

Carlisle Town Deal Board

MINUTES

Thursday 8th October 2020, 14:00 – 15:30
Microsoft Teams Meeting

No.	Item	Time
1	Welcome and Apologies	14:00
2	Minutes from previous meeting	14:05
3	Update on Projects	14:10
4	Draft Town Investment Plan	14:35
5	Engagement Plan	15:00
7	Actions and next steps	15:20
8	AOB	15:25

Minutes

Welcome & Apologies

Attendees:

Emma Porter (Chair)- Story Contracting
John Mallinson- Carlisle City Council
Cyril Weber- Cumbria County Council
Jane Meek- Carlisle City Council
Paul Nedved Cumbria County Council
Alison Hatcher- Cumbria County Council
Andrew Mackay- Tullie House
David Allen- Cumbria CVS
Rob Brittain- Castles and Coast
Sarah Paton- Riverside Housing
Corinne Watson- Cumbria LEP

John Stevenson- MP
David Jackson- The Lanes Shopping Centre
Elaine Herbert - DWP/Job Centre
Kate McLaughlin-Flynn- Cumbria University
Paul Musgrave- Cumbria County Council
Helen Joicey- New Skills Consulting
Peter Graham - New Skills Consulting
Steven Robinson – Carlisle City Council
Ken Lau – Carlisle City Council
Jenson Kemp – Carlisle City Council

Apologies:

Mark Boyling- Carlisle Cathedral

Jo Lappin- Cumbria LEP

Julie Mennell- Cumbria University

Minutes from last meeting - Minutes Agreed

Update on Projects

PG presenting an update overview on projects

JS: What is the feedback from government on job creation?

PG: Doesn't feature explicitly on guidance but will ensure the job creation ambitions are referenced in the TIP, given the COVID context

AH: Narrative is coming together quite well; the following could be strengthened: Headline numbers, Housing led growth, growth ambition.

DJ: Projects chosen are excellent projects, but highlighted a concern that city centre is missing from that. City centre is looking tired, and while there is a bid for investment in the centre in the FHSF bid, there is concern that this is competitive funding and may not be secured. City centre needs to move along as part of town deal and not be left behind.

JeM: As there is a project in the future high street fund to invest in the market square pedestrianised area, we can't duplicate the funding, but the business case is looking promising for future high street fund, and is part of the 'whole town' Town Deal approach.

DA: is there a mitigation plan to combat the risks with close contact and gathering in the city centre regarding Covid-19 and restrictions? Need to ensure projects are covered against this ongoing risk.

SR: this is a good point, and projects will need to be developed to consider this.

JeM: We are being asked by government departments on how we are addressing Covid-19, Issues were there before covid 19 but are now being exacerbated as Covid has progressed

CW: Extending southern gateway down to St Nicholas and entirety of Botchergate needs looking at & town deal bid is a golden opportunity to look at what is possible.

SR: The county council has been looking at that project, looking at a scheme as what can be developed with an £8m funding envelope, compromises have been made as the budget wasn't able to cover it. In terms of Southern Gateway project, the scope has been reduced to get it within budget.

EP: how robust are the numbers, are we being realistic in our numbers?

AH: Costs – Still at a concept stage so they are being set at a high-level estimate.

JS: Must remember that we might not be given £25m so it is important to have a strong narrative.

Draft Town Investment Plan (Highlighted represents questions copied from teams chat)

PG presenting Draft TIP

EH: Great that we are looking to attract highly skilled workers. However, we shouldn't lose sight of those lower skilled unemployed and creating opportunities for all.

SR: Agree with you Elaine - we need to ensure the principle of inclusive growth comes through and opportunities for all comes through

JS: we shouldn't be apologetic but should be robust about the strengths of Carlisle. Should be talking ourselves up as much as possible and demonstrate that. Need to reference the private sector investments – Amazon has come to Carlisle / Pirelli.

DA: We could bolster reference to voluntary and community sector. Linkage between voluntary and employment. Emphasis on deprivation is solely on Carlisle, some of developments in Carlisle could tackle rural deprivation.

JeM: Investment plan could make reference to bolstering the importance of having strong Carlisle will improve the district's rural areas as a whole.

AH: Passion for transforming the city isn't quite coming through, having a foreword or covering letter from someone like Emma to accompany at the front of the document.

EP: Does the document have to be purely text based or can there be accompanying videos, etc?

PG: Not entirely sure on that.

CW: Making sure throughout the document we really sell the tremendous opportunity; document lacks a bit of oomph bit of tweaking on the wording.

PN: Maybe need to say more about our strong connectivity.

EP: Make more about connectivity, Amazon a logistics company has chosen to set up here.

Engagement Plan

JK Presenting on Engagement and Communications

DA: Voluntary and community sector, 500 charities registered in Carlisle name, broad range of Charities in Carlisle, could get a number of those charities to come along the virtual engagements

EP: happy with the work with ARUP on the engagement plan, this has helped strengthen the plan as a whole.

Actions and Next Steps

PG: take on board the comments, would welcome written comments on the current version of the draft TIP to be sure we are nailing down the points. Deadline a week today, email to Peter.

- Refining details of proforma's
- Come back with almost a final version of the TIP by the next meeting on the 22nd October.

- Strive to get documents out on the morning of the 20th or before.

PN: when taking opportunity to stress tests these projects? Offer from the LEP –

EP: We will take up the offer from the LEP before submission, keen to have as much scrutiny as possible.

Any other business

SR: need agree extend the boundary and agree the amended boundary to ensure that the boundary encompasses all projects, key sites and future growth areas, e.g. St Cuthbert's

Board accepted amended boundary.