

CHEADLE TOWNS FUND BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Date	11 th December 2020 at 3.00pm	
Venue	MS Teams	
Present	Marge Falconer - Executive Director, BMI Alexandra Hospital Mary Robinson, MP - MP for Cheadle, Conservative Cllr. David Meller - Councillor Cheadle Hulme N. Labour Cllr. Tom Morrison - Councillor Cheadle Hulme N. Lib Dem Rob Munro - Chair of Cheadle Village Partnership Sharon Seville - Stockport Vice-President GM Chamber of Commerce Simon Elliott - Head of Rail Programme, TfGM Simon Noakes - GMCA Rosie Jenkins - Cities & Local Growth Unit, BEIS & MHCLG (advisor role) <i>Observers / Presenters</i> Robert Goulsbra - Head of Development and Regeneration SMBC Michael S. Fisher - Development and Regeneration Manager, SMBC Oliver Williamson - PA for Mary Robinson MP	
Apologies	Dr Viren Mehta - Cheadle Medical Practice Caroline Simpson - Corporate Director of Place, SMBC Christina Shepherd - Cities & Local Growth Unit, BEIS & MHCLG David Hodcroft - GMCA Lou Cordwell - GM LEP	
Item		Actions
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
	MF chaired the meeting Apologies received as above MF outlined the purpose of the meeting	Noted
2.	Actions from Last Meeting, Robert Goulsbra, SMBC	
	RG outlined the key actions as below: Submission of Town Investment Plan and support material made 30/10/20 Summary of Town Investment Plan published Press release on TIP submission made Board Terms of Reference published	Noted

	Public survey findings now fully published Marge Falconer confirmed as Chair of Cheadle Town Fund Board Chair and Viren Mehta as Deputy Chair Other actions updated as part of forthcoming meeting	
3.	Accelerated Fund Project Update by Michael Fisher, SMBC	
	MSF introduced a number on slides covering an update on the Accelerated Towns Fund project proposals, the results of public consultation and any decisions required.	
	Jubilee Diamond Park - Equipment Three options were provided for the fitness equipment. TM, RM and MF preferred Option A on the basis that the more equipment possible would encourage greater use and community spirit, and the less complicated the equipment (i.e. not changeable) then the less maintenance. RM asked about the maintenance proposals and the length of the guarantees and warranties? MSF to report back to the Board. RM and MF. asked if there would be an opportunity for more equipment if budget allows from savings elsewhere? MSF confirmed that he would report back to the Board, when quotes are received, to confirm how many items can afforded. Further discussion on the merits of the different options, however the benefit of maximising the number of units and with ease of use being an important factor, subject to confirmations on the queries raised, Option A is the preferred choice.	Noted Action: MSF Action: MSF
	Jubilee Diamond Park – Path Upgrade MSF noted that these works have now commenced.	Noted
	Jubilee Diamond Park – Learn to Ride The Board preferred the location nearer to the park entrance (red arrow, north end).	Noted
	Jubilee Diamond Park – SuDS (Sustainable Drainage System) RM expressed concern that the SuDS could potentially take out of use two prime locations. Overall the hardstanding location is preferred for the Learn to Ride scheme. The grass area near the entrance was seen as a prime play area and so shouldn't be lost to SuDS if possible. Questions included: Q. Are there technical reason for the location? e.g. levels and location of the stream	

	Q. Could the SUDS go elsewhere in the park in a less used area? Q. If the grass area is the best option could a sunken drain be used instead of an area so that the grass playing area is preserved? Q. Or could the learn to ride area somehow be combined by a sunken area underneath? Q. How wet / damp will the SuDS area be? MSF agreed to report back to the Board.	Action: MSF
	Abney Park wildlife The Board supported the proposals. It is noted that since the Board meeting works have now commenced in the park.	Noted
	Ashfield Road – Cycling & Walking The Board supported the proposals. RM raised the issue of the overgrown verge and if cut back could the Civic Society to help maintain it? RM confirmed that all the proposals had been circulated to the Civic Society. MR requested that any negative responses are reviewed and where possible their concerns addressed. Since the meeting it has been confirmed that the verge would become highway and so would in the future be maintained by the Council.	Noted
	Street Pilot -- Cycling & Walking RM raised some concern over access to the Cheadle Medical Centre, particularly for elderly residents who drive, but it was explained that disabled parking is still allowable, and restrictions are not all day. MR asked whether the local school had been consulted? Since the meeting it has been confirmed that the school has been directly consulted, and they responded in support, subject to access for teachers to reach the staff car park. RM and TM raised the point that the community want the opportunity to occasionally close Cheadle High Street for one-off events. Therefore, could the proposed cycle lane cut through to the Massie Street Car Park be designed to be robust enough so that vehicles could still use it on such one-off occasions. i.e. to gain access the parking not as a cut through. MSF to consult the Council's highways and report back on this latter request.	Action: MSF

	MSF replied that the content management and house style where been considered as part of a wider provision so that economies of scale could be achieved. The list below, provided after the meeting, provides some options around content: • Digitalised and interactive map of the local area • Real time travel information • News headlines and weather forecasts • Local news about the Towns Fund • Forthcoming events and activities • Forthcoming roadworks/road closures • Health campaigns and awareness raising e.g. flu jabs • Council and partner messaging e.g. school admission deadlines • Business Directory • Advertising. MF and RM recognised the benefits of the project. The Board were supportive of the proposal and it was agreed to report back on costs when known.	Action: MSF
4.	Restoring Your Railway Update by Simon Elliot, TfGM	
	SE informed the Board that the Restoring Your Railway Ideas Fund submission, made in 19/06/20 to re-double the Mid Cheshire Line, had not been successful. SE explained that DfT feedback indicates that the proposal has potential and is suitable for the Ideas Fund. There is a need to strengthen the case before any future submission. Some of this work has already been undertaken with completion of the Rail Station SOBC and the recent draft rail timetabling study. MF commented that it was disappointing but realised that there is still an opportunity to resubmit in a future round. MR asked how intrinsic was the RYR to the case for the station under the Towns Fund. SE explained that the station proposal is seen as a building block to help progress the wider case for investment in the line infrastructure. The station can operate without redoubling the line, but the main constraint on the station's performance (measured by BCR) is rail capacity. The rail timetabling study will help to show what capacity can be increased without relying on doubling the line. SE also explained that the Government's proposed changes to the Treasury's Green Book to provide a greater emphasis on the strategic case, than purely the BCR, is likely to help. MR asked what else can be done to assist the process.	Noted

	SE replied that TfGM would assess the findings of the draft rail timetable study and report back to the Board on any gaps in evidence that may require additional support.	Action: SE
5.	Looking Forwards	
	RJ confirmed that TIP submissions were still being assessed and a decision was more likely around the end of January. RG mentioned that since the last meeting GMCA have requested that Simon Noakes becomes a formal Board member to provide upper tier local government representation for the non-transport elements of the Investment Plan. Board approved. MR asked whether minutes were public and is the member feedback on the Accelerated projects available. MSF confirmed that all minutes are published on the host webpage. MSF confirmed that the ward member briefing was an internal exercise but that the briefing at the Cheadle Area Committee (15/12/20) will be public. <u>Since the meeting</u> it is has been suggested that the next Towns Fund Board meeting will now be <u>Friday 5th February 2020 at 3.30pm</u> via MS Teams	Noted Action: SMBC to update Board ToR Noted Noted

Abbreviations:

AF – Accelerated Fund (Towns Fund)
BCR – Benefit Cost Ratio
BEIS – Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
CVP – Cheadle Village Partnership
DfT – Department for Transport
LEP – Local Economic Partnership
MCL – Mid Cheshire Line
MHCLG – Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
NR – Network Rail
NSF – New Station Fund (Round 3)
PF – Pell Frischmann
RYR – Restoring Your Railway (Ideas Fund)
SMBC – Stockport Metropolitan Council
SOBC – Strategic Outline Business Case
SuDS – Sustainable Drainage System
TfGM – Transport for Greater Manchester
TIP – Town Investment Plan
ToR – Terms of Reference