

ACTION MINUTES

THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2020

VIRTUAL MEETING USING MS TEAMS

PRESENT: Board Members:

Wayne Wild, Chair of the Board, Phil Riley, Executive Member for Growth and Development (in the Chair), Cllr John East, Leader of Darwen Town Council, Jake Berry MP, Miranda Barker, Chief Executive of East Lancashire Chamber and Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board Director, John Sturgess, Chair of Darwen Town Centre Partnership, Glenda Brindle, Chair of Governors Aldridge Academy; John Wilkinson, Regional Director of Suez Recycling, and Dr Fazal Dad, Chief Executive and Principal of Blackburn College.

Support Officers

Martin Kelly, Director of Growth and Development BwDBC, Phil Llewellyn, Corporate and Democratic Lead, and Natalie Banks, Digital Communications Team Leader, BwD BC.

Also Present

Graeme Collinge, Dr John Livesey, Philip Thornton, Paul Evans and Lisa Quinn.

	ITEM		Key Action
1.	Welcome, Introduction and Apologies	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, apologies had been received from Gary Aspden, Councillor John Slater, Steve Waggott and Katherine O'Connor.	Noted

2.	Minutes of the last meeting held on 5th November 2020, Key Actions and Matters Arising	<p>The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.</p> <p>The Board discussed the potential of recording meetings, but decided that as there were few meetings remaining before submission of the bid, that recording would not be required at this stage in the process.</p>	Approved
3.	Declarations of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were received.	Noted
4.	Darwen Town Investment Plan Update	<p>Graeme Collinge and the Chair updated the Board on the latest position in development of the Town Investment Plan (TIP) that would be submitted at the end of January.</p> <p>Graeme delivered a presentation, which began with an update on the Town Fund Round 1 awards, showing amounts bid for and funding actually awarded and also the number of projects in each bid with around 5 to 8 looking like the optimum figure. At the present time, the Darwen bid had 10 projects.</p> <p>Graeme outlined the TIP Logic Chain, Draft Vision Statement and Project Long List from the Theme Groups, along with the Prioritised Projects and the Aggregated Projects.</p> <p>The projects had been grouped as follows:</p> <p>TD1 – Exemplar Productive and Sustainable Lancashire Town.</p> <p>TD2 – Contemporary Maker Town.</p> <p>TD3 – Attractive Gateways, Parks and Links to Amazing Countryside.</p> <p>TD4 – Digital Darwen.</p> <p>The meeting discussed the importance of the ultrafast broadband option, and of the proposal that 11% of the Town would get this free</p>	

		<p>and the many benefits of this, including the attractiveness of this when the bid was accessed by MHCLG.</p> <p>Graeme outlined the next steps in the process leading up to submission of the TIP by 29th January 2021, with a key milestone being the Arup check and challenge on 15th December.</p> <p>Graeme also presented some Infographics/Maps, outlining the 10 projects and in terms of Project 8 - Destination Darwen, it was suggested that Tockholes be included in the walking routes graphic.</p> <p>Following discussion it was agreed that supporting comments for the TIP would be merged, with signatories listed under the statement, and Miranda agreed to progress this, with Natalie assisting with contacts and John East arranging the Town Council aspect.</p> <p>The Board discussed the submission of a bid of over £25 million again, with Paul Evans and Lisa Quinn advising of the extra scrutiny of bids over £25 million, and Paul provided feedback on the information provided in the presentation.</p> <p>RESOLVED – That the update be noted.</p>	Noted
5	Items for Next Meeting	<p>RESOLVED – The main item of business would be for the Board to receive updates on progress of the TIP.</p> <p>John East suggested that a photo-call/video of Board Members in and around Darwen would be a good idea, and this idea was considered to have merit if a suitable slot could be found.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>
6	Any Other Business	None.	Noted

7	Date of Next Meeting	RESOLVED – The scheduled meeting on 17 th December 2020 would be cancelled, with the next Board meeting taking place on Thursday 14 th January 2021 at 2pm and then the next scheduled meeting would take place on Thursday 21 st January 2021.	Approved
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