

**Workington Towns Deal Board Meeting
Friday 13 March 2020
Draft Minutes**

Attendance

Board Members

Cllr Alan Barry	Cumbria County Council
Chris Bagshaw	Workington Town Council
John Coughlan (chair)	TSP Engineering Ltd
Valerie Hallard	Churches Together in Workington
Mark Jenkinson MP	MP for Workington (part meeting)
Bridget Johns	Cumbria Council for Voluntary Service
Chris Nattrass	Lakes College
Anthony Wareing	Workington Heritage Group
Corrine Watson	Cumbria LEP (by telephone – part meeting)

Officers/Support

Michael Barry	Cumbria County Council
Hannah Dolan	PA to Mark Jenkinson (part meeting)
Kevin Kerrigan	Allerdale Borough Council
Mike Renouf	Churches Together in Workington
Lizzy Shaw	Cumbria County Council

1. Introductions

The Chair welcomed all Board Members and their supporting officers to the meeting.

Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Mike Johnson	Allerdale Borough Council
Jonny Lowe	Iggesund
Cllr Paul Scott	Allerdale Borough Council

2. Minutes of last meeting and Actions

The board agreed the minutes of the last meeting.

An action from the previous meeting related to a discussion in relation to the vision for Workington. Based on the points that had been raised a revised draft vision was tabled for discussion.

Workington – a town loved by families.

Workington is a town loved by families for its modern town centre experience and active lifestyle. Families can enjoy cultural, heritage, leisure, sporting and recreational activities, day and night. The town centre accommodates a mix of national chains and local stores in addition to a growing number of residents and commercial businesses. There is an abundance of accessible green infrastructure, from parks to nature reserves, and families can also easily access the riverside and coastline. The town is well connected to major transport routes and residents benefit from a sustainable transport focus that facilitates cycling and walking to key gathering points in the town, in addition to public transport links. Local people benefit from employment opportunities in a dynamic mix of large and small businesses as local employment land is unlocked and quality education and training can be accessed easily. The town is a safe, active community that offers opportunities to all of its residents.

There were a number of observations made including that there should be more focus on the economy, the green economy and the strengths of the town. It was agreed that a further refinement of the vision would be required and that this would be done in conjunction with the consultant team to be appointed to support the preparation of the Town Investment Plan.

3 Data Assessment – Ward Breakdown

In response to a request at the previous meeting a further data assessment had been provided on a ward basis. Board members considered this was useful information but considered it may be helpful to show this data on a map and that it may also be useful to consider the data on a LSOA basis rather than wards. It was agreed that further refinement of the data assessment would be considered as the evidence base for the Investment Plan was developed.

4. Project Themes and My Town Website

Details of comments received by the MyTown website were considered. Along with potential projects previously identified by partners these had been grouped into a number of emerging themes.

It was noted that not all of the project ideas may fit the criteria for the Towns Fund but may highlight issues that could be addressed by partners or could potentially be funded by alternative or future funding streams. It was agreed that further refinement of these themes would be required in developing the investment plan for future consideration by the board.

5. Development of project outlines

It was agreed that it would be beneficial to capture further information in relation to potential projects to inform the development of the Investment Plan.

A pro-forma for potential projects was considered and discussed. An amendment to include information in relation to the partners was suggested. It was agreed a revised pro-forma would be circulated and it was agreed partners would be encouraged to submit details of potential projects for consideration.

It was agreed that criteria for the assessment and prioritisation of potential projects would need to be developed. Reference was made to work already done by KPMG for CLEP which may be of assistance.

6. Community Engagement Sub Group update

It was noted that that an initial meeting of the sub-group had been met and that further work was required to develop a communications plan for the Town Deal process.

7. Consultant procurement update

Allerdale Borough Council has sought tenders for a joint commission for the preparation of a new Growth Plan for Allerdale and support for the preparation of an Investment Plan for Workington. A total of 6 proposals had been received and were being considered by the Council. An update will be provided to the Board once an appointment has been made.

7. Future Meetings

Next Board meeting – Thursday 10 April – 10.00 to be held at the Council Chamber, Allerdale House

It was noted that due to the potential impact of the emerging COVID10 pandemic it may be necessary for the meeting to be held remotely and Board members would be updated accordingly.