

**NOTE OF A MEETING OF THE
NELSON TOWN DEAL BOARD
HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT OFFICE TEAMS
ON 23RD OCTOBER, 2020**

PRESENT

S. Barnes (Chairman – in the Chair)

<i>Councillor M. Iqbal</i>	<i>Pendle Borough Council (PBC)</i>
<i>Councillor D. M. Whipp</i>	<i>PBC</i>
<i>Councillor Z. Ali</i>	<i>Nelson Town Council</i>
<i>D. Mendoros</i>	<i>Pendle Vision Board</i>
<i>C. Smith</i>	<i>Pendle Engineering</i>
<i>A. Melton</i>	<i>Lancashire Enterprise Partnership</i>
<i>D. Gordon</i>	<i>Lancashire County Council</i>
<i>R. Bashir</i>	<i>Building Bridges</i>
<i>P. Hartley</i>	<i>In-Situ</i>
<i>L. Newby</i>	<i>Hatch</i>
<i>M. Foster</i>	<i>OPEN</i>
<i>H. Standidge</i>	<i>Cushmans</i>
<i>C. Shepherd</i>	<i>BEIS</i>

Officers in attendance:-

D. Langton Chief Executive, PBC
J. Whittaker Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager
N. Watson Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager, PBC
J. Stockton Senior Regeneration Officer, PBC
J. Eccles Committee Administrator, PBC

(Apologies for absence were received from T. McDonald, C. Bennett and H. Murray.)



1. HONOURS LIST

The Chairman congratulated A. Melton CBE and M. Iqbal MBE for their awards in the recent Birthday Honours List.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES

AGREED

That the minutes of the 25th September 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – FEEDBACK

Members received feedback from the outcome of the recent community engagement work and were asked to agree the final Strategic Framework for the Nelson Town Investment Plan.

Since the last meeting an online survey hosted on the Nelson Town Deal website had resulted in 409 responses. A report summarising the outcome was set out at Appendix 1 to the report. In addition, In-Situ, working in partnership with Building Bridges and a small team of creative practitioners, had sought the views of key groups who were often hard to reach, including businesses, young people and the BAME and Eastern European communities through online/digital and face to face activities. P. Hartley talked Members through the initial feedback and some of the key messages which was detailed at Appendix 2. Since that report was written there had been a further event which was more positive with discussions about how to brighten up Nelson. More events were planned which would continue to feed into the discussions.

In light of the comments from the consultations some minor changes to the draft Strategic Framework were proposed at Appendix 3.

AGREED

- (1) That the outcome of the recent community engagement work be noted.
- (2) That the proposed minor changes to the draft Strategic Framework in light of the feedback that had been received be agreed.
- (3) That any Board member wanting to make further changes to the draft Strategic Framework – particularly shortening/simplifying the vision - submit their suggestions in the next week, and the final wording be circulated by email.
- (4) That engagement with the community at all levels continue throughout the Town Deal process.

5. NELSON TOWN INVESTMENT PLAN – DRAFT DESIGN CONCEPT/TEMPLATE

Board Members were asked for their comments on the draft design concept/template for the Nelson Town Investment Plan. The first section set out the context, strategy and process planning, with the second section focusing on the project proposals. The TIP would be limited to a maximum of 10,000 words but there was no limit on pages, so the intention was to use lots of graphics to help bring the document to life.

Overall Members were happy with the design and format. The following comments/suggestions were made –

- The image of Pendle Hill on the front cover needed tweaking
- Need to agree the right wording for the front cover
- Consider using the branding “This is Nelson” being used for community engagement on the first page
- Consider embedding some audio or video in the Plan, so that authentic local voices could be heard
- That contemporary visuals as well as heritage buildings be reflected in the plan.
- There needed to be a balance of positive images as well as those that really showed the need for investment

- Include statistics and graphs where possible to help the assessment process
- Before and after photos/illustrations for proposed projects
- Important to show some of the industrial areas and their link to the town
- That there be space in the design to show the need for investment, evidence of need, and present a clear strategy for meeting the need with the right interventions
- Include an executive summary to explain the challenge, issues and the expected outcomes – clearly showing how the proposed investment will change Nelson.

AGREED

That a one page executive summary be included at the beginning of the plan to set out the purpose of the bid in a very clear way and Hatch bear in mind the other comments in taking forward the Plan.

6. WORKPLAN UPDATE

Members were asked to consider progress made against the workplan for developing the Nelson Town Investment Plan and the key activities scheduled to take place in the coming weeks. Progress on these activities would be reported to the next meeting on 20th November.

AGREED

That the progress made against the workplan and the key activities planned in the coming weeks be noted.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held at 10a.m. on Friday 20th November, 2020.

8. 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.

9. TOWN INVESTMENT PLAN – PROJECT PRIORITISATION ASSESSMENT REPORT

The Board considered a report on the outcome of the project prioritisation exercise carried out by Hatch. Project concept forms had been completed for each of the long list projects. A summary of each of the project concepts, together with the outcome of Hatch's assessment were attached at Appendix 1.

Board Members were asked to agree a shortlist. In doing so, to consider whether projects should be amalgamated, scaled up or down or whether they could be realistically funded through alternative means. The aim was to arrive at a coherent set of project proposals which would deliver economic growth, clean growth and support Covid recovery across the town. The shortlisted projects would then be developed further over the next few weeks for inclusion in the Nelson Town Investment Plan (TIP).

At the meeting Hatch presented their proposed shortlist of 8 projects, for discussion. A notional allocation was given alongside each project. The final spend would be influenced by the project detail in the next stage of development. They were looking to increase the revenue split up to the allowed 10% to enhance the success of the capital spend. They suggested several projects that could be developed using alternative funding. Other projects would be developed to feature as complementary schemes but would not feature in the immediate request for funding.

For each shortlisted project a small working group consisting of a project lead and relevant partners needed to be brought together to work alongside Hatch to develop the project in more detail. The aim was to set these up in the following week.

AGREED

- (1) That broad agreement be given to Hatch to develop the proposed shortlist of projects presented at the meeting for Towns Funding.
- (2) That lead representatives and working groups be set up to work alongside Hatch to develop the projects in more detail, for inclusion in the TIP.
- (3) That Hatch and the working group involve the Pendle Vision Board and Boost Lancashire in the Business Resilience and Growth project.