



**Workington Town Deal Board Meeting
Friday 15 January 2021
2.30pm via MS Teams
Draft Minutes**

Attendance

Board Members

Cllr Alan Barry	Cumbria County Council
John Coughlan (Chair)	TSP Engineering Ltd
Jack Gordon	Sovereign Centros
Valerie Hallard	Churches Together in Workington
Mark Jenkinson MP	MP for Workington
Bridget Johns	Cumbria Council for Voluntary Service
Cllr Mike Johnson	Allerdale Borough Council
Chris Nattress	Lakes College
Cllr Paul Scott	Allerdale Borough Council
David Taylor	Allerdale Investment Partnership
Anthony Wareing	Workington Heritage Group
Corinne Watson	Cumbria LEP

Officers/Support

Alison Hatcher	Cumbria County Council
Rosie Jenkins	CLGU
Kevin Kerrigan	Allerdale Borough Council
Lizzy Shaw	Cumbria County Council

1. Introductions

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

Apologies

Cllr Mike Heaslip

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2. *Minutes of Last Meeting and Actions*

The board agreed the minutes of the last meeting.

4. *Update on Accelerated Funding Projects*

Kevin Kerrigan updated the Board on progress with the accelerated funding projects.

Central Way Scheme

This scheme involves three elements:

- Outdoor events space at the leisure centre. The contractor is now on site and work is progressing well.
- Outdoor Gym. Following a tender process an order for the equipment has been placed and installation will follow the completion of the outdoor events area.
- Works to improve underpass/cycleway. Some scheme redesign has taken place to meet the requirements of the highway authority and address concerns from the operators of Opera Bingo about the impact of the scheme on their staff and customers. Tender returns are due soon and a tender award is expected by the end of January with work on site to commence shortly thereafter.

Acquisition and Demolition of the Opera House

As reported at the last meeting an agreement in principle has been reached to acquire a cleared site. There have been some delays in progressing the acquisition following a bereavement and Covid19 outbreak at the company the site is being acquired from. Good progress has however been made in the last week as a draft contract has been issued and it is understood that a meeting has taken place with the appointed party wall surveyor and demolition sub-contractor.

A photograph was shared with the Board of a sign that had been erected adjacent to the outdoor events area. This had been installed following a

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suggestion from the Board at the last meeting that signage be provided advertising that the work was being supported by the Towns Fund.

5. *MHCLG Guidance on development of business cases*

Kevin Kerrigan and Rosie Jenkins provided an overview of recent guidance from MHCLG in relation to the development of business cases and the assurance process. This guidance had been circulated to Board members in advance of the meeting.

There was some discussion on progress with the development of business cases, the assurance process, the use of standardised paperwork and the level of funding awarded to other towns in the first cohort.

6. *Update on project concept development for Innovation Centre/Central Way site*

David Taylor gave a presentation and provided an update on further concept design work that had been done in relation to the proposed innovation centre and associated development at Central Way. This was generally well received by the Board. There was a discussion in relation to a number of issues including viability, market demand and car parking strategy with further consideration to be given to these matters as project development work is progressed.

7. *AOB*

Cllr Barry asked whether sufficient resources were available for the future development of the projects. Cllr Johnson confirmed that Allerdale Borough Council are fully committed to the delivery of the Towns Fund and ensuring that this is properly resourced.

Future Meetings

Next Board meeting – Friday 12 February 2021 – 2:30 pm, to be held remotely. Meeting invites have been circulated.

The meeting ended at 3:30pm

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