

**NOTE OF A MEETING OF THE  
NELSON TOWN DEAL BOARD  
HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT OFFICE TEAMS  
ON 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2020**

*PRESENT*

*S. Barnes (Chairman – in the Chair)*

**Members of the Board**

<i>A. Stephenson</i>	<i>Member of Parliament for Pendle</i>
<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 Ltd</i>
<i>A. Melton</i>	<i>Lancashire Enterprise Partnership</i>
<i>C. Bennett</i>	<i>Positive Action in the Community</i>
<i>D. Gordon</i>	<i>Lancashire County Council</i>

**Consultants**

<i>L. Newby</i>	<i>Hatch</i>
<i>R. Jenkins</i>	<i>MHCLG</i>

**Officers in attendance:-**

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

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*(Apologies were received from P. Hartley, Rauf Bashir 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. MINUTES**

**AGREED**

That the minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**3. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

A report was submitted which gave an update on recent community/stakeholder engagement activities and outlined a draft plan for future engagement post-submission of the Town Investment Plan (TIP) at Appendix 1.

The previous plan focused on engagement activities during the development phase of the TIP. This plan outlined plans for engagement in the future and included more detailed plans for engaging with the private sector.

(Nelson Town Deal Board 18.12.2020)

The Chairman pointed out that there had been a positive 'check and challenge' session with the Towns Hub on 16<sup>th</sup> December to review the draft TIP and provide advice on areas of improvement. Consultation with the private sector hadn't come up but he thought, and Board Members agreed, that the private sector's role was crucial in ongoing development and delivery of the plan, as well as the views of local people.

Zoom events and a pagoda in the Town Centre to encourage community engagement were also ideas that would be looked at, although social distancing could make the latter option more difficult.

#### **AGREED**

- (1) That the update on community/stakeholder engagement activities be noted.
- (2) That the plan for future stakeholder engagement at Appendix 1 of the report be agreed.
- (3) That more structured engagement and communication with the private sector on the individual projects take place going forwards.

#### **4. WORKPLAN UPDATE**

Members were asked to consider progress made against the workplan for developing the Nelson TIP and the key activities scheduled to take place in the coming weeks.

Hatch had been busy producing the latest draft of Section 1 of the TIP, which had been submitted to this meeting for comment. Project level working groups had continued to meet on a weekly basis. Information for each project was being presented in a project template which would form Section 2 of the TIP.

The final draft of the TIP would be considered at the next meeting of the Board on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January. The TIP would then need to be ratified by the Council's Policy and Resources Committee later that day, prior to submission by 29<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **AGREED**

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

#### **5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held at 10a.m. on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2021.

#### **6. 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.

## **7. DRAFT NELSON TOWN INVESTMENT PLAN**

L. Newby presented the latest draft of the TIP for Nelson and sought feedback on the design, content and the financial overview so that it could be refined and finalised in the coming weeks. A draft final plan, for submission to Government, would be brought to the Board for approval in January.

The development of the TIP had encompassed the early stages of work carried out by Cushman and Wakefield on the development of a masterplan for Nelson, so that the two strands of work were aligned.

She fed back on comments from the 'check and challenge' session with the Towns Hub and explained how potential improvements they had suggested would be addressed in the final plan. One of the suggestions was that the role of Nelson should be more specific in the Vision, which the Board agreed with. There was an option to meet the 'check and challenge' group again before submission of the bid and this would be considered in early January.

The Board was very supportive of the work that had been done, how the Plan looked and progress made with the projects. They were in agreement with the financial summary appended to the report.

### **AGREED**

- (1) That the draft TIP and the financial summary provided, with the suggested improvements discussed, form the basis of the final submission draft to be agreed at the next meeting, and any further comments on the Plan to be emailed to L. Newby as soon as possible.
- (2) That the Vision be amended slightly to include a more defined role of Nelson and for the final version to be emailed to Members.
- (3) That Members be brought up to date with the initial work on the Masterplan.
- (4) That Members of the Board write letters of support to accompany the Plan and for this work to be followed up in the New Year.

## **8. ACCELERATED FUNDING**

It was reported that, at Policy and Resources Committee, the previous evening, the Council had agreed to purchase Trafalgar House for £350,000 plus stamp duty using some of the £750,000 accelerated grant funding from the Towns Fund. This funding had had to be used on capital projects that would make an immediate impact in Nelson this financial year. The intention was to demolish it and use the site for much needed car parking in the Town Centre.

The Council was also in the process of negotiating on a couple of other key sites in the Town Centre.