



## Bridgwater Town Deal Board

27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

11am to 12.30pm

Hybrid

Bridgwater House/Teams Meeting

### MINUTES

#### 1) Introduction and Apologies

##### Attendees:

- Paul Moore,
- Cllr Bill Revans,
- Cllr Mick Leery,
- Cllr Ros Wyke,
- Ruth Lambert,
- David Mears,
- Jethro Smith,
- Paul Edwards,
- Haf e Morris,
- Rob Semple,
- Beccy Armory,

##### Supporting the board:

- Peter Paddon,
- Nathaniel Lucas,
- Jaycee Ellis,
- Nick Tait,
- Jackie Gill,

##### Apologies

- Gavin Roberts,
- Gayatri Barua-Howe,
- Debbie Rundell,
- Peter Elliott,
- Ian Liddel Grange,
- Paul Hickson,

Previous minutes agreed as correct.

#### Matters Arising

- Andrew Harper will be replacing Haf E'Morris as a Board Member from Magnox as Haf is changing roles.

#### 2) Progress and Updates

- The Grant Funding Agreement for the Tidal Barrier has been finalised with the EA.
- Bridgwater Carnival has reached an agreement on the drainage attenuation with the Local Lead Flood Authority.
  - Thank you, Paul Edwards, for your advice and assistance with LLFA.
- A board member asked with the Celebration Mile starting late May, how are businesses being informed?
  - The SC comms team are currently working on an FAQ document to help inform business and residents.
  - There have been some radio adverts/information prepared with Sedgemoor FM.
  - The finer detail of the Comms package is still being worked on.
  - Once contracts have been signed and date confirmed, all forms of media will be used to support the comms package, which is being led by SC colleagues in partnership with Taylor Woodrow.
  - It is acknowledged that there needs to be engagement with local businesses. SC proposed to have a stand at the Bridgwater Expo to showcase the Bridgwater Town Deal. In conjunction with a communication event to be held in Eastover. Hoardings will be used to inform the public that businesses are still open.

#### 3) Bridgwater Docks

- The Consultation event before Christmas was well attended, there was a high level of enthusiasm.
  - The feedback will be circulated to the board.
- WSP are commissioned to survey 3 main areas: Newtown Lock, options around the lock gates and the Bascule Bridge.
  - This report is due back mid-April.
- Quotes are being finalised for the detailed silt survey.
- A discussion is needed with the Canals and Rivers trust around silt removal.
- The Blue Heritage project is keen to install floating wetlands within the tidal basin. Blue Heritage Project would be responsible to secure funding.
  - NT asked the board to endorse this project.

#### **The board endorsed this motion.**

- It was suggested that shooting water jets could be installed in the walkway to avoid swimming in the Docks.
- Pedestrianisation is needed to make the area attractive.
- Is there potential to link the Docks to Firepool in Taunton.

- A discussion to be had with colleagues working on Firepool. Taunton Garden Town Board are looking into water flow from Wellington, potential for a water connectivity project.

#### 4) Arts Installation Features

- The Fallen Moon installation is proposed for 14<sup>th</sup> October till 4<sup>th</sup> November.
  - This predicts to bring in 32,000 people over 3 weeks.
  - There will need to be lots of engagement with residents, which the Town Wardens can support.
  - Overnight Security will be needed.
- Other discussions/ideas to work alongside the installation of the Fallen Moon:
  - Open Air Cinema with Somerset Film
  - Space Walk – Mick O Donnell
  - Food and Drink Opportunities.
  - Moon Balloons.
  - Apollo 13 screening at Scott Cinemas, Northgate.

#### 5) Bridgwater Step Up

- Bridgwater Library has been suggested as an option.
- A tour of Bridgwater Town Hall could be arranged for board members to see the space available for Bridgwater Step Up to be housed at this location.
  - **Action** JE to arrange a tour.
- NL has had/been in discussions with Barclays Eagle Labs regarding where they could be involved/support the project.
- A decision will need to be taken at the next meeting.

#### 6) Terms of Reference Review

- The update of the Terms of Reference is a work in progress.
- Overarching factors remain:
  - SC is the accountable body.
  - Governance needs to be decided.
  - Quorate numbers need to be maintained.
- The board suggestions a skills audit to be completed – this needs to be reviewed.
- It was proposed to invite Cllr Gill Slocombe back on to the board.

**The board endorsed this proposal.**

#### 7) AOB

Date of next meeting is taking place on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024, starting at 11am in-person/hybrid.

Please note, board meetings have now been extended to 2 hours.

## Actions

Date	Action	Completed
24/11/2023	Board meetings Bi-monthly interim reports to be sent out	Complete
24/11/2023	Skills audit for Board members	
24/11/2023	Complete partnership agreement - JE	
24/01/2024	Share Environment Agency Agreement with the Board - NL	
24/01/2024	NL to look at other funding options and explore the use of the Town Hall for Step Up	
27/03/2024	Discussion with Alison and Peter RE Docks link to Firepool / Taunton Garden Town	
27/03/2024	NL to provide list of contact to BA for Moon Project	Complete
27/03/2024	Step Up NL to shared Options report before next meeting	
27/03/2024	Cllr Bill Revens to contact Ian Liddel-Grainger re meetings.	