

Thornaby Town Deal Board

Minutes of Meeting held on 19th March 2021

Present:

Mark White – Chair
 Cllr Nigel Cooke
 Richard McGuckin
 Iain Robinson
 Matthew Vickers MP (Part)
 Cllr Sylvia Walmsley
 Cllr Ray Godwin
 Cllr Mick Moore
 Cllr Steve Walmsley
 Cllr Luke Frost

Leon Jones
 Niall Innes
 Katy Severs
 Claire Frawley
 Dermit Smith
 Adam Suleiman
 Mehboob Ahmed
 Paul Gibson
 Jennifer Tomlin
 Lesley Graham

Item	Comment/Action	Owner	Deadline
1	<u>Apologies</u> Angela Lockwood, Lisa Pickard		
2	<u>Introduction and Housekeeping</u> Chair welcomed all to the March meeting of the Thornaby Town Deal Board. Chair commented that it was pleasurable to send the budget e-mail and thanked all for their feedback. Generally good press coverage and really pleased with the BBC Tees interview. Last Friday was a really important date for the area and chair thanked Matt Vickers MP for arranging meeting with Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rishi Sunak. Chair advised that Matt Vickers MP was on business for next 20 mins and Niall was in attendance for first portion of the meeting. Now to decide how the money will be spent. We will have to decide in detail what we would like to submit to ministers. The spend must be sustainable in the long term, impactful and provide value for money. Chair thanked Ray for words shared in statement on Facebook. “What is super important is that the money is spent wisely and for maximum benefit”. Chair thanks Lesley for invitation to hold a future meeting in the boardroom at Stockton Riverside College.		
3	<u>Review of Minutes from 30th October</u> Agreed as accurate record		

4	<p><u>Presentation</u></p> <p>I Robinson delivered presentation on the following:</p> <p>Recap</p> <p>Town Investment Plan developed throughout Autumn 2020. High level priorities identified. Town Investment Plan finalised and submitted December 2020.</p> <p>Heads of Terms</p> <p>Government offer of £23.9m received 3rd March 2021.</p> <p><i>Heads of Terms on Town Deal will act as a Memorandum of Understanding for the future development and delivery of Thornaby-on-Tees's Town Investment Plan and project proposals. It sets out our joint expectations as Thornaby-on-Tees enters the business case development phase.</i></p> <p>Heads of Terms defined interventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivering an integrated network of walking and cycle routes - Futureproofing the town centre - Developing a Higher Levels Skills Centre - Improving housing outcomes in North Thornaby-on-Tees <p>Heads of Terms Next Steps</p> <p>Short Term HoTs must be agreed and accepted with a signed copy sent to Government by 24th March.</p> <p>Medium Term Within two months of accepting offer, Thornaby must confirm which projects from the four themes identified will be taken forward and what level of funding is required for each. Full business case to be developed and appraised via a local assurance framework processes within 12 months of accepting HoTs.</p> <p>Opportunity to look over and discuss with Mark to sign on behalf of the board, along with Julie Danks as Council recipient.</p> <p>Business Case Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jacobs to provide support through development of business case. - More robust level of detail and rationale required to support intervention at business case stage. - Requirement to undertake broader level of options appraisal and assessment on viability and value for money. - Requirement to develop working groups around specific themes. - Broader role for board in overseeing scheme and business case development. - Develop and deliver opportunities to engage with local community on interventions 		
---	---	--	--

<p>5</p>	<p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p>Chair asked I Robinson to describe to the board how he envisages the 4 workstreams working.</p> <p>I Robinson stated that it would be largely similar to the approach taken last year. We will be working with Jacobs to ensure the correct level of input/scrutiny around interventions and value for money. All workstreams will come back together and report through the board process.</p> <p><i>Matt Vickers MP joined the meeting.</i></p> <p>L Frost queried the shortfall of £1.1m.</p> <p>Chair noted that it is a much lower reduction than other areas face.</p> <p>R McGuckin added, each of the 4 elements were assessed in their own right and any of these could have seen the reduction. Part of the detailed work on more robust costings will look at where the reduction comes from and make sure that everything remains affordable. We will pull together some options over the next 6-8 weeks for the board to consider.</p> <p>M Vickers MP added that some areas have had their bid pushed back and others significantly less than expected. We should be very happy with what we got and that is because of the high standard of work that went in from Jacobs and the Council. Great work by the team.</p> <p>R McGuckin invited acknowledgement/comments/concerns regarding the Heads of Terms to record the boards acceptance.</p> <p>Chair commented that conversations have taken place outside of the meeting, is everyone happy for Mark to sign? Agreed by all.</p> <p>Chair asked Sylvia if people are excited?</p> <p>Sylvia responded, very much so. Everyone is excited but we need to manage expectations as no big changes will be seen over the next couple of months. People are impatient for things to start happening.</p> <p>N Cooke added that the last couple of weeks have been fantastic news for Thornaby on Tees, making headlines for the right reasons. Fantastic effort and well done to the collective board. Managing expectations will be a challenge going forward.</p> <p>Chair commented that he, R McGuckin and I Robinson will work on communicating effectively to manage expectations along with J Tomlin, Communications Officer for the Town Centres Investment Team.</p> <p>Steve Walmsley commented that it is great that we're getting the money and good to get themed groups together. Some talk on Social Media around The Golden Eagle and N Power site – would cost more to refurbish than knock down and rebuild. Want to keep housing in and around Town Centre. Steve continued that Riverside college had a piece in Thornaby Pride with a mention of Town Deal. Steve has also included a piece about the panel and congratulating</p>	<p>MW/ RMcG/ IR</p>	
----------	---	-----------------------------	--

	<p>officers who have pulled everything together. Absolutely delighted that Thornaby on Tees us on the up!</p> <p>Chair asked R McGuckin when it would be appropriate to have a meeting to discuss scenario planning?</p> <p>R McGuckin responded 4-8 weeks. Relatively short period to work through some scenarios for the board to have a meaningful discussion on.</p> <p>Chair will send his mobile number if anybody would like to contact him for discussion.</p> <p>R Godwin asked R McGuckin about £5m intent agreed at full Council.</p> <p>R McGuckin responded that MTFP allocations were made and £5m capital funding allocated for Thornaby. It will help with £1.1m shortfall but want to see as much additionality as possible. We will look to maximise everywhere we can.</p> <p>R Godwin added he'd had discussions with officers regarding match funding for cycle network from TVCA. Also discussion on whether Thornaby will take priority as we have Town Deal money which wasn't ruled out.</p> <p>R McGuckin agreed that we will continue to try and maximise funding throughout this process and beyond.</p> <p>Chair summarised the following points from the discussions:</p> <p>Officers to draft scenarios to circulate in good time for reflection/comment.</p> <p>IR/RMcG/MW to suggest members of workstreams working with Jacobs. To be circulated.</p> <p>Chair formally asked permission to sign Heads of Terms – Agreed by all.</p>	<p>MW</p> <p>IR</p> <p>IR/MW/ RMcG</p> <p>Note</p>	
6	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Yet to be decided.</p>		
7	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>None</p>		