

Greater Grimsby Board
Tuesday 19th May 2020 – 1.00 pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Town Deal update – paper attached
3. Future High Streets Fund and Stronger Towns Fund
4. Conversation with Government
5. AOB
6. Date of next meeting

Greater Grimsby Board

18 March 2020

Town Deal Update

Background

In July 2018, the Government and North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) signed the Greater Grimsby Town Deal. This included four key themes being driving economic growth, accelerating housing delivery, improving skills and educational attainment and transforming Grimsby's waterfront. Initial support from Government has focused on Grimsby's waterfront whilst there has been further funding via the Local Enterprise Partnerships for the South Humber Industrial Investment Programme (SHIIP).

Driving Economic Growth

The delivery of the SHIIP initiative continues apace. The first 100 acres of the advanced ecological mitigation project for wintering birds is complete and functioning whilst terms have now been agreed for two further sites. This has resulted in two developers stating how much more efficient this has made the planning process and the scheme is being held up as a national beacon for how to deal with mitigation issues. Beyond this, the £8m south humber link road which will join the main industrial areas of North East Lincolnshire together and open up further development land is well advanced and due for completion in Autumn of this year. Furthermore, the 165 acre Stallingborough development site infrastructure has commenced and due for completion early 2021 whilst the first pre-let development for the site has been signed with Myenergi.

We continue to service an increasing number of enquiries and the £300m EPUKI waste to energy plant is consented and expected to start on site this year. A planning application for phase one of a large energy park has been submitted and we continue to work alongside Velocys to bring forward the first waste to jet fuel plant.

Accelerating Housing Delivery

£2.1m has been secured through the Homes England Accelerated Construction Fund to enable the delivery of the first major housing site owned by NELC. Preliminary works have already commenced whilst discussions continue with Sport England regarding full approval to the development of this and other sites.

Further works are expected to commence in 2021 on other key NELC owned sites and dialogue continues with Homes England regarding further potential funding to assist this.

The Council continues to work with the landowners to bring forward the Grimsby West strategic housing site although viability challenges remain and engagement with both the landowners and Homes England is ongoing

Improving Skills and Attainment

The Borough's Place Board is taking the lead on the areas skills agenda. To facilitate this, the Council is appointing an interim strategic lead for skills. This post will have

responsibility to work with the Place Board, educational establishments, skills providers and employers to put in place the required strategy and actions to better align school pupils together with those not in education, employment or training to the employment opportunities in North East Lincolnshire.

Engagement with both the University of Lincoln and Grimsby Institute around the aim of achieving an enhanced higher education presence in Grimsby continue and a workshop around the options for Garth Lane is scheduled with Westheath Projects.

Transforming Grimsby's Waterfront

The Council previously acquired land at Garth Lane from ABP and also, the adjacent heritage assets known as West Haven Maltings to develop an Onside Youth Zone. Together with committed NELC capital and revenue funding of £5m, this has resulted in further direct Government support for the advancing restoration works to West Haven Maltings and acquisition of Garth Lane totalling £5.25m. The established partnership work between Onside, Historic England and NELC continues and a planning application for the youth zone project is expected in the coming months once the detail of the final Council led restoration works is agreed. Historic England are citing the approach to dealing with these heritage assets as an exemplar to emulate elsewhere.

The joint MHCLG, Humber LEP and Council funded £3.5m Garth Lane public realm works to better connect the Garth Lane site to the core Town Centre were announced on 2 March 2020 as Robert Jenrick MP visited the town. These works, which include works to enhance the highway junction on Frederick Ward Way, replacement of the footbridge to Garth Lane with a feature 5m wide structure together with a comprehensive public realm improvement scheme down to the waterfront are already contracted and will commence this month.

Dialogue continues with ABP, Historic England and other stakeholders regarding the development of the Kasbah. There is initial interest in a number of properties and ABP have indicated its willingness to engage on a masterplan for the entire Port of Grimsby which will include how the Kasbah and other heritage assets on the port are taken forward. Historic England are keen to continue to engage at a senior level to help steer the approach to masterplanning.

March 2020