

## Bolton Towns Fund Board

13:00hrs, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

### Attendees

Belinda Beaver	BB	Chamber of Commerce (Chair)
Cllr. David Greenhalgh	DG	Leader, Bolton Council
Cllr. Martyn Cox	MC	Deputy Leader, Bolton Council
Cathy Wignall	CW	Programme Manager, Bolton Council
Laura Boardman	LB	Principal Project Officer, Bolton Council
Gerry Brough	GB	Director of Place, Bolton Council
Paul Whittingham	PW	Assistant Director, Bolton Council
Yasmin Qureshi MP	YQ	Bolton South East
Chris Green MP	CG	Bolton West
Mark Head	MHe	Bolton & District Civic Trust
Darren Knight	DK	Bolton CVS
Alec Colbeck	AC	Midia Group
Tim Vaughan	TV	Moorgarth
Baroness Newlove	BN	University of Bolton & Bolton College
Rosie Jenkins	RJ	MHCLG
Wirin Bhatiani	WT	Bolton CCG
Marc Watterson	MW	Arup
Ibby Ismail	II	Bolton Solidarity
Alex Gardiner	AG	Metro Dynamics
Anglea Moran	AM	Metro Dynamics
James Gordon	JG	Gordon Moon Properties
Matthew Cowburn	MCo	Walker Sime
Shane Green	SG	Metro Dynamics
Anoush Darabi	AD	Metro Dynamics
Marc Watterson	MW	Arup

### Apologies

Eamon Boylan	EB	Chief Exec, GMCA
John Seddon	JS	Seddons
Mark Logan MP	ML	Bolton North East
Holly Harrow	HH	Homes England
Sue Temperley	ST	JCP
Tony Oakman	TO	Chief Executive, Bolton Council
Paula Connor	PC	Project Officer, Bolton Council
Michelle Horrocks	MH	Head of Economic Development, Bolton Council
Jon Lord	JL	Bolton at Home
Roddy Gauld	RG	Octagon Theatre
Pete Courtie	PCo	Arts Council (Observer)
Jonathan Seddon	JS	Seddon
Amanda Halford	AH	Cytiva
Samantha Elliot	SE	Bolton Council

## Notes of the Meeting

### 1. Welcome

BB welcomed all to the meeting and requested that all attendees turn off their cameras and mute microphones when not speaking to improve call performance. She requested that people utilise the chat facility to make comments and advised that all comments will be collated and circulated. An outline of the agenda was given.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies noted.

### 3. Declaration of Interests

None noted.

### 4. Minutes of the Last Meeting and Actions Arising

BB noted that there were three Items requiring action from the last meeting of which most had been completed.

Item 1. The submission of the £1M grant funding application to MHCLG has now been completed.

Item 2. Metro Dynamics have now been appointed as a consultant for stakeholder engagement.

Item 3. Feedback choices of four projects for the £1M accelerator funding has now been received.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and correct record of proceedings.

### 5. Presentation on Engagement Feedback

AG gave a presentation on the Towns Fund engagement feedback and asked the Board to comment on the engagement process undertaken and to consider how the engagement analysis can inform the TIP. The aims of the engagement process was to inform residents & stakeholders about the Towns Fund opportunity, to understand a broad range of views about Bolton's town centre and to test the emerging projects –what do residents and businesses want to see in the TIP.

It was noted that the majority of the surveys were completed online due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, however to ensure the engagement was inclusive to people who do not have access to a computer or the internet, paper copies were made available in libraries and leisure centres. DG thanked AG for the presentation and acknowledged the work which had gone into turning around the consultation process in time, this was also acknowledged by BW and YQ. DG advised he was pleased with the overall findings which highlighted the loyalty to Bolton as well as the general cynicism. The emerging priorities are reflective of the projects currently being considered. DG went onto suggest that it may be useful to enquire if the list of consultees would be willing to form a focus group. HN agreed that this would be a good way of ensuring consistency. Overall the presentation was well received by all.

**Action: CW to send copies of the presentation to all board members following the meeting.**

## 6. Presentation on Project Prioritisation

AG advised the purpose of the presentation was to comment and agree on the project prioritisation process and project progress and next steps and to give an update on the project longlist.

CW advised that council officers have agreed project owners for each project going forward. Bolton Council have also commissioned additional specialist support to complete the project proformas and develop a master programme.

The Board agreed the project prioritisation process.

**Action: CW to send copies of the presentation to all board members following the meeting.**

## 7. Next Steps

CW gave a brief presentation on the road map for the next steps for the Towns Investment Fund programme delivery. All seven projects will be analysed using the assessment framework to produce a shorter list which will be brought to the next Towns Board on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September for discussion.

CW introduced Matthew Cowburn (MCo) to the board. MCo advised that he has been assigned the role of conductor for individual projects and the master programme, the road maps for delivery will run in tandem with individual business plans for the projects.

DG queried when information on the costings and viability will be shared with the board. CW advised that some projects architects and cost consultants have already appointed. Remaining briefs have been issued to procure advice and by early October we will have an idea of the high-level costs for the projects.

GB reiterated that the costs of the projects will depend on the level of co funding that can be secured. Until this is firmed up we will not know the total ask from the Towns Fund.

## 8. AOB

BB gave thanks on behalf of the board to the Council and presenters and commented that she feels confident the work is coming to fruition.

DG thanked BB for her involvement and requested feedback from the board on their priorities.

DW advised that all presentations will be issued following the meeting for consideration and comments.

Il queried if it was possible to share priorities by email with voting options. GB clarified that the prioritisation process as set out by Metro Dynamics has to be undertaken first and the results of this work will be presented at the next board meeting to discuss the prioritisation ranking.

## 9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> September at 1pm.