

Newhaven Town Deal Board
Minutes of Inaugural Board Meeting

Wednesday 12th February 2020

4:00 – 6:00pm

Newhaven Enterprise Centre, Denton Island, Newhaven, BN9 9BA

Attendees

- **Lewes District Council:**
 - Cllr James MacCleary (JM), Deputy Leader - **INTERIM CHAIR**
 - Cllr Zoe Nicholson (ZN), Leader
 - Rob Cottrill (RC), Chief Executive
 - Ian Fitzpatrick (IF), Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning
 - Peter Sharp (PSHA), Head of Regeneration
- **East Sussex County Council:**
 - James Harris (JH), Assistant Director - Economy
- **Newhaven Town Council:**
 - Cllr Graham Amy (GA), Mayor of Newhaven
 - Susie Mullins (SM), Head of Strategic Development
- **Maria Caulfield MP:**
 - Steve Bell CBE (SB)
- **Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy:**
 - Iain McNab (IM), Area Lead for Essex, Kent and East Sussex
- **Local Enterprise Partnerships:**
 - Adam Bryan (AB), Chief Executive, SELEP
- **Newhaven Enterprise Zone:**
 - Corinne Day (CD), Programme Director
- **Community and Business Representatives:**
 - Duncan Kerr (DK), Wave Leisure
 - Chris Rasmussen (CR), Jasfic Ltd
 - Francois Jean (FJ), Newhaven Port & Properties

Secretariat (provided by Lewes District Council):

- Lisa Rawlinson (LR), Strategy & Partnerships Lead for Growth & Prosperity
- Guy McQueen (GM), Regeneration Project Manager

Apologies

- Dan Shelley (East Sussex College Group)
- Max Woodford (Greater Brighton Economic Board)
- Penny Shimmin (Sussex Community Development Association)
- Anthony Middleton (Coast to Capital)
- Graham Peters (Team East Sussex)
- Kirsti Peters (Brightwell Dispensers Group)

Agenda Item		Action
1.0	<p>Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>JM welcomed everyone to inaugural meeting of Newhaven Town Deal Board and noted apologies received. Each member introduced themselves and confirmed who they represent.</p>	
2.0	<p>Agree Business Representative as Chair</p> <p>JM advised that the Towns Fund Prospectus highlights that Chair should be a local business representative. JM asked for a volunteer or nominees that aren't in attendance from Board members.</p> <p>PSHA has one suggestion but hasn't contacted them yet to see if interested.</p> <p>CD suggested new businesses in Enterprise Zone (EZ). Day and time of future Board meetings will affect availability.</p>	<p>PSHA and CD to contact potential business reps</p>
3.0	<p>Overview of Towns Fund and Board Purpose</p> <p>LR gave a short presentation on overview of the Towns Fund and the purpose of the Board.</p> <div data-bbox="1002 1070 1139 1189" style="text-align: right;">  Towns Funds overview.pptx </div> <p>LR referred to the 'My Town Campaign' and the comments that had been made to date (access to beach, congestion, UTC building and Town Centre).</p> <p>Link to campaign provided below.</p> <p>https://mytown.communities.gov.uk/town/newhaven-east-sussex/</p> <p>CD referred to extensive engagement undertaken on EZ which should be utilised and ZN confirmed the need to avoid duplicating consultation.</p> <p>JM asked IM to give Government's perspective on objectives of Board.</p> <p>IM confirmed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Election had slowed progress but there is no loss of direction or commitment from Government. Additional guidance on Town Investment Plans is still scheduled for 	<p>CD to provide details of EZ engagement</p>

	<p>release in early 2020 and could be within 2-3 weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Plan should set out context, vision, priorities and capital projects. ○ EZ is important and Newhaven is one of only a few places in the SELEP region that has the opportunity to bid for funding from the Future High Streets Fund and the Towns Fund. ○ Newhaven is well placed and we are more advanced than other towns. We should submit the Town Investment Plan to Government as soon as it is complete. ○ There will be a central contract for support. Tender decision is imminent. Don't expect too much about this. Support is likely to be generic. ○ We will need to confirm if we will need any specific support. ○ It is really good to have support of MP. Jake Berry is very keen for MPs to be involved. ○ Consider mutual support from towns with similar challenges. <p>CD stated that because announcement about fund was unexpected, programmes and initiatives will not be detailed and fully costed.</p> <p>JH accepts that projects need to be deliverable but stated that type of projects to be promoted will depend on whether the funding needs to be spent in three or five years.</p> <p>IM was unable to confirm the dates for spending the funding.</p>	
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Terms of Reference</p> <p>A copy of the draft Terms of Reference had been circulated with the Agenda.</p> <p>PSHA confirmed that they were very high level and may need more detail.</p> <p>ZN asked if we should acknowledge that we want to do this because it's a good idea and should we specifically refer to the Town Investment Plan as an output? It was acknowledged that we are already working on some things, but how do we achieve the bigger goals and in a way that doesn't replicate the work of the EZ?</p> <p>Reference was made to the Coastal Communities Team Economic Plan for Newhaven which is an excellent piece of work and should be reviewed.</p>	<p>Board to contact LR by 20.03.20 with suggested amendments for Terms of Reference</p>

	<p>ZN stated that the language used should be similar to that used for the EZ – quality, inclusive and sustainable growth. We need to build on the best of what has been achieved in 3-4 years. Newhaven has been subject to a number of plans and we need to draw them all together.</p>	
<p>5.0</p>	<p>Update on Newhaven Enterprise Zone</p> <p>CD provided an update and confirmed that the Strategic Framework had been launched 18 months ago which focusses on quality, inclusive and sustainable growth. Over the last year the emphasis has been on engagement with voluntary and public sector organisations to understand where funding needs to go to make biggest change. We need to get investment into town. We need to work with education providers to get the right skills.</p> <p>CD referred to the eight sites in the EZ and confirmed that she would be happy to talk outside the meeting to anyone interested to learn more about demand and the reasons why we are unable to satisfy it.</p> <p>Newhaven is a small town but we have a ‘can do’ approach. The place narrative work needs to sell the town and promote all that is good about it. We shouldn’t be ashamed of its industrial history. Give consideration to the energy and creative sectors. We will look at an ambassador programme to sell the proposition. We are currently seeing a shift in attitude in the town.</p> <p>SB stated that it is now time to come together and produce something to put Newhaven on the map for the right reasons.</p>	
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Update on Future High Streets Fund</p> <p>PSHA gave a short presentation on the emerging bid and associated timescales.</p> <p>PSHA confirmed that for a town the size of Newhaven the bids are likely to be between £5 and £10m. CD provided details of the Wayfinding Strategy that had recently been commissioned.</p> <p>PSHA confirmed that BCR is currently 1.84 and it needs to be a minimum of 2:1. It is difficult for social value to be monetised.</p> <p>IM advised that we need to provide evidence that Green Book doesn’t work that can be shared with Government. ZN asked for MP to be given a briefing on valuations and green book approach.</p>	

	<p>IM confirmed that if the MP joins forces with other MPs and they speak to appropriate minister it could make a difference and change Green Book policy. AB confirmed that SELEP could also make a case for this as well. ZN suggested that our response should be co-ordinated through the LEP and that MP should be given a head start through the proposed briefing.</p>	<p>PSHA to arrange briefing with MP</p>
<p>7.0</p>	<p>Additional Board Members</p> <p>We have deliberately kept the Board members to a minimum initially. Currently the Board comprises the Enterprise Zone Programme Board plus Elected Politicians. As such there will be other representatives that we will need to invite to future meetings.</p> <p>We need to keep numbers manageable, but we can probably accommodate a further 5-6 representatives.</p> <p>CD suggested EZ employers as they would represent a large number of employees.</p> <p>PSHA confirmed that any further suggestions should be provided to him or LR by 21st February.</p>	
	<p>Future Meetings – Dates and Frequency</p> <p>It was agreed that future meetings would take place quarterly and on Friday mornings.</p>	