

**NOTE OF A MEETING OF THE
NELSON TOWN DEAL BOARD
HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT OFFICE TEAMS
ON 4th JUNE, 2020**

PRESENT

S. Barnes (Chairman – in the Chair)

<i>A. Stephenson MP</i>	<i>Member of Parliament for Pendle</i>
<i>Councillor M. Iqbal</i>	<i>Pendle Borough Council</i>
<i>Councillor D. M. Whipp</i>	<i>Pendle Borough Council</i>
<i>Councillor Z. Ali</i>	<i>Pendle Borough Council</i>
<i>Councillor N. Ahmed</i>	<i>Pendle Borough Council</i>
<i>A. Melton</i>	<i>Lancashire Enterprise Partnership</i>
<i>D. Mendoros</i>	<i>Chairman, Pendle Vision Board</i>
<i>K. Tupling</i>	<i>Homes England</i>
<i>R. Stockdale</i>	<i>Homes England</i>
<i>C. Bennett</i>	<i>Positive Action in the Community</i>
<i>C. Smith</i>	<i>Pendle Engineering Ltd.</i>
<i>K. O' Connor</i>	<i>Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy</i>
<i>H. Murray</i>	<i>Department for Works and Pensions</i>
<i>D. Gordon</i>	<i>Lancashire County Council</i>

Officers in attendance:-

<i>D. Langton</i>	<i>Chief Executive, Pendle Borough Council</i>
<i>J. Whittaker</i>	<i>Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager, Pendle Borough Council</i>
<i>N. Watson</i>	<i>Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager, Pendle Borough Council</i>
<i>J. Stockton</i>	<i>Senior Regeneration Officer, Pendle Borough Council</i>
<i>J. Eccles</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>

(Apologies for absence were received from A-M Parkinson, R. Bashir, P Evans, and S. Burns).



1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the requirement to declare any interest they had on any item of business on the agenda.

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

AGREED

That in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the next item of business on the grounds that if a member of the public and press were present during consideration of the item, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information which was of a commercially sensitive nature.

(Nelson Town Deal 04.06.2020)

3. FUTURE HIGH STREET FUND SUBMISSION FOR NELSON

At the last Board meeting consideration of the Council's Business Case for Future High Street Funding (FHSF) was deferred for further information and discussion. The deadline for submitting the Council's business case was 22nd June.

FHSF could provide up to £25m to selected towns (though most grant awards were expected to be nearer £5-10m) with the objective of renewing and reshaping town centres and high streets in a way that improved experience, encouraged growth and ensured future sustainability.

Based upon the analysis and consultation work carried out for the development of the masterplan for Nelson, the priority for the FHSF business case was a focus on Pendle Rise shopping centre. The report set out the main problems with the town centre, and how the interventions funded through the FSHF would seek to reposition Pendle Rise as the heart of the town.

The 3 options presented in the report ranged from 'minimal' to 'maximum' intervention and cost approx. £3m, £17m and £23m. Further information relating to the "do maximum" option and architect's plans and visuals had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The report proposed that the 'do maximum' option should be the one put forward as this would best address the issues posed by Pendle Rise and provide the basis for sustainability and growth within Nelson. There was an expectation that other public and private sector funding would be brought into the project as "co funding" and FHSF would not cover all the costs.

Homes England was keen to work with the Council on this opportunity to build new homes in the Town Centre and look at the best tenure.

A question was raised over the need for retail provision in the new scheme when there were empty shops elsewhere in Nelson. Officers argued that there was still a desire to keep shops such as Boots, Spec Savers, Wilkos, Greggs. The retail units underneath the housing would provide opportunities for smaller retailers. The Town Deal scheme would consider other town centre projects including housing provision and improving walking and cycle routes.

Key to the bid was the support of the Town Deal Board. Members agreed that the way forward was in partnership, with the involvement of the local community who would be consulted on the detailed plans.

AGREED

- (1) That the Board agree that securing funding to regenerate Pendle Rise Shopping Centre should be the priority for the Council's Future High Street Fund Business Case.
- (2) That the "do maximum" option for intervention be pursued.
- (3) That the Chair of the Board provide a letter of support for the Future High Streets Fund bid.