

Towns Fund Board
Friday 30th July 2021 at 1.p.m. via Webex

Present:

Andy Preston, Mayor of Middlesbrough
Tony Parkinson, Middlesbrough Council Chief Executive
Andy McDonald, Member of Parliament for Middlesbrough
Adam Suleiman, Cities and Local Growth Unit BEIS
Sara Marshall, Middlesbrough College (sub for Zoe Lewis)
Marc Anderson, Cleveland Police (sub for Richard Lewis)
Rachel Anderson, Assistant director of Policy NECC
Cllr Mieka Smiles, Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Culture and Communities MBC
Chris Smith, Executive Director of Business Growth – Thirteen Group (Sub for Ian Wardle)
Nicolas Baumfield, Arts Council
Kim Purcell

In attendance

Richard Horniman, Director of Regeneration MBC
Andrew Perriman, Head of Legal Services MBC
Sam Gilmore, Head of Economic Growth and Infrastructure MBC
Andrew Glover, Head of Marketing and Communications
Louise Antill, Towns Fund Programme Manager
Charlotte Nicol, Head of Culture Middlesbrough Council AGENDA ITEM 6

1.	<p>Apologies and declarations of interest</p> <p>Apologies: Laura Sillars, Dean of mima School of Art & Design Teesside University Simon Clarke, MP for South Middlesbrough and East Cleveland Zoe Lewis – Sara Marshall is attending on her behalf Richard Lewis, Chief Constable Cleveland Police (Marc Anderson substituting) Ian Wardle, Group Chief Executive Thirteen Group (Chris Smith substituting)</p> <p>Declarations of Interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Andy Preston nominated to withdraw from the Boho residential Business Case discussion and voting.b) Andy McDonald highlighted a non-pecuniary interest in Middlesbrough College – as no agenda business relates to this status discussion and voting is approved.c) Rachel Anderson highlighted a non-pecuniary interest in Middlesbrough College – as no agenda business relates to this status discussion and voting is approved. <p>Other: Sam Gilmore updated the board on the administrative omission of Cllr Mieka Smiles from the Board Membership and Constitution. The record is to be amended to show full membership of Cllr Mieka Smiles.</p>
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2.	<p>Minutes from previous meeting</p> <p>Minutes of last meeting agreed as a true record.</p>
3.	<p>Boho Residential Business Case (paper issued prior)</p> <p>Andy Preston withdrew from the discussion and voting on the item.</p> <p>Sam Gilmore introduced the business case as presented and outlined the necessity for gap funding to enable private sector interest to support the delivery of urban housing products. Up to £2m of a £10m development value may be awarded to support the delivery of urban housing.</p> <p>The next step includes actively marketing the opportunity and considering the private sector options which result.</p> <p>Andy McDonald raised some queries with the employment figures quoted, masterplanning, type of unit, local amenities and lettings criteria.</p> <p>Employment figures were sourced from recognised employment multiplier figures quoting an employment impact of 27.9 jobs per £1m funding – direct, indirect and supply chain.</p> <p>Richard Horniman cited that a tenancy mix is anticipated to reflect a cohort of young professionals and those starting on the housing ladder, this will involve some social and aspirational housing in the mix. Some ancillary local services are likely to emerge as housing in the area reaches critical mass. The schooling pressures are assessed to source from Secondary ages rather than Primary capacity. The new Middlehaven School will bridge any required provision.</p> <p>A masterplan for Middlehaven is in the final stages of development and will be presented to the Town Deal Board at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>The business case was passed with seven votes for and two abstentions.</p> <p>Chris Smith – For Andy McDonald MP – For Cllr Mieka Smiles – For Sara Marshall – For Mayor Andy Preston – N/A Nicholas Baumfield – Abstain Tony Parkinson – For Rachel Anderson – For Marc Anderson – For Kim Purcell - Abstain</p>
4.	<p>North Ormesby Nature Reserve Business Case (paper issued prior)</p> <p>Land at Cargo Fleet / Gateway Middlehaven includes a beck corridor which hosts significant habitat for flora and fauna.</p>

	<p>Working with local communities, a proposal has been developed to enhance the habitat in this area and improve access for communities, schools and volunteers.</p> <p>The land is in Middlesbrough Council ownership and approval is already in place to commit this land to the creation of a nature reserve.</p> <p>Andy McDonald cited that the proposal was an excellent example of community engagement and had the potential to offer a real asset for the town.</p> <p>Cllr Mieka Smiles asked whether play areas or viewing platforms could be built into the proposals – this will be fed back to the project team.</p> <p>Marc Anderson suggested that liaison with Cleveland Police crime prevention / Secured by Design officer may support the proposal in terms of preventative measures to deter ASB.</p> <p>Thirteen Group and Middlesbrough College also expressed an interest in supporting the community engagement aspect of the delivery programme.</p> <p>The business case was passed with nine votes for and one abstention. Chris Smith – For Andy McDonald MP – For Cllr Mieka Smiles – For Sara Marshall – For Mayor Andy Preston – For Nicholas Baumfield – Abstain Tony Parkinson – For Rachel Anderson – For Marc Anderson – For Kim Purcell - For</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Ward Initiatives Business Case (paper issued prior)</p> <p>The findings of the recent consultation questionnaire were discussed along with the scope of the proposals.</p> <p>The board shared some concerns that the feedback sample was indicative but insufficient to progress without comprehensive additional public consultation. It was added that significant consultation was a major expectation of the Towns Fund Programme governance arrangements and award of Middlesbrough’s Town Deal.</p> <p>It was agreed that an average of £50k will be proposed to each ward but that this figure is not absolute and can fluctuate with need / scope of intervention.</p> <p>It was discussed that it is critical that any project can fully assess, and seek approval for, the management and maintenance costs arising from any investment; and that this should form part of Council approvals, where necessary.</p> <p>Thirteen Group also offered support in terms of community engagement.</p>

	<p>Recommendations for delivery</p> <p>It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Additional significant consultation is carried out in areas to determine exact preferences and requirements of each area; b) On average, to allocate Middlesbrough wards up to £50k* each to deliver projects for community-identified priorities; c) An option to pool or allocate additional funding can be progressed in areas where public assets serve more than one ward, in areas of most need, significant dilapidations or deprivation – where a compelling case can be made; d) Further consultation with the public, Ward Councilors and community councils engaged to identify, design and deliver projects for their local areas; e) Each project will consider any ongoing maintenance and management liability; and will be subject to the Council accepting the maintenance liability of any proposed interventions, in perpetuity; f) All progressed schemes will be monitored and reported back to the Town Deal Board for information. <p>*maximum allocation and subject to value engineering with available funds.</p> <p>The business case was passed with nine votes for and one abstention. Chris Smith – For Andy McDonald MP – For Cllr Mieka Smiles – For Sara Marshall – For Mayor Andy Preston – For Nicholas Baumfield – Abstain Tony Parkinson – For Rachel Anderson – For Marc Anderson – For Kim Purcell - For</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Cultural Development Fund – Board Endorsement of Expression of Interest</p> <p>Charlotte Nicol delivered a presentation outlining the opportunity and rationale for a bid to the Cultural Development Fund.</p> <p>This proposal seeks no financial contribution from the Town Deal Board, rather it seeks endorsement of the principles.</p> <p>The Board Endorsed the proposals and submission of an Expression of Interest.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p>In reflecting the points raised with relation to long term management and liabilities, Andrew Perriman suggested that other Town Deal Boards operate a shadow assurance group which assesses the Town Investment Plan business cases for longevity and long term viability / management.</p>

	<p>Tony Parkinson suggested that a paper be brought to the Town Deal Board which outlines the membership and function of a Shadow Assurance Board, to vet business cases for long term implications, priori to submission at the Town Deal Board.</p>
9.	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>Provisional: 1p.m. Friday 20 August 2021- location / online TBC</p>