

# KING'S LYNN TOWN DEAL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

<b>Date</b>	<b>7 August 2020</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Remotely via Microsoft Teams</b>
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<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Andrew Stevenson, Michelle Drewery, Brian Legrove, Jo Middleton, Cllr Brian Long, Vince Muspratt, Cllr Graham Middleton, Nova Fairbank, Claire Cooper, Mark Ost, David Pomfret, Patrick White, Debbie Gates, Sharon Edwards, Lizi Hopkins, Tim Drew, Graham Purkins, Tony Calladine, Tom Humphries, Vicky Etheridge, Jemma Curtis, Carly West-Burnham, Jim Mayor, James Wild, Lisa Roberts, Cllr Elizabeth Nockolds, Howard Martin, Robert Jakeman, Max Winkler, Eleanor Smith, Michael Baldwin	Laura Skaife-Knight, Hannah Grimes, Duncan Hall, Emma Taylor, Mark Daisley, Simon Morris, Michelle Gant, Alistair Cox, Mary Scales, Ian Bloxham, Frank Thomson, Robin Hanley

<b>Minutes</b>	<b>Actions</b>
<p><b>1. Introduction – Graham Purkins, Chair</b></p> <p>Graham welcomed everyone to the Town Deal Board Meeting. He reminded Board members that the Town Investment Plan (TIP) will be a shared and vibrant document, providing an opportunity to set out a long-term vision for King's Lynn as well as include short-term renewal plans.</p>	
<p><b>2. Update on progress and summary of current funding opportunities</b></p> <p>Patrick and Jemma provided an update on the Town Investment Plan progress, and summarised current funding opportunities available to King's Lynn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Borough Council and Metro Dynamics have drawn up a longlist of investment projects to be discussed later in the agenda.</li> <li>• The King's Lynn strategic narrative has developed to include an element of COVID recovery and remains a vision upheld by the Board.</li> <li>• Funding opportunities (not limited to Government funding) include Future High Streets Fund, High Street Heritage Action Zone, Norfolk Strategic Fund, Norfolk Strategic Fund Tourism Support Package, Reopening High Streets Safely Fund, and Accelerated Construction Programme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Town Board is agreed that the TIP will take a strategic approach, by including FHSF and HAZ projects.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Anyone unable to attend the meeting will be welcome to join separate conversations/ provide feedback on the longlist.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>3. Workshop session – projects and interventions</b></p> <p>Patrick introduced the three themes of the TIP: skills and enterprise, connectivity, and urban regeneration.</p> <p>A logic chain for each theme included evidence (presented at previous Board meetings, and including findings from consultation), what this means for King's Lynn, priorities for King's Lynn, interventions and Towns Fund guidance outcomes.</p>	

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### Skills and enterprise

- It was commented that for a skills and enterprise package to be successful, it must rely on local support and local understanding.
- Patrick reminded the Board, that the impact of COVID is still unclear. It is important that short-term support is provided in the right way, to shape long-term strategy and reflect the future economy
- Short-term actions should include business resilience, enterprise and adaptability. King's Lynn should support current businesses and SMEs, as well as start-ups.
- The Board was keen to discuss repurposing existing or vacant buildings, in order to encourage enterprise within the Town Centre.
- Jemma updated the Board that the Borough Council will be revisiting demand for KLIC2. This consultation will include focus on sectors for KLIC2, which is likely to determine an appropriate location and building type for new enterprise space in King's Lynn.
- The Board mentioned aligning skills and enterprise projects with developing green sources (solar) and green electricity storage facilities. For example, establishing an electric vehicle maintenance training centre and developing local skills and expertise.'

### Connectivity

- Broadband connectivity plans will be included in the TIP, however not as a funding ask of Government. The Council and partners will continue to facilitate private investment in broadband connections in King's Lynn.
- The Board were reminded that car use is likely to remain high in King's Lynn, as the town serves as a commercial centre for a rural hinterland. But take-up of cycling and walking for short journeys is promising. The aim of TIP connectivity projects will be to improve travel options for a wider catchment area and to improve active travel and make it safer in the Town Centre.
- Connectivity projects have been grouped into active connectivity, and a clean air programme and will be considered as a coherent package as opposed to a series of individual projects.
- The Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan is due end of Sept/October, so this will be able to inform the TIP.
- Funding asks of the individual projects still need to be worked up, as will their deliverability within the TIP timeframe.
- The Board discussed the South Gate road improvement project in detail.

### Urban regeneration

- The Towns Fund guidance highlights the importance of spatial planning, and the TIP will explore King's Lynn in three spatial areas: historic core and waterfront, retail, Enterprise Zone.
- King's Lynn would like to attract more businesses and visitors and increase its town centre residential offer. It is anticipated that COVID will accelerate existing trends such as decreased footfall and increased vacancy rates.
- Community co-design will be important to creating lasting and flexible spaces. An active engagement process includes careful conversations about how this money is to be used.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board supported the inclusion of 'greening' space into plans for King's Lynn as well as introducing art structures and public art. The Borough Council have plans to produce a Public Realm Action Plan which would provide an overarching plan to coordinate spending of future funding.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>4. Accelerated funding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Town Deal Board were reminded about the £750k additional 'accelerated' funding from Government.</li> <li>The Board discussed two projects in detail and considered alternatives. A requirement of the accelerated funding is that the projects need to be deliverable by April 2021. There were therefore two frontrunners for the accelerated funding, projects in development, which can be delivered in the timescale.</li> <li>The Board was asked to formally endorse the selection of two projects and there were no objections. <b>Endorsement from the board - remains confidential.</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>5. Next steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The two projects selected and endorsed for accelerated funding to be submitted to government by 14<sup>th</sup> August. Decision requires the Council's Cabinet approval as the accountable body. This will be considered at their meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> August.</li> <li>The conversation and comments from today have been taken on board and will be worked up as a draft TIP.</li> <li>The longlist of projects will be run through an options appraisal and returned to the Board in the draft TIP, where they will be discussed at the September Board Meeting.</li> <li>Cabinet will be consulted on the chosen projects</li> <li>Community/residential engagement continues under the banner Vision King's Lynn</li> <li>Business workshop date TBC</li> </ul>	