

CHEADLE TOWNS FUND

INTERIM BOARD MEETING

FINAL MINUTES

Date	3 rd July 2020 at 3.30pm	
Venue	MS Teams	
Present	<p> Marge Falconer - Executive Director, BMI Alexandra Hospital Mary Robinson, MP - MP for Cheadle, Conservative Cllr. David Meller - Councillor Cheadle Hulme North, Labour Cllr. Tom Morrison - Councillor Cheadle Hulme North, Lib Dem Rob Munro - Chair of Cheadle Village Partnership Dr Viren Mehta - Cheadle Medical Practice Simon Elliott - Head of Rail Programme, TfGM Suzanne Jones - Cities & Local Growth Unit, BEIS & MHCLG Caroline Simpson - Corporate Director of Place, Stockport MBC Sharon Seville - Stockport Vice-President GM Chamber of Commerce <i>Observers / Presenters</i> Lou Cordwell - GM LEP Robert Goulsbra - Head of Development and Regeneration Stockport MBC Michael Fisher - Development and Regeneration Manager, Stockport MBC Luke Delahunty - Director, SQW Donald Ross - Managing Consultant, SQW Richard Ellam - Pell Frischmann Oliver Williamson - MP Cheadle Office David Hodcroft on behalf of Simon Noakes - GMCA </p>	
Apologies	<p> Stuart Bradley - Stockport President GM Chamber of Commerce David Hodcroft - GMCA </p>	
Item		Actions
1	Welcome and Introductions	
	<p>MF welcomed Lou Cordwell and Sharon Seville The attendees present introduced themselves Apologies received as above</p>	
2	Actions from Last Meeting, Timetable & Support and Board Governance by Caroline Simpson, SMBC	
	CS confirmed that Arup have been appointed by MHCLG to support Towns Board nationally.	Noted
	CS requested that SMBC and the consultancy team meet Arup first to determine what technical support they can provide.	Agreed

	CS outlined some of the Board Governance arrangements that are required to be formalised. These will be drafted for the next Board meeting.	Action CS
3	Station Study Update and MCL Re-doubling by Simon Elliot, TfGM	
	<p>SE provided an update on the station feasibility work covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic fit • Location and outlie design • Future proofing for future fleets • Passive provision for line re-doubling • Operational frequency, capacity & demand projections • Station operator • Outline costs & BCR • Timetabling <p>Board approved the request for an additional £8k Capacity Fund to undertake timetabling work required to demonstrate a workable operational solution to Network Rail.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed Action SE</p>
	Awaiting feedback on the New Rail Station Fund Round 3 submission. If approved then likely to be only a part contribution to costs.	Noted
	MR asked whether the funding announced to unlock rail bottlenecks in Manchester may assist. SE confirmed that most of this funding related to the Castlefield / Oxford Road corridor but that there could be a knock-on benefit.	Noted
	SE confirmed that there is a central BCR score for the station but that this could be complemented by an adjusted BCR that takes account of wider benefits to the Cheadle area.	Noted
	CS confirmed that the Accelerated Towns Fund would be more suited for supporting works rather than the station itself given the delivery timescales.	Noted
	<p>SE confirmed that the current design and business case makes allowance for future track redoubling but does not actually include these works. Redoubling would go beyond the timescale for the Towns Fund.</p> <p>SE to report back to the Board if the opportunity to resubmit to the Restoring Your Railway fund arises later this year.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Action SE</p>
	MR & MF asked about car parking arrangements. RE replied that a proposed deck car park that maintains current parking numbers is included within the NSF bid. Some consultation has taken place with the BMI Alexandra Hospital on this matter but covid has delayed detailed planning. Pell Frischmann to continue consultations.	<p>Noted</p> <p>RE Action</p>

4.	Developing the Cheadle Town Investment Plan by Luke Delahunty, SQW	
	LD reiterated from the latest Government guidance the emphasis of Towns Fund remains long term economic growth, productivity and clean growth.	Noted
	LD informed the Board that seven detailed consultations to date have shown a strong consensus in support of a new railway station and local 'last mile' connectivity measures such as cycling and walking routes. Other emerging projects were for flexible co-working space and entrepreneurship interventions, and the low Carbon Economy focused on a demonstrator business park concept. Aligns well to the Green Government agenda. A new Community Hub has also been mentioned however this would not meet the criteria for the Town Fund. The results of the public survey and further consultations will further inform the scope for projects.	Noted
	RM mentioned the Cheadle Jelly co-working initiative in the Upper Room used free fast broadband and generated interest. However, good management is required to sustain such an initiative.	Noted
	SS supported the idea of workspace in the centre of Cheadle where workers can use local shops and suggested linking in with the college to explore work experience. SS also agreed with the idea of supporting the growth of the renewable sector through providing the right business space. SS stated that her informal feedback from local independent businesses showed support for a new station.	Noted
	TM agreed with the changing work practices and the need to incorporate that into the vision.	Noted
	LD to provide a draft outline vision for Cheadle and the Investment Plan the next Board meeting.	LD Action
	MF - the Board support the proposal for SQW to progress with detailed consultations on the projects raised so far.	Agreed LD Action
5	Community Consultation Update by Rob Munro, CVP	
	RM explained that the public survey was initially high level and further consultations by SQW with key stakeholders will provide more specifics	Noted
	RM updated the Board on the launch of the public survey. A soft online launch was carried out to check the system and functionality, with the full online launch live on 01/07 to run to the end of July, or longer if demand is high. Promotion is through social media, email and Cheadle Radio. Hard copies to hand out and post, including schools, will be available for distribution in the following week. Posters will be put up in the former BT Exchange building.	Noted

6	Town Fund Guidance by Suzanne Jones, Cities & Local Growth Unit	
	<p>SJ asked that the Board confirm their preferred submission window for the TIP.</p> <p>CS proposed the October cohort would be preferable. The Board agreed on the October TIP submission.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed.</p>
	<p>SJ outlined the Accelerated Fund. Cheadle has the opportunity to spend £500k by March 2021 on advanced works that would bring forward elements of the TIP. This funding is in addition to the main TF amount not deducted from it.</p> <p>Request to be provided to MHCLG by <u>14th August but a formal board meeting is not required to approve the projects.</u></p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Action CS</p>
	MR noted that the £500k accelerated funding was not included in the public survey. SJ understood the tight timescales and that proposals need to stand alone for deliverability but relate to the TIP.	Noted
	<p>SJ explained that in exceptional circumstances TIP submissions can be for more than £25m. This would be subject to higher scrutiny. The Board agreed that a higher submission would not be appropriate for Cheadle</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p>
	<p>SJ reiterated Arup's role and support and explained that after submission of the TIP there is up to 12 months to develop detailed business cases for the project elements.</p> <p>DM asked whether the TIP is approved as a package or as individual elements. SJ answered that the TIP should be robust enough to enable MHCLG to fund most of the projects within it. Individual projects from the TIP could be approved to be funded, it was not an all or nothing approval decision on the projects within the TIP.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
	SJ suggested that Board members would find the following link useful https://townsfund.org.uk/	Noted
7.	Looking Forwards by Caroline Simpson, SMBC	
	<p>CS summarised the immediate actions as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TIP submission date agreed end of October 2020 • SMBC to initially engage with Arup • Ideas to be progressed for the advanced £500k and brought to the Board • Board agreed not to pursue the above £25m TIP option • Board Governance arrangements to be drafted for the next meeting • Additional rail timetabling work to be commissioned • TfGM / SMBC carry on with stakeholder consultations • SQW to develop the projects ideas for the TIP • SQW & CVP further consultations and engagement 	<p>Noted and</p> <p>Agreed</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CVP, with DJS, to analyse public survey findings and report to the Board 	
	Next meeting now arranged via MS Teams for <u>Friday 7th August 2020 at 3.30pm.</u>	Action ALL

Abbreviations:

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

NSF – New Station Fund

SMBC – Stockport Metropolitan Council

SOBC – Strategic outline Business case

TfGM – Transport for Greater Manchester

TIP – Town Investment Plan