

Town Deals Board Meeting Minutes

Monday 29th June 2020 10-11.30am
(Zoom conference call)

Chair:

Andrew Dernie

In attendance:

Graham Nelson- Norwich City Council
Ellen Tilney - Norwich City Council
Cllr Alan Waters - Norwich City Council
Chris Sargisson – Norfolk Chamber
Chris Starkie – New Anglia
Linn Clabburn – New Anglia
Patrick White – Metro Dynamics
Kevin Fenning - Metro Dynamics
Danielle Jackson – Metro Dynamics
Stefan Gurney – Norwich BID
Chloe Smith MP
Vincent Murspratt – Norfolk County Council
Callum Murphet – Metro Dynamics
Minnie Moll – Jarrolds
Phil Courtier – Norfolk County Council
Stephanie Beggs - MHCLG
Danielle Jackson – Metro Dynamics

Apologies:

Patrick White – Metro Dynamics
Shan Lloyd – Beis
Clive Lewis MP

Minute Taker: Alison Dennis – Norwich City Council

Ref	Item	Action
1	Welcome, apologies, minutes and actions	Chair
2	Briefing/Update following publication of Town Deals Guidance Ellen Tilney started by explaining to the group that the Town Deals funding is 90% capital and up to 10% revenue. As such, two of the original work streams – skills delivery and the Good Economy Commission - are out of scope. In seeking additional capital projects, City College have put forward proposals for Town Deal Funding to support two mature skills infrastructure projects which are shovel-ready but currently have a funding gap. These are projects supported by New Anglia LEP which can also demonstrate significant leverage from other sources.	Metro Dynamics/All

Kevin Fenning – Metro Dynamics

Now that the guidance has been published it has clarified the bidding process and the focus of the funding on capital projects only. Although the Good Economy Commission cannot now be financially supported by the Towns' Fund monies the ethos of the Good Economy Commission will steer the delivery and implementation of the capital projects within our town investment plan.

Within the slides, it outlined how to the project financially currently stood:

East Norwich masterplan – unchanged

Revolving fund – seeking clarification on a number of points in respect of its operation.

Public realm – remains the same Branding – remains the same

The Digital Hub project has now been reduced to reflect the recommendations within the Ramidus study. The project will now deliver a hub by refurbishing a city centre building as a faster and more cost-effective way to provide the much needed Digital Hub. Being able to quickly establish this facility and the digital community around it will support the sector as it recovers from the impact of C19.

Cllr Waters

Cllr Waters explained that recent positive discussions took place surrounding the Good Economy Area where the group took away a number of ideas that can be put into practice.

Graham Nelson – East Norwich

Graham outlined Britvic and County Council's ownership of the East Norwich project and that regeneration was expressed in the Town Deals fund. It was explained that the hope was to be on site relatively early next summer with regulatory systems in place.

Stephan Gurney

Stephan expressed his concern with the location of the site given that it is just on the outskirts of the City.

Graham agreed and stressed that this site is not a substitute location for the digital hub but potentially offered additional workspace to other sectors.

Chris Starkie

Chris explained to the group that he thinks the project is a positive way of showing direction and that the hub will open up the link to East Norwich.

	<p>Chris Sargisson Chris advised the group that the building needs to be fit for purpose and have a cultural aspect of a tech driven space.</p> <p>Action - Graham and Stephan Gurney agreed to speak to offline regarding a possible Prince of Wales project.</p>	
3	<p>Draft Town Deals Investment Plan</p> <p>Agree outline, projects and timetable for production of final draft.</p> <p>Digi tech factory – Metro Dynamics explained they will be bringing to light the skills infrastructure project to suit the new terms.</p> <p>Minnie Moll asked if this can be accessed by businesses or if it is solely for learning. Chris Starkie answered – it will be driven predominately by businesses who will look at their work force to see how this can link in with the new skills being learned.</p> <p>Kevin talked to the group about the new project; Clean Engineering skills hub which encompasses renewable energy, low carbon building techniques and zero- emission vehicles. It has strong links to the engineering sector. This will be created within an existing building on the city college estate.</p> <p>Action - Stephanie Biggs asked Kevin to send bullet points on the Digi Tech project.</p> <p>Chris Starkie – Three Town Deals in Norfolk, as there is a degree of common cause, Chris would be happy to facilitate meetings as the projects progress.</p>	Metro Dynamics/All
4	AOB	All
5	<p>Forward meeting dates:</p> <p>Thursday 16 July – 9am-11.30am – interim session to refine the draft narrative section Monday 27 July 10am – 11.30am – final meeting before submission of bid</p>	Chair