

Margate Town Deal Board Minutes



- Date:** 27 November, 2020 at 3pm
- Venue:** Virtually, via Google Hangout
- Present:** Graham Razey OBE (Chair), Cllr Ruth Duckworth (RD), Louise Askew (LA), Sir Roger Gale MP (RG), Rhiannon Mort (RM), David Smith CBE (DS), Lesley Game (LG), Victoria Pomery OBE (VP), Eddie Kemsley (EK), Sam Causer (SC), Richard Ash (RA), Stephen Darrer (SD).
- In attendance:** Iain McNab (IN), Natalie Glover (NG), James Clapson (JC), Rebecca Collings (RC), Chris Paddock (CP), Holly Lewis (HL), Emily Temperton (ET), Cristina Gaidos (CG)
- Apologies: MH** Madeline Homer (for whom Louise Askew was substitute), Adam Bryan (for whom Rhiannon Mort was substitute), Lesley White and Cheryl Potts.

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and encouraged the Board to ensure their declaration of interest forms were up to date.

2. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Update on Check and Challenge and People's Panel meeting

LA provided the update during which she gave further details about the various stakeholder activities which had taken place during that week:

The Peoples Panel (PP) Meeting - 25 November

- There had been around 30 people in the meeting, EK, SC, SD and representatives from PRD and We Made That were also present.
- On the whole people were supportive of the clusters, however there was need to specify how the creative focus would lead to job creation and benefit the wider community.
- There was a lot of support for the Creative Land Trust concept.

There had also been a Stakeholder Q & A session on 26 November and a full Members' Briefing to District Councillors. Feedback from both these sessions was positive and supportive of the cluster approach.

Check and Challenge - 27 December

- The draft Town Investment Plan 1 and Town Investment Plan 2 (TIP 1 and TIP 2) had been submitted for a critical friend check, the feedback was positive and there was recognition of the amount of work that had taken place.
- The feedback highlighted that there were some unique and innovative approaches in the plan, the vision was good, it had a strong evidence base and the stakeholder engagement had been good.
- Amendments to the structure and annexes of the plan were suggested, this would free up the word count and allow for the inclusion of more detail about the theory of change, the golden thread and about the projects in TIP 1 that is in the TIP 2 documents.
- There should be more information about that impact of COVID on the Town
- The Stakeholder Engagement report had been shared and would be included as an annex - the consortium would take this away to review separately over the next few days.

During the more general discussion regarding the submission it was noted that:

- Work on the business cases would start in the new year with stakeholders. A timeline would be included in the submission to indicate the work that would be underway while the submission was being reviewed by the Government.
- It was understood that only one or two towns would receive more than £25 million, however currently the average requested in Cohort 2 was £27million.
- RC offered to review the final draft prior to the submission, once the above changes had been incorporated. CP would liaise with RC.

4. Town Investment Plan presentation

CP gave the presentation to the Board noting that the presentation had also been given to the District Councillors the previous evening.

It was agreed that the PP should continue its involvement after the submission of the TIP, and on into the delivery phase.

5. Discussion about the draft Town Investment Plan

During consideration of the item it was noted that:

- Three possible buildings had been identified for the Creative Land Trust, they were indicative and there was flexibility around which buildings would be involved and how they would be included.
- The Creative Land Trust's mission would be to safeguard space for creative industries, business and diverse education provision.
- The Winter Gardens could help to draw people through the Old Town and forward into Cliftonville. More detail was needed to explain the merit of investment in the Winter Gardens. The Winter Gardens had been identified by the PP and the community as a key part of Margate's future.
- There was recognition that an impressive amount of work had gone into the plan in a short amount of time.
- There needed to be a focus on how Thanet differed from the rest of the South East and the South East's general image as an affluent area. The level of deprivation in Thanet formed part of the case to bid for additional funding, particularly around the levelling up agenda.
- Education provision in the High street was intended to drive up foot fall in the area.

- More detail would be worked through when developing the business cases, these could take up to 12 months but LA hoped it could be done sooner
- The Board would be asked to agree to the TIP 1 and TIP 2 documents next Friday (4 December) ready for submission.

6. Decision Agree the draft Town Investment Plan for final drafting

The Board was happy with the direction of travel, subject to comments at the meeting.

Meeting ended: 16:27