Loughborough Town Deal

Community Engagement and Consultation Group

2nd November 2021 at 10am

<u>Agenda</u>

1. Welcome and Apologies   David Pagett-Wright
2. Notes of Previous Meeting   David Pagett-Wright
3. Project Update and Next Steps (presentation)   Chris Grace
4. Date of Next Meeting   David Pagett-Wright

Meeting Notes

PROJECT	Town Deal – Community Engagement and Consultation Group		
DATE	19 January 2021	LOCATION	Virtual meeting using Zoom

Attendees	
David Pagett-Wright	Chair
Kathy Phillips	Loughborough Heritage Forum
Alison Oliver	Youth Sports Trust
John Hardwick	Federation of Small Businesses
Alan Leather	Canal and River Trust
Jill Vincent	Charnwood Arts
Sue Blount	Kinch Bus
Christian Allen-Clay	Kinch Bus
Alison Barlow	Loughborough University
David Ellard	Great Central Railway
Gosia Khrais	Charnwood Campus
Chrissie Van Mierlo	Bell Foundry Trust
Wendy Dalrymple	Parish Green Partnership
Lisa Brown	Loughborough BID
Eileen Mallon	Strategic Director of Housing, Planning, Regeneration and Regulatory Services
Chris Grace	Loughborough Town Deal Project Manager
Sylvia Wright	Head of Leisure and Culture
Sally Watson	Minute Taker

Apologies	
Ian McKellar	LATi
Stephen Marwood	Environment Agency
Philip Mulligan	Canal and River Trust
Kirsty Green	East Midlands Trains
Mark Greenwood	NHS Property Services
Richard Bennett	Head of Planning and Regeneration Services
Mike Roberts	Communications Manager

Meeting Type (Team, Board or other)
Community Engagement and Consultation Group

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were noted as above and members of the group introduced themselves.

Meeting Notes

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2. Notes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th November 2020 were confirmed as a correct record. It was highlighted that the Generator Loughborough had been referred to in the minutes as the 'Loughborough Generator' and this was incorrect.

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3. Loughborough Town Investment Plan

Chris Grace provided an overview of the initial appraisal of the Loughborough Town Investment Plan by the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and the implications of that appraisal.

The revised TIP was in development and was being led by the Town Deal Board, as opposed to Charnwood Borough Council. However, the Council was supportive of the work being undertaken.

Initial feedback provided by MHCLG had highlighted positive aspects of the TIP, including the recognition of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, and that this had formed a good basis upon which to develop the TIP. In addition, MHCLG had suggested various points of clarification and a strengthening of the narrative would be beneficial. Following these changes, the TIP would be submitted for full appraisal. Further detail on the feedback provided by MHCLG was outlined I the corresponding report (item 3 on the agenda filed with these notes).

Members of the group that had pro-formas accepted and included within the TIP had been contacted if there were changes to be made. If there had been no contact of this nature then the pro-forma submitted did not need changes. One project required significant changes in the way in which it was to be presented, another project was required to be separated and strengthened and one project could be removed from the TIP.

Research had been undertaken to analyse the submissions of Towns in a similar position to the Loughborough Town Deal bid and also on those Towns that had moved into the next stage of full appraisal. The Loughborough Town Deal bid had followed the Check and Challenge Process and existing Government guidance. There were a number of disparities between Town Deal bids, such as the governance aspect. The Loughborough Town Deal had adopted a Board-led approach, whereas some other areas had utilised the local Council as their Governing body. Following this research, the Loughborough Town Deal bid had identified aspects from successful bids and incorporated some of these into the revised TIP. These aspects included structural elements and the presentation of the TIP.

Changes to the TIP included the addition of an executive summary, a reduction in the overall size of the document and a more logical structure.

It was acknowledged that only 7 of 101 Town Deal bids had been accepted for funding at the current stage. It was anticipated that time scales could change in order to accommodate for the increased workload of the MHCLG as more revised bids were submitted.

The Government had released guidance to support the delivery of Town Deals which indicated

2

that two timelines would be in operation referring to the nature of projects and local decisions. This would enable the fast tracking of relevant projects. Fast tracked projects would be allocated 8 weeks to complete a business case, whereas projects that were not fast tracked would have up to 12 months for development of a business case. The full business case would be flexible and would depend on the financial requirements of the project. Charnwood Borough Council-led project business cases would be undertaken by the LLEP.

Recommendation Agreed: That the Group notes the content of this report and advises the Board, via the Chair, that it would welcome the opportunity to comment on a draft of the revised Town Investment Plan.

In order to submit comments via the Chair, members of the group should email; d.pagett-wright@moss-solicitors.co.uk.

The deadline for comments is to be confirmed; please look out for an email confirming this.

4. Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Loughborough Town Deal Community Engagement Group would be scheduled in due course, when required.

5. Any Other Business

Agreed: That the newsletter of the Generator Loughborough be circulated to members of the Loughborough Town Deal Community Engagement Group.

The Upfront Funding provided had not been affected by the revision of the TIP and the Careers and Enterprise Hub was being developed. There was currently no confirmed opening date, although the project would be completed in March 2021.