

Town Deal Board Meeting

16th October 2020

Via Teams

1:00pm till 3:00pm

1) Welcome/introduction/apologies

In attendance

- Fiona McMillian
- Doug Bamsey
- Andy Berry
- Adam Bradley
- Cllr Mick Lerry
- Cllr Gill Slocombe
- Cllr David Hall
- David Ralph
- Paul Hickson
- Justin Sargent
- Stewart McIlroy
- David Northey
- Paul Edwards
- Paul Moore
- Ruth Lambert

Supporting the board

- Keith Thomas
- Patrick Gulliver,
- Alex Quattrone,
- Nathaniel Lucas,
- Katherine Schollar,
- Jaycee Ellis.

Apologies

No apologies were given.

- Confirmation following previous meeting that government has been advised of the intent to submit the TIP in Cohort 3 by the end of January 2021.

2) Governance Matters – confirmation of T&C's & Biographical Information Required

- Confirmation of Terms of Reference Document and reminder for Board Member Biographies for website – please issue information by 30th October 2020.

3) Priority Aims & Objectives – Recap Discussions from 8th September

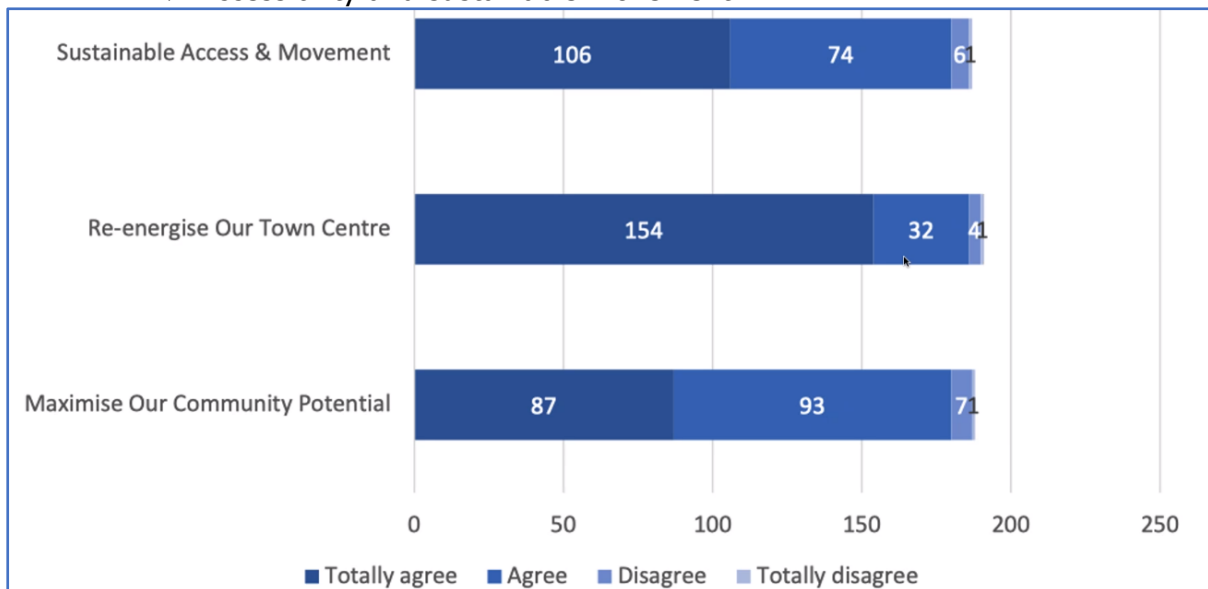
Following the discussion in September, the Board agreed in principle outline Vision and Strategic Aims for the TIP and for consultation to proceed.

PER Consulting

PLANNING ECONOMICS REGENERATION

4) Interim Feedback from Consultation – Response to date

- Survey response 211, but ongoing into next week.
- Summary of responses show broad agreement on the Strategic Aims as follows:
 - Maximise our community potential.
 - Re-energise our town centre
 - Accessibility and sustainable movement



- The response to the survey has largely been from Bridgwater residents and local business owners.
- Survey closes next week so there will be a full report to give to board members.

5) Town Deal Eligibility Criteria – Value for Money Considerations

- Need to put projects forward that agree with the strategic aims but also match the government criteria.
 - Transforming our town centres
 - Responding to Covid recovery.
 - Primarily capital investment to unlock potential
 - It is 6-year funding with a 30-year strategy
- In considering potential projects for investment, the board agreed to focus on projects up to £25 million overall bid. Whilst there is potential to seek funds over £25m this is only in exceptional circumstances.

6) Initial Project Proposals

- Board agreed to progress the following projects which had been examined against the main criteria and were considered suitable to realise value for money (subject to further refinement of project details to be reported back to Board).
- Board also reminded the team of the need to reflect on climate change and inclusive growth as overarching criteria for consideration.
- Pre-Requisite Strategic Intervention – infrastructure schemes to support the town centre and open new growth potential

- Bridgwater Barrier to meet funding gap and focus on walking & cycling links.
- A38 Dunball Road Junction to meet funding gap.
- Key Projects – with potential to transform the town centre
 - Celebration Mile and Walking/Cycling,
 - Animating the Town Centre- Package of interventions in vacant units for workspaces/ arts/cultural ventures/ digitize the town/ town wardens –
 - Bridgwater Docks/ Marina & Canal,
 - Former Hospital Site,
 - Northgate – Accelerated funding delivered.
- Other Projects to be explored further and seek clarification South West Carnival Centre
 - Centre of Sporting Excellence
 - The Brick Museum
 - Classic Buildings
- A public call for projects has also been launched and may generate further projects to be considered.
- Another meeting will be arranged in November to discuss progress with these projects for the Board to confirm which progress to the final submission.

7) Update on Accelerated Funding – MHCLG response?

Nothing was discussed.

8) AOB

No AOB was discussed.