

Greater Grimsby Board

Minutes of Virtual Meeting 28th September, 2021 at 1.00 p.m.

Attendance:

- Chair - David Ross (The David Ross Foundation)
- Neale Coleman
- Darren Cunningham (Phillips66)
- Pat Doody (Greater Lincolnshire LEP)
- Councillor Philip Jackson (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Lord Lamont
- Susan Lea (University of Hull)
- Lia Nici (MP for Greater Grimsby)
- David Talbot (CATCH)
- Emma Toulson (Orsted)
- Rob Walsh (North East Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group)

Also in Attendance: –

- Peter Campey (Cities and Local Growth Unit)
- Damien Jaines-White (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Maggie Johnson (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Steve Ryder
- Kishor Tailor (Humber LEP)
- Clive Tritton (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Liz Wade (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Dafydd Williams (ABP)
- Sharon Wroot (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Paul Windley (North East Lincolnshire Council)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from Martin Vickers MP, Lord Kerslake, Martin Smithhurst and Julian Free.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest from any Board member in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Greater Grimsby Project Board meeting held on 19th March, 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

4. Levelling Up Fund

The Board received and noted a report providing an update on the submission of a Levelling Up Fund bid in relation to transport and highways in the borough and proposed future Levelling Up Fund bids for Grimsby and Cleethorpes.

5. Current North East Lincolnshire Regeneration Delivery

The Board received a report summarising the breadth of regeneration work currently in delivery or in the pipeline across North East Lincolnshire.

Mr Jaines White provided an update on specific projects around Grimsby town centre, namely progress with phase one of the Town Deal, Future High Streets Funding, the Towns Fund and the Transportation Hub.

On the Towns Fund, the Board supported the submission of a business case to MHCLG for the Activation and Community Engagement Fund.

The Board expressed concern around progress with the Onside project and escalating costs. Councillor Jackson provided an assurance that the project had been subject to ongoing robust challenge and he was confident that an appropriate funding model was in place.

RESOLVED –

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the submission of a business case to MHCLG for the Activation and Community Engagement Fund be supported.

6. Education and Skills

The Board considered a report outlining the current situation in terms of education and skills provision for North East Lincolnshire and making recommendations about immediate priorities to focus on.

The Board discussed the issues highlighted in the report and it was agreed that a local leader was required to pick up the issues and make sure that they were progressed. Mr Ryder volunteered to do so. Mr Talbot was happy to provide support and Mr Coleman

provided a commitment to continue to work together on this issue as it was the heart of the Government's levelling up agenda.

RESOLVED –

1. That the skills priorities set out in paragraph 7.2 of the report now submitted, be agreed;
2. That a report be received within the next 6 months evidencing those priorities, identifying measurable outcomes, developing an action plan to realise those outcomes and establishing a dashboard for ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

7. Economic Development Strategy

The Board received and noted the North East Lincolnshire Economic Strategy.

Mr Taylor suggested decarbonisation opportunities and innovation as two areas that could be enhanced within the strategy.

Mr Walsh confirmed that the strategy had now been adopted by the Council, having been informed by engagement, but it remained a live document.

8. Greater Grimsby Task Force – Prospectus, Priorities and Roles

The Board considered a paper setting out the next steps in terms of the progression of the Greater Grimsby Board into a Greater Grimsby Task Force.

The Board discussed engagement around town centre regeneration, particularly around community buy-in, and were keen to develop further opportunities such as pop-up activities.

RESOLVED -

1. That the draft Task Force Prospectus which builds on the priorities agreed at the meeting of 19 March 2021, set out in appendix 1 of the report now submitted, be agreed.
2. That the approach to developing roles and responsibilities for each priority as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report now submitted, be agreed.
3. That a task force and prospectus launch in the spring/summer of 2022 be agreed.

9. Humber and Grimsby Unlocking Potential

The Board received and noted an update from Mr Coleman on potential unlocking opportunities arising from the governments forthcoming White Paper on levelling up. This was with a view to making a case for more support for North East Lincolnshire and included looking at the potential for the private sector to have a strong leadership role and connect into the key roles of government. Meetings had been held with the levelling up unit to discuss opportunities and these had been well received.

10. ORE Catapult Update

The Board received a presentation from Stuart Barnes and Ben George of ORE Catapult providing an update on the organisation's role as a leading technology innovation and

research centre for offshore renewable energy. Grimsby was central to that role and their vision was to make it to the Silicon Valley of off-shore wind. This would involve establishing a National Clean Maritime Demonstration Hub, expected to be operational by 2023, providing a valuable resource hub and offering training and skills programmes. The Board also received an update on a proposed 5G Testbed.

The Board welcomed the presentation and noted the importance of off-shore wind, particularly in terms of the levelling up agenda and the transformation of the area.

There being no further business, the Chair declare the meeting closed at 3.07 p.m.