

Margate Town Deal Board Minutes

Date: 15 December, 2021 at 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Venue: Virtually, via Google Hangout - meeting link: meet.google.com/xzg-ynrg-vb

Membership: Brian Horton (BH) - Chair, David Smith CBE (DS), Cllr Reece Pugh (RP), Madeline Homer (MH), Sir Roger Gale MP (RG), Eddie Kemsley (EK), Cllr Lesley Game (LG), Sam Causer (SC), Richard Ash (RA), Stephen Darrer (SD), Jesse Tomlinson (JT), Adam Bryan (AB)

In attendance: Louise Askew (LA), Natalie Glover (NG), Charles Hungwe (CH) Chris Paddock (CP) - PRD Ltd

Apologies: Sam Causer (SC); Jesse Tomlinson (JT); Sir Roger Gale MP (RG), Cllr Lesley Game (LG), Iain McNab (IMcN)

1. Welcome and Declarations of Interest

SD reminded the Board of his interest, which has already been declared as the project proposer of the Oval Bandstand and Lawns project as the Treasurer of GRASS.

2. People's Panel update

The Chair reported that he had attended the People's Panel meeting in December and intended to attend more in the future. The Chair requested more Board members to attend these Panel meetings.

EK gave an update and said that the People Panel meeting held on Monday, 13 December 2021 had a low turnout. The Team would conduct another recruitment drive in the new year to gain new members. The meeting was a productive one. The Panel agreed that there is a need for a wider representation on the Panel, in order to get a diversity of views.

A question was posed at the Panel meeting about whether the funding for active movement and connections should be focused in one area instead of spreading the money to cover more interventions across a wider area.

More Board representation at the Panel meetings was requested. The next meeting is on 2 February 2022.

RA: There may be a need to reflect on the approach of the Peoples Panel if there is a lack of interest in the meetings.

CP: Confirmed that attendance at meetings and engagement is always likely to decrease at this time of year and will likely improve after the new year. He also added that engagement ebbs and flows in long term programmes such as this.

3. Utilising Board skill sets

The Chair identified that Board members may have skills and experience to offer that may not necessarily be used. He would be looking at how Board members could contribute their skills.

4. General update

Cllr RP wished to provide the Board with an update regarding the Winter Gardens given the appearance in the press and media. He informed the Board that the Winter Gardens is in the Margate Town Deal and the options report to be produced is to find ways of making the venue work better and not to sell off the asset. The Chair said that this was reassuring for the public and that it was important to use the media to let residents know the correct position regarding the Winter Gardens.

Lousie Askew also gave an update as follows:

Creative Land Trust

The Creative Land Trust was now established as a company. Officers were finalising the Charities Commission submission and will be launching a recruitment process for Board members for the Creative Land Trust in the new year. Board members would require skills including finance and property management.

The Team at DLUHC's has provided feedback following the submission of the Creative Land Trust summary document. Due to the split of Intervention 1 with the creation of two Business Cases/summary documents - the Land Trust and the Theatre Royal, will require the Project Team to complete a Project Adjustment Form. This will lead to a delay of the funding being made available.

Winter Gardens

The Project Team has been advised by DLUHC's that there is a need to complete a Summary Document. The Summary Document will be shared with the Board ahead of submission.

Questions from Board members

RA questioned what the recent Theatre Royal meeting had been about.

LA informed the Board that the meeting was with key stakeholders to understand the potential opportunities for the Theatre Royal, ensuring that through the engagement process that a vision could be developed in order to test the marketplace. The Theatres Trust attended the meeting alongside a variety of other local and wider stakeholders. This was all part of developing the business case, which will be submitted in April 2022.

CP: It was a good workshop with a great mix of stakeholders and helpful for the business case.

Budget

LA: approximately £40,000 is left of the revenue budget.

Attracting Investment

LA: The Boards ambition in delivering the Margate Town Deal includes the ability to utilise the funding to increase the total investment into Margate from other sources. It is proposed that some of the revenue funding be used to develop a prospectus to help encourage inward investment. A Communications Plan would be developed in 2022 to help engage potential investors and funders.

AB said that this had not been done by any other Town Deal areas and it was a good idea that should be supported by the Board.

DS said that it would be helpful if the Board assisted with shaping such an initiative. Having a short prospectus for the Town, whose emphasis was on private sector investment was a good approach.

EK and RA also said that they would be happy to be part of such an initiative.

The Chair said that this prospectus should have an electronic version as well as a printed small pocket sized booklet that can be easily shared around during networking encounters. The prospectus should come across as an invitation. The Chair was happy to be part of this initiative.

Engagement Plan

A meeting was held with the project sponsors to talk about the branding and marketing guidance provided by DLUHC's and other requirements. Sarah Wheale-Smith put together a paper to support the project sponsors in their project development and engagement activities.

Levelling Up Fund

Margate was successful with a bid of £6.3m to the Levelling Up Fund for the Margate Digital Project. An Inception meeting has been scheduled with the Department on 16 December 2021 to find out further information about the next steps for the Levelling up Fund programme. The Council is putting together an executive group to oversee the management of the project, including the Leader, Deputy Leader and Chief Executive of the Council, Sir Roger Gale as the MP and a representative from EKC Group, as the project sponsor.

RA: Asked whether a Board member should be on the Executive Group?

MH identified that this was a different funding channel and therefore not being delivered through the Town Deal, however, the Board will get regular updates on progress of project implementation.

Chair: agreed that it would be appropriate for the Board to get regular project updates, especially as this can be linked into the broader theme of bringing in investment into the Margate.

5. Project update - Intervention 2: Coastal Wellbeing

NG: There is a lot of work on all of the business cases. The resources within the project team are greatly bolstered with the support from the project sponsors and PRD Ltd.

CP: gave an update on the Margate Town Deal business cases. The Coastal Wellbeing intervention will deliver a cluster of health and wellbeing facilities along the coastline. Improving the health and wellbeing of residents creates economic benefits. The project is deliverable within the funding envelope and has support from a number of the stakeholders.

Oval Bandstand and and Lawns: The proposal for this facility will be developed in the new year.

Skatepark: The project is at the design stage and a member of the PRD team has been assigned to expedite the development of the business case.

Public Realm: It is important to show the connection between the different projects in order to demonstrate the public realm connection. Public realm improvements come with the various projects within their area of delivery.

Outreach Community Projects: The revenue budget that is attached to this project provides the opportunity to provide more community access to Walpole Bay and coastal wellbeing.

SD: The Oval Bandstand and Lawns is a project that has been in development for over two years. If it is to have that long term future for the community it needs to be successful. The project has achieved its first year target. Being part of the Town Deal was even better for the future of the site.

Chair: Joining up activities and ensuring that projects create wider benefits for the local community.

6. Discussion

LA: All remaining business cases would need to be submitted by the April 2022 deadline. The Project Team has set up internal deadlines to enable this to happen.

Chair: The next Board meeting is on 26 January 2022 and the deadline for submitting agenda items is 12 January 2022.

RA: Has there been any further discussions with KCC Highways about the highway project long list?

NG: The team at KCC are looking at putting together costs for the schemes that were presented at the last meeting and they are trying to ensure that there aren't mtoo any hidden costs. An update could be brought to the January Board meeting. A piece of work has been commissioned regarding the wider Active Movement and Connections intervention. There have been some discussions with KCC regarding greening and sidewalks.

The Chair thanked DS for holding the office and for the work done during his tenure.

Meeting ended at 4.52pm

Actions	Responsibility	Deadline
Request invitations to People's Panel - 2 February 2022	Board	January 2022
Send People's Panel invites	NG	January 2022
Draft Margate Town Deal Prospectus	NG/LA	February 2022
Communications Plan and Engagement plan	NG/LA	February 2022
Share Winter Gardens Summary Document with the Board	NG/LA	January 2022
Share Project Adjustment Form with the Board	NG/LA	January 2022

Deadline for agenda items:**

12 January 2022

Next meeting:

1-3pm, 26 January 2022

**Standing item to include all Board member engagement with the Town Deal and Town Investment Plan and specific agenda items.*

***Please provide any agenda items you would like to be considered for the next Board meeting by this date.*