

Newhaven Town Deal Board

Minutes of Board Meeting

Friday 23rd October 2020

2.00 – 3.30pm via MS Teams

Attendees

- **Chair:** Chris Ketley (CK), Knill James LLP
- **Towns Coordinator for Newhaven:**
 - Rebecca Collings (RCol), Nichols Group
- **Lewes District Council:**
 - Cllr Zoe Nicholson (ZN), Deputy Leader
 - Rob Cottrill (RCot), Chief Executive,
 - Ian Fitzpatrick (IF), Deputy Chief Executive
 - 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
- **Members of Houses of Parliament and Lords:**
 - Maria Caulfield MP (MC)
 - Baroness Janet Whitaker (JW)
- **Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy:**
 - Nigel Stewardson (NS), Cities and Local Growth Unit
- **Local Enterprise Partnerships:**
 - Graham Peters (GP), Chair, Team East Sussex (SELEP)
 - Jo Simmons (JS), Business Development Manager (SELEP)
- **Newhaven Enterprise Zone:**
 - Michelle Connors (CD), Business Engagement Officer
- **Community and Business Representatives:**
 - Dan Shelley (DShe), East Sussex College Group
 - Duncan Kerr (DK), Wave Leisure
 - Penny Shimmin (PS), Sussex Community Development Association
 - Dave Collins-Williams (DCW), Newhaven Port & Properties
 - Keith Hoare (KH), NHS East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group
 - Chris Rasmussen (CR), Jasfic Ltd
 - Patrick Warner (PW), Brighton & Hove Buses

Secretariat (provided by Lewes District Council):

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

Apologies

- Cllr James MacCleary, Lewes District Council
- Adam Bryan, Chief Executive, SELEP

- Max Woodford, Greater Brighton Economic Board
- Corinne Day, Newhaven Enterprise Zone
- Trevor Beattie, South Downs National Park Authority
- Dick Shone, Boutique Modern
- Mike Shorer, Newhaven Chamber of Commerce

Agenda item		Action
1.0	<p>Welcome, Introductions & Apologies</p> <p>CK welcomed attendees and explained that much of the meeting would focus on Agenda Item 5 – Town Investment Plan (TIP) Proposals.</p>	
2.0	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting</p> <p>Previous minutes were agreed.</p>	
3.0	<p>Stakeholder Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LR reported back on behalf of the Stakeholder Engagement Sub-Group, which met for the first time 14/10/20: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The group agreed to draft an online survey which will be sent for wider Board approval before it is published ○ Survey must clearly relate to Towns Fund and not replicate or duplicate any other consultation that has taken place ○ It is proposed that questions will focus on the groups of projects which are being progressed at this stage for further development following Board agreement (see Agenda Item 5) ○ Engagement will also properly acknowledge responses received from the #MyTown campaign and refer to other relevant documents e.g. Newhaven Neighbourhood Plan ○ The survey will be created using Survey Monkey with the link accessible via Lewes District Council’s website ○ We will be looking to include the consultation details as part of two-page spread in the next edition of Newhaven Matters ○ We are still seeking to commission a virtual exhibition which would be expected to run in December until early January. ➤ KH asked if the survey would also be promoted through other local organisations. LR confirmed that we will be 	

	<p>reaching out through all available networks and asking partners and Board members to assist in doing so.</p>	
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Railway Quay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSha provided an update on the accelerated project for land at Railway Quay: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ £500k capital funding has been received ○ The project must be completed by 31st March 2021 ○ A planning application has been submitted and validated with a determination date of 08/12/20: Planning Application: LW/20/0702 https://planningpa.lewes.gov.uk/online-applications/ ○ The current tender process for contractors and operators will end 11/11/20 ○ The target date for operators to move in is 24/03/21. ➤ GA asked whether the northern fascia of the UTC could be painted as it is currently a faded white colour; this is not in-keeping with the rest of the building which is in good order and has the potential to be a feature. GP pointed to the mural work in place at the Towner Gallery. CK suggested that the use of projectors might alleviate conservation restrictions and offer a variety of imagery. PSha explained that conservation officers are being consulted as the UTC is a grade II listed building. Officers will explore all options, depending on constraints. ➤ KH reported on discussion which is ongoing between CCG and relevant LDC and ESCC officers in relation to the proposed cycle hub at Railway Quay. They will be considering the option to purchase bicycles and to link with an existing cycle hub in Peacehaven. ESCC's Active Access for Growth Fund might provide a match funding opportunity. ➤ CK asked if there had been any further discussion with the Railway Club, which is located adjacent to the proposed site. PSha explained that there had been no further discussion but that this would take place once the procurement process was complete. 	
<p>5.0</p>	<p>TIP Proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PSha presented the current project proposals for their consideration and agreement on groups of projects to be put forward in Newhaven's TIP: ➤ 19 projects were presented on a map of the town that have been rated as 'Green' or 'Amber'. Those that are 'Amber' still need some additional information. PSha 	

explained why several projects had not been recommended for shortlisting. There is seen to be a good spread of projects across the town

- Officers have initially grouped projects into seven strategic 'programmes'. The Board were shown how each project grouping corresponded to the Board's agreed TIP Themes
- Each programme was discussed in high level detail, considering the relevant need (evidence base) and rationale, as well as the expected outcomes of proposed interventions. There was also reference to existing investment proposals in the town and their relevance.
- The 7 strategic programmes are:
 - An Active Community
 - Re-connecting our Town
 - Re-imagining our Town Centre
 - Building our Economic Strength
 - Destination Newhaven
 - Better Journeys for All
 - Maintaining Maritime Vitality
- Each programme contributes to the Scale of Ambition and long-term impacts agreed by the Board at the last meeting.

- JW wanted to ensure that our TIP evidences the positive links between community interventions and the economy, as well as stressing the need for ambitious and quality architecture in relation to the bridge proposals.
- GP argued that investment in green spaces need to increase biodiversity and pointed to the work Hastings are currently doing with the help of specialists. Wayfinding needs quality design and should also consider biodiversity. PSha explained that wayfinding had been considered extensively as part of FHSF documentation which will be shared with the Board.
- JH suggested that proposals match well with Government initiatives and link with existing planned investment for Newhaven.
- JH highlighted the significance of the Port Access Road for economic reasons but also for the purpose of redirecting traffic from constrained roads and allowing for cycling and pedestrian provision. Bus corridor growth would also be enabled.
- JH added that it will be important to ensure the maintenance of any wayfinding is duly considered.
- JH also asked how the [example bridge shown in the presentation](#) met the requirements for Newhaven. PSha explained that the example had been used for aesthetic purposes more than the specific engineering requirements (e.g. boats require passage underneath) and pointed to a

[bascule bridge which has been approved in Lowestoft, Suffolk](#) for further reference. A desktop feasibility has been sought which is expected to be completed before the next meeting of the Board.

- PW expressed B&H Buses enthusiasm for the proposals. Agreement is being sought for funding of planned bus priority lanes. Suggested wording for such a scheme should be aligned with Central Government phraseology which includes 'Superbus priorities'.
- NS congratulated the Board for the work carried out so far. Considerable progress has been made since the Board's previous meeting and is in line with Government expectations.
- KH is supportive of the proposals and how they might support mental and physical wellbeing. CCG are keen to ensure that those who are not currently active can be engaged and to work in partnership with local community groups.
- KH asked what the impact of the new community facilities (1st Floor Library proposal) might have on the Hillcrest Centre and whether the services and users within it had been considered? PSha explained that the intention is to complement the Hillcrest, not to compete. Newhaven Town Council worked with the Arts Council to ensure this was considered in their proposals. MC acknowledged the importance of the Hillcrest Centre for the town. It is vital to ensure that the centre is supported, and additional community provision be complementary to it.
- MC added her thanks for the work carried out and encouraged the Board to reach a decision on the project packaging recommendations in order to progress. There is still a considerable amount of work to be done before the submission deadline (31st January 2021).
- MC highlighted the opportunity that the Towns Fund provides to extend the wayfinding which is planned as part of the FHSF bid to additional areas e.g. Avis Way. MC will continue to lobby to ensure a decision is reached.
- ZN raised her concern for the economic and wider impact of COVID-19, particularly concerning 16-24year olds. This should be addressed in the TIP and interventions should focus on jobs, skills and educational attainment. DShe summarised proposals for Denton Island which includes a Youth Hub which would focus on this age bracket and address these needs directly with funding and partnership sought with the DWP. GA also drew attention to the new Youth Centre on Denton Island and praised Rampion for having taken on apprentices and graduates. The emerging 'Rampion 2' offshore wind farm extension may provide

	<p>further opportunities for training, skills and employment in Newhaven. JW added that there is a body of evidence which supports the argument that health and wellbeing interventions can support economic development which can be included in our TIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IF explained the approach being taken in LDC's procurement processes to apply community wealth building principles i.e. work being carried using local supply chains and workforces. LDC have just completed a residential scheme in Fort Road, Newhaven which has used a local construction company. Were the Towns Fund to be successful, the same approach should be taken. ➤ RCol is encouraged by the current proposals and the level of ambition. ➤ GP asked what the current total ask was for shortlisted projects and whether we have any back-up projects. PSha confirmed that current estimates total approx. £36m which exceeds the £25m threshold. However, this includes £7.2m for projects which are included in the FHSF bid. The projects list will need to be revised as feasibility work is completed. PSha confirmed that the total value of projects will be kept under review to ensure we bid for as close to £25m as possible. ➤ CK noted the Board's overwhelmingly supportive comments and recognition of the project prioritisation work carried out. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board accepted officer recommendations unanimously. 	
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LR outlined the next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Further detail will be sought for shortlisted proposals including evidence of need ○ The online survey will be drafted and shared with the Board for comment and approval. 	
<p>7.0</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Board agreed to schedule next meeting 27/11/20 at 3.00pm.</p>	
<p>8.0</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>PSha asked members to share details of https://shopslocal.info/ and encourage local businesses to sign up.</p>	