

**ACTION MINUTES**

**14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021**

**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 Fairhurst, Paul Evans and Rosie Jenkins.

	<b>ITEM</b>		<b>Key Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome, Introduction and Apologies</b>	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, apologies were noted from Gary Aspden, Councillor John Slater, Steve Waggott and Katherine O'Connor.	<b>Noted</b>

2.	<b>Minutes of the last meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020, Key Actions and Matters Arising</b>	The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.	<b>Approved</b>
3.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	No Declarations of Interest were received.  Phil Llewellyn reminded Board Members that they could declare interests ahead of meetings also.	<b>Noted</b>
4.	<b>Darwen Town Investment Plan Update</b>	The Chair reminded the Board of the need to maintain confidentiality as discussions were ongoing with key partners and proposals could not yet be released into the public domain.  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.  Graeme delivered a presentation and provided an update, including a positive Check and Challenge with Arup on 15 <sup>th</sup> December, where it was felt the 'Golden Thread' had been demonstrated and any areas that needed addressing were currently being worked on. The second Check and Challenge would take place on 19 <sup>th</sup> January. The near £30 million bid amount had not raised concerns, although colleagues had been reminded of the Ministerial Review aspect that this attracted.  Some very positive developments were reported, in terms of key housing partners and also educational/manufacturing initiatives, which would be fully outlined in the final bid document. These developments, along with the other key projects such as ultra-fast broadband would all help to make Darwen an attractive place for people to set up businesses, study, live and work.  Further work was required on the TIP document, including outcomes	

		<p>clearly demonstrated in the Logic Chain, a decision on the colour palate and a strong supporting MP statement.</p> <p>The Chair advised that he was pleased with progress and the projects chosen and felt that an inspiring bid had resulted.</p> <p>There was discussion on issues raised by the Bowling Club about not being included in the bid, with the Chair reporting that a lot of time had been spent on discussions with the Club, and the reasons explained why the proposal was not feasible within the Town Deal bid, but it was hoped something positive could be arranged outside of the Town Deal.</p> <p>.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> – That the update be noted.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
5	<b>Items for Next Meeting</b>	<p>Fazal Dad referred to his request for an update on the £750k upfront funding for projects, and was advised that updates were available on the website.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> – The main item of business would be for the Board to receive and discuss the TIP document, ahead of the submission deadline of 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021.</p>	<b>Approved</b>
6	<b>Any Other Business</b>	None.	<b>Noted</b>

7	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b> – The next scheduled meeting would take place on Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2021 at 2pm.	<b>Approved</b>
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