environment agency response.</li> <li>• Currently looking at piling to create the river walk and analysing depths.</li> <li>• Progress with land swap is positive.</li> </ul> <p><b>Leisure &amp; Cultural Quarter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RB stated that Riverside gardens and corporation street had merged into one scheme.</li> <li>• There is currently a funding bid going to SYMCA for transport funds to improve bus routes and travel times.</li> </ul>  |  |

### **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><b>Pocket Park/Snail Yard</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LV stated that there has been a delay in formulating a suitable drainage design</li> <li>• The Council's Highways team are currently working on a pre-construction programme</li> <li>• 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"> <li>○ <b>SMo committed to providing an update by the end of the month regarding what information can be shared.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |  |
| 6/24 | <p><b>Wentworth Woodhouse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SMC had to leave the meeting before Wentworth update so no update provided.</li> </ul> <p><b>Magna</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KT stated that they are on target for completion.</li> </ul> <p><b>Maltby Academy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DS stated that the project is on schedule to complete 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024, with opening in September 2024.</li> <li>• Power has now gone live and contractors have been in this week to remove the clocktower and refurbish.</li> </ul> <p><b>Gulliver's</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JD stated that due to the weather the project was running between 6 and 8 weeks behind schedule.</li> </ul> <p><b>Grimm &amp; Co.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DB was not present to provide an update on Grimm.</li> </ul> <p><b>Rotherham Markets &amp; Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RB stated that enabling started in September 2023.</li> <li>• Cabinet has now approved the full scheme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Schedule of works should be finalised by March 2024.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Rother Valley Country Park</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p><b>Thrybergh Country Park</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As above</li> </ul> |  |
| 7/24 | <p><b>Finance Update</b></p> <p>LV provided a finance update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When pathfinder was announced a reprofiling exercise took place but there has already been a slippage against this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This slippage is largely due to the Riverside Enabling and designing a solution for piling.</li> <li>○ This is taking time to resolve so spend has been shifted.</li> <li>○ Further slippage is expected before the end of the year due to the country parks projects.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |  |

|      |   |  |
|------|---|--|
|      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NB questions whether any buffer has been built into reprofiling for other projects.</li> <li>• 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"> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• NB questioned whether non-collaborative contractors are aware of the impact they are having. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ LV stated that this is being fed back.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 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"> <li>○ PW stated that this would require engaging with government regarding scope changes or other funding would need to be sought.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |  |
| 8/24 | <p><b>Town Centre Regeneration Promotion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• The markets press release in December 2023 reached over 30,000 people. Further work will be done to support indoor market traders.</li> <li>• Corporation street online consultation finished in December 2023, and there was public consultation in November 2023.</li> </ul>   |  |
| 8/24 | <p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>The Amended Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The amended Terms of Reference were approved by the board.</li> </ul> <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><b>KT requested a meeting on the works on Sheffield road</b></p>   |  |
|      | <p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> 21 February 2024</p>  |  |