

Item 3: Dewsbury Town Deal Board Minutes

Meeting 17th December 2020

1. Item Attendees and Apologies

Cllr Shabir Pandor – Chair

Attendees: Bruce Bird (BB), Nancy Barrett (NB); Mark Eastwood (ME); Martyn Broadest (MB); Paul Burnett (PB); Charles Smith (CS); Peter Mason (PM); Richard Thorpe (RT); Martin Hathaway (MH); Marie Gilluley (MG)

Officer Support from Kirklees Council: Simon Taylor; Angela Blake; David Shepherd; Peter Thompson; Chris Duffill; Michelle Illingworth; Valerie George (Legal Services)

Avison Young attendees: Dale Robinson (DR); Mark Harris (MH)

Formal apologies received: Heather Waddington (HW); Iqbal Bhana (IB)

2. Declaration of Interest

ST noted that he hasn't received all of the Declaration of Interest forms back from members. ST will circulate email to members who haven't to request they do so by the 4th January.

ST was clear that signing the declaration would be part of the Government's governance checklist would was an essential part of progressing to the next stage.

Action: All outstanding declarations to be submitted to ST/MI by 4th January. An update will be provided at the next Board meeting relating to this.

3. Minutes from previous meeting – paper circulated

Minutes from the 17th November 2020, circulated and agreed

4. Selection of Chair – Angela Blake update

AB informed the Board that Kirklees Councils Human Resources are currently carrying out a recruitment process to find a Chair.

ME noted that he had some ideas around possible candidates and raise the question around putting forward candidates that have previous experience of being a Town Board Chair.

DS – noted that other areas have also experienced difficulties in securing a chair

Action: Board Members to forward any Chair proposals to ST/DS/AB

5. Board Membership – Simon Taylor

ST contacted all Board Members that haven't attended since the first meeting. ST has received resignation emails from the following Board Members: Simon Cash and Abdul Aslam. Carles Palomo, outside of this process, has also resigned from the Board.

Following a recommendation from the last Board ST has had a meeting with BB and have agreed that Paul Ellis and Barney Mynott will stand down from the Board and BB will pick up the Partnership and FSB).

In addition BB has requested that Martin Walsh (MW) be considered for Board Membership and will represent the Chamber of Trade.

No objections raised by Board Members to resignations or inclusion of MW as Board Member

6. Terms of Reference & Constitution of Board

ST circulated updated version of the Terms of Reference (Tor) on the 4th December to the Board following comments received. No further comments since that email have been received from Board Members. Sign off still required by the Board.

BB – noted 11.3 contradicts 6.4 re: circulation of minutes. **VG to look into.**

Board agreed to adopt ToR with clarification of issues raised by BB.

7. Town Investment Plan Draft, Government Feedback and Key Steps – update Mark Harris (Avison Young)

MH circulated TIP draft version to Board prior to the meeting.

Town Board drop in session arranged for the 22nd December for members to discuss TIP with Avison Young

ME raised question around the TIP not addressing the skills sector around the furniture industry and has requested consideration be taken to include this in the TIP projects.

DS – noted that at this late stage it would be difficult to add in projects, consideration to be given but no decision can be made at this stage.

8. Consultation/ engagement feedback – Michelle Illingworth

Presentation presented and will be circulated along The Our Town Dewsbury Consultation report completed by Social Communications

BB noted that the public consultation delivered more support for the Park Mansion than for any of the projects included in the bid. He would like the Council to recognise the importance of delivering a solution to this problem. BB recommends that the Board recognises it as an item in the Long Project Pipeline.

9. A.O.B

Nothing to report