

Workington Towns Deal Board Meeting
Friday 22 May 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
Gordon Henry	Cumbria Council for Voluntary Service
Mark Jenkinson MP	MP for Workington (part meeting)
Cllr Mike Johnson	Allerdale Borough Council
Jonny Lowe	Iggesund
Chris Nattrass	Lakes College
Cllr Paul Scott	Allerdale Borough Council
Anthony Wareing	Workington Heritage Group
Corinne Watson	Cumbria LEP

Officers/Support

Julie Alexander	Allerdale Borough Council
Michael Barry	Cumbria County Council
Ashley Bennett	Mott MacDonald
Stephen Cox	Mott MacDonald
Hannah Dolan	PA to Mark Jenkinson (part meeting)
Sami Falou	BEIS
Rosie Jenkins	BEIS
Kevin Kerrigan	Allerdale Borough Council
Lizzy Shaw	Cumbria County Council
Oliver Steele	Mott MacDonald
Julie Ward	Allerdale Borough Council

1. Introductions

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

Apologies

There were no apologies

2. Minutes of last meeting and Actions

The board agreed the minutes of the last meeting.

3 Vision/Objectives/Critical Success Factors

A presentation was delivered by Mott MacDonald (MM) to support discussions on the Vision, Objectives and Critical Success Factors of the Town Investment Plan (TIP). An explanation of the project selection methodology and an update on next steps followed. The presentation slides had been previously circulated to the board members

- Vision
Revisions to the wording of the Vision had been prepared. Discussions concerned whether the vision was a statement of current affairs or an aspiration, and whether it was suitably visionary in nature. It was agreed that the vision should not be constrained by existing assets/strengths/identities, and that the investment plan could go beyond what the Towns fund could support. Heritage and tourism, Low Carbon and the energy sector were subjects suggested for possible inclusion. The Vision is to be circulated again for final comments before the next meeting.
- Strategic Objectives/Goals & Critical Success Factors
How the key elements of the vision are translated into the strategic goals, and the subsequent formulation of critical success factors (CSF) necessary to measure progress and ensure that the goals are met was demonstrated. The objectives and the nature of the CSF were considered at length; as the vision alters, then the detail of the strategic objectives will change, and potentially the corresponding CSF. The need for the CSF to be measurable using easily available data was highlighted. Caution was expressed about the terminology used, and the need to keep the language in a format suitable for public engagement.

Further comments on the Vision, goals and detailed CSF are welcomed. The intention would be to issue the final version of the vision ahead of the next meeting. Any further comments from Board Members can be made by comments to the Teams site or by email directly to KK.

4. Initial Review of Potential Projects

The approach to refining the long list of projects to a shortlist aligning with the vision and goals was outlined using the existing vision and list of projects put forward

It was confirmed that at this stage there has been no scoring of projects against the vision and strategic objectives (which have not yet been finalised); this was more of a practical demonstration and overview of the process. It would still be possible to consider more ideas; the omission of a heritage package and the continuation of the *MyTown* webpage for project ideas were discussed. Deliverability will be a key consideration, and it is acknowledged that Board Members will require further information for decision-making. The sifting process is not consultant led, but an assisted process, and further information will be circulated. Sifting is anticipated for the meeting after next.

5. *Any Other Business*

The *MyTown* webpage is hosted by MHCLG. Rosie Jenkins of BEIS agreed to seek clarification on when the *MyTown* webpage would close to further project suggestions from the public, and its potential use in the consultation process. MHCLG is expected to issue further guidance in the near future.

The potential to utilise the community networks established in response to the Covid 19 crisis in the public engagement phase of the project was discussed. The Workington Community Emergency Response Group was identified as one such group.

Community engagement continues to remain on hold, although MM are currently exploring non-traditional forms of consultation. Further discussions will be held as engagement will be important as work on the TIP progresses

Documents for the next meeting will be circulated in advance.

6. *Future Meetings*

Next Board meeting – Friday 12 June – 14:30 pm, to be held remotely. Board members will be updated accordingly.

The meeting ended at 4:20 pm