

Margate Town Deal Board Minutes



Date: 10 November, 2021 at 3pm

Venue: Virtually, via Google Hangout

Membership: David Smith CBE (Chair), Cllr Reece Pugh (RP), Madeline Homer (MH), Sir Roger Gale MP (RG), Eddie Kemsley (EK), Sam Causer (SC), Richard Ash (RA), Stephen Darrer (SD), Jesse Tomlinson (JT)

In attendance: Louise Askew (LA), Natalie Glover (NG), James Clapson (JC), James Wright (JW), Jo Simmons (JS) and Cllr Derek Crow-Brown (DC).

Lesley Game for whom Derek Crow-Brown substituted, Adam Bryan for whom Jo Simmons substituted, and Sarah Martin.

Apologies:

General update - Board Programme Report

LA provided the Board with a general update as follows:

- A Board Programme Update Report had been shared with the Board covering each of the projects; this document would be updated and shared with the Board before each meeting.
- The Creative Land Trust Summary Document had been submitted to the Government. **The final Summary Document would be shared with the Board following the meeting.**
- There would be a stakeholder session regarding the Theatre Royal during the week commencing 15 November, which SC has been invited to.
- A meeting has been arranged with the National Lottery Heritage Fund to discuss the Theatre Royal proposal and understand their timescales.
- The Walpole Bay lift had been found to be in better condition than previously thought.
- There had been confirmation that a full Business Case was not required for the Winter Gardens project. A paper would be brought before the Board before it was submitted.
- Contractors were on site at 53-57 High Street, Margate and the works are expected to complete in spring 2022. LA would keep the Board updated regarding the Leveling Up bid for Margate and any other regeneration that is happening which will impact the Town Deal.
- Through the business engagement activity survey responses had been received and **a report on the next steps would be shared with the Board following the meeting.**

The Chair advised that interviews for the permanent Chair position would take place on Friday 11 November and the Board would be advised of the outcome.

People's Panel update

EK advised that the People's Panel had recently met to consider the content of the Business Case for the Creative Land Trust. It had been well received. The next meeting of the People's Panel is

24 November to discuss some of the Active Movement and Connections elements of the investment plan. **Board Members were invited to attend.**

Project update - Intervention 3: Active Movement and Connections

The Chair noted that the intention of the presentation was to see a long list of the kinds of improvements could be delivered, there would be no decisions made about specific interventions at that meeting.

NG advised that there would be one Business Case, and the aim was to have a Summary Document ready for submission by February 2022. More detail would be shared ahead of the next meeting and would include indicative costs.

JW provided a presentation that identified a number of highway initiatives that could be considered for Town Deal funding, that were designed to improve connectivity and to give more priority to pedestrians. The initiatives were footpath and junction improvements in the following roads and locations:

- The High Street
- New Street
- Cecil Square
- Hawley Street
- Trinity Square Junction
- the Trinity Memorial Gardens
- Northdown Road
- Zion Place
- Cliff Terrace
- Outside the Winter Gardens
- Kings Street

During consideration of the presentation it was noted that:

- Signage could be improved to direct people through Zion Place in order to reduce the use of Trinity Square.
- Signage, wayfinding and tree planting were not part of the Highways remit, and would be considered separately. A total picture of all the potential intervention would then be shared with the Board for discussion and decision. This would be backed up by evidence through the Business Case.
- There would not be sufficient funding to do all of the initiatives presented.
- There was discussion about the need for some strategic overview of parking in Margate that would be looked at separately. The Margate Town Deal funding could not be used to draft a parking master plan.
- LA suggested that the Council consider its parking offer in Margate to understand if there were any quick wins to improve the existing provision.
- Cycle parking hoops could be easily installed, **and JW asked for suggested sites to be sent to him.**

The Board requested that JW and the Kent County Council Highways team continue with the initiatives proposed in the presentation, and come back to the Board with more detail around indicative costs, phasing and prioritisation.

For the larger projects, such as Cecil Square, JW would produce a range of indicative costs depending on the extent of work that could take place.

The Board thanked JW for his time and the work of Kent County Council Highways to date.

Meeting ended: 5:00pm

Actions	Responsibility
The finalised Creative Land Trust Summary Document would be shared with the Board.	LA
A report regarding business engagement next steps would be shared with the Board	LA
Board Members were invited to attend the next People's Panel meeting on 24 November.	Board
Suggestions of locations for cycle park hoops to be sent to JW via NG	Board