

Staveley Town Deal Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th October 2020, (10-12), (Via MS Teams)

Attendance

Board Members	
Ivan Fomin (Chair)	MSE Hiller
Huw Bowen	Chesterfield Borough Council
Daron Abbott	Derbyshire Police
Lee Rowley, MP	Member of Parliament, North East Derbyshire
Mark Potter	Chesterfield Canal Trust Ltd
Cllr Paul Mann	Staveley Town Council
Richard Morocombe	Chesterfield College
Mervyn Allcock	Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Melanie Phythian	BEIS
Toby Perkins, MP	Member of Parliament, Chesterfield
Sajeeda Rose	D2N2 LEP
Ian Wingfield	Springwell Community College
Daron Abbott	Derbyshire Police
Melanie Pythian (Observer)	Towns Hub Policy Advisor, Cities and Local Growth Unit
Officers in support	
Lynda Sharp	Chesterfield Borough Council
Lindsay Wetton	Chesterfield Borough Council
Michael Rich	Chesterfield Borough Council
Allison Westray Chapman	Derbyshire County Council
Jim Seymour	Derbyshire County Council
Mark Evans	Staveley Town Council
Craig Busby	Office of Toby Perkins, MP
George Rogers	Chesterfield Canal Trust Ltd
Consultants running the Workshop	
BDP/Steer/Colliers to commissioned to assist with TIP development	Francis Glare, Christian Nielsen, Rachel Brisley
ARUP assisting with Town Deal Development	Jade Tilley

1 Apologies

Angela Stansfield	Department of Work and Pensions
Cllr Tricia Gilby (Vice Chair)	Chesterfield Borough Council
Cllr Tony King	Derbyshire County Council
Warren Manning	University of Derby
Neil Johnson	Chesterfield Borough Council

1 Welcome and introductions and apologies (IF)

Ivan welcomed all participants to the meeting. Apologies were recorded as detailed above.

2 Declarations of Interest

IF asked for all Declarations of Interest. No declarations of interest were received. IF reminded Board Members to complete declarations of interest pro forma and return to LW as previously requested.

3 Minutes of the last meeting held on 11th September 2020 (IF)

Minutes were approved as an accurate record. All actions had been completed.

4 Notes of the last meeting held on 23rd September 2020 (IF)

Notes were approved as an accurate record. All actions had been completed.

5 A Vision for Staveley

The Board received a short paper on the vision for Staveley which summarised the presentation ThinkingPlace had given at the previous meeting. JT advised that the vision as presented had a clear line of sight back to the community consultation that has been undertaken. Her view was that good consultation and engagement had taken place as part of the process to develop the vision for Staveley. Moving forward, it will be key to elaborate on the vision to ensure it is addressing the needs and opportunities identified in the area, linking to the themes and vision within the Investment Plan.

6 Staveley TIP Draft Objectives

Christian from BDP presented the draft Investment Plan objectives. These objectives would form part of the baseline for selecting projects as part of the Investment Plan process. Projects would clearly have to deliver against these objectives.

JT advised that Arup's saw the read through to the objectives. The Board need to consider the objectives to reflect TIP Guidance.

TP highlighted that all of the objectives seem to refer to Staveley as an existing community. Whilst this is fine, a key part of the objectives must also be to ensure that the area is attractive to new people who might be attracted to the area – to live, visit or work. TP suggested that as they are currently shown, the objectives could appear to be insular. This was discussed and it was agreed that Objective 4 could be changed to ensure it reflects future growth of the area.

The Board agreed that subject to amendments to include the need to attract people to the area, the objectives were agreed, noting that as work continues on the Town Deal they may require future revision.

7 Shortlisting TIP Projects

BDP and Steer advised that they had been working with the project sponsors who had submitted projects for consideration by the Board for inclusion in the Investment Plan. These projects are detailed in the long list of projects previously circulated to the Board. CN advised that more detail was required from some project sponsors and that information was still coming forward, even as late

as last night. It had proved difficult to be able to provide a clear list of recommendations at this Board meeting. An initial assessment of the information provided to date shows that the total indicative ask from projects is for an estimated £35 million worth of Town Deal funding. There is a need to undertake some projects assessments to prioritise investments. It was noted that the £35 million figure is indicative and is likely to change when full details are forthcoming from all of the projects.

RB added that the projects all vary in terms of information provided and in their stage of development. This presents challenges when trying to recommend one over another. For example, some of the projects that you may consider to be the most transformative to the local economy have less detail available in terms of the information required at this stage. This is due in part to the scale of complexity of the ask. Further, due to time constraints RB advised that they have not been able to review the cumulative impact of the projects at this stage. She added that the Town Deals funding is focussed on capital investment rather than the provision of revenue funding. It is key that checks are undertaken to determine that revenue funding is in place to support the capital investments proposed. For some projects, there is also no match funding identified. At this stage, BDP/Steer have not been able to score on quality, rather they are seeking to establish whether they have all of the information required to undertake a quantitative and qualitative assessment, based on agreed scoring criteria.

CN presented to the Board a project snapshot on each of the projects that have completed a pro forma. These 18 projects form part of the “long list” of projects that the Board will be required to select a short list of projects from. A number of questions were raised by the Board as to what is being asked of them at the days meeting. Lack of information on projects was raised as a concern. This was accepted and CN confirmed that they were not being asked to select projects at this stage. Rather, he is providing the Board with an overview of each project, providing initial headline details.

HB advised that the points made around lack of information were well made. The purpose of the session was to ensure the Board has a overview of the projects and that they can have a wider conversation around the work that needs to be done to progress the Investment Plan. BDP/Steer and Colliers have clearly been very busy, but they have additional work to complete prior to the Board feeling they are positioned to endorse one project proposal over another. HB reflected that the need to undertake this work, to ensure a more defined understanding of the projects can be achieved, may mean that the end of October deadline for submission of the TIP is not realistic. HB added that it might be more helpful in the long run to target a later submission (Tranche 3). This would allow the Board to feel fully informed and be in a better position to agree final projects for inclusion in the Investment Plan.

CN continued to present the project snap shots. Some questions were made by Board Members on the individual projects, as presented. TP asked for more detail on the funding ask for DCC on the Staveley Canal Basin. He wanted to understand what the funding was required for. He was advised that the funding was to enable access road and infrastructure to be provided to enable further development of the site.

Cllr Mann asked for clarification that the business case and project pro-forma had been received for the proposed Staveley Hall project. He felt that the image chosen by BDP to represent the project did not fully give the project justice. CN accepted that the image used did not reflect the image provided in the Staveley Hall project submission but he confirmed that the text highlights the project fully.

TB queried additional details around proposals for Staveley Town Centre. CN advised that the information provided was based around the Town Centre Masterplan prepared in 2009. This requires

refreshing and updating but the principles are relevant to today. IF advised that it is important that there is a Town Centre project as the strength and vitality of the Town Centre is fundamental to the success of the Town.

LR asked if there was reference to the re-opening of the Barrow Hill Line in any of the project proposals. CN advised that this was referred to in the over all Investment Plan as part of the total investment package for the area but it was not likely to feature as a project seeking funding from the Investment Plan. LR advised that he needed a conversation with regards to this as it was key that the Investment Plan needed to highlight the rail investment and that the SCR submission for the rail investment needed to reference the Staveley Town Deal. A strategic reference is required in each document moving forward. HB advised that he would be happy to pick this up with LR.

RB presented the Board the intended project appraisal process and scoring criteria. She explained that an initial sift of projects had been undertaken based on the information supplied to date. This showed that there are a series of thematic groups that pipeline projects could be grouped into – strong submissions, medium quality submission and weaker project submissions – a sort of traffic light system. RB asked whether the Board would give consideration to rejecting the weaker projects at this stage. A list was presented of projects perceived to be weaker in quality. However, RB advised that since preparing the slides additional information has been supplied by the Barrow Hill Community Trust projects and on reflection enough information had now been provided to present a stronger submission. The Board rejected this request to reject weaker submissions as it was felt collectively that more information was required on all of the projects.

MP shared her view that desire to achieve an October submission was perhaps pushing too hard. If the consultants have additional time to work with the projects a stronger and more robust Investment Plan, with the right mix of projects can be developed. MP also advised that some of the projects referred to in the snap shots were clearly of regional significance and could perhaps mean, if time is given to fully understand their potential that the ask from Staveley could be greater than £25 million. Further, she advised that discussions are taken place within Government about the potential of an additional submission deadline in between tranche 2 (end of October) and tranche 3 (end of January). MP will provide the details when she is able to. She therefore suggested that the Board may wish to consider submitting after the Tranche 2 deadline to allow more time for quality project information to come forward.

IF asked MP is there was a limit on the number of projects expected to form part of an Investment Plan. This was based on the volume of projects being considered as part of the long list. MP advised that there is no set number of projects, it is what is best for the area in terms of achieving transformational change.

HB thanked MP for her advice and suggested the end of October was not a realistic date for Staveley Town Deal Board to aim to have the Investment Plan ready for submission. The additional time would allow the consultants to work with project sponsors to identify what is realistic and achievable. Projects need to be sustainable, deliverable, credible and viable. He advised that the Board needs to be prepared to make difficult decisions as they ask in terms of funding is more than the indicative funding available. He also highlighted that the Town Centre needs to feature in the Investment Plan and more work is needed on this project in the coming weeks.

TP agreed with HB comments and added that it does place pressure on the Board to select the right projects moving forward for inclusion in the plan. He asked that the Board do not lose sight of the Town Deal programme delivery timescales. The Government will be keen to see projects delivered

and developments take place as soon as possible. He advised that we need to focus on the deliverability of projects given that the Government will be keen to see funding leading to demonstrable improvements within the window of the Town Deal programme.

8 Next Steps

It was concluded that BDP/Steers and Colliers would continue to work with project sponsors on project proposals. If project sponsors cannot provide additional information the projects should be left out of the process. Efforts should be made to explore opportunities to group projects by theme if appropriate. The Board should be provided with information in advance on all projects and the final scoring criteria to facilitate a session on project selection.

A revised schedule of Board meetings to be agreed to allow project selection to be undertaken.

Action: LW to issue a revised schedule of Board meetings.

9 Any other Business

IF confirmed that CBC has received confirmation that £500k accelerator funding has been approved by Government. All of the projects put forward have been funded. It should be noted that the original ask to Government was for £590k worth of projects. Funding of £500k has been confirmed. CBC will review the projects and consider how best to manage the over programming figure to ensure defrayal of the full £500k allocation before the March 2021 deadline. CBC as Accountable Body, has started to prepare the funding agreements for issue to all projects.

LW advised that she has been working with Springwell School students to develop a logo for Staveley Town Deal. Over 68 entries had been received by the deadline. A Judging Panel will meet on Monday 12th October 2020 to select a winner. Local design agency, Q2Creative, that are based in Staveley will work with the winner to create a digital version of the logo.

10 Date of Next Meeting

Friday 6 November 2020 via Teams (11:00-13:00) – Final Project List Sign Off

N.B. – Friday 20 November cancelled and replaced by:

Friday 27 November 2020 (12:30 – 14:30) Final TIP Sign Off (aim to submit by 11 December 2020 in Cohort 2a)