

Greater Grimsby Board

Minutes of Virtual Meeting 21st March 2024 at 1.00 p.m.

Attendance:

- Chair - David Ross (The David Ross Foundation)
- Simon Bird (ABP)
- Dave Petley (University of Hull)
- Helen Perrins (Department for Business and Trade)
- Councillor Stan Shreeve (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- David Talbot (CATCH)
- Emma Toulson (Orsted)
- Martin Vickers (MP for Cleethorpes)
- Julie Walmsley (Community Sector)
- David Walsh (Historic England)
- Rob Walsh (North East Lincolnshire Council)

Also in Attendance: –

- Carolina Borgstrom (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Spencer Hunt (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- Damien Jaines-White (North East Lincolnshire Council)
- 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 Councillor Jackson, Lousie Brennan, Lord Lamont, Lia Nici MP, Neale Coleman, Ruth Carver 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 meeting of the Greater Grimsby Board held on 15th November 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

4. Greater Grimsby Board (GGB) Governance: A Review

The Board received a report setting out proposals and recommendations for a refresh and review of the GGB governance arrangements, arising from developments in Government policy and, in particular, the Long Term Plan for Towns.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Terms of Reference for GGB be renewed to make it a governance body for The Long Term Plan for Towns Fund and also provide oversight and support for the emerging priorities from the High Street Accelerator Pilot, whilst also continuing to discharge its role in relation to Towns Fund.
2. That the membership of the GGB be reviewed, including:
 - a. Reassessing existing GGB Town Board membership to re-affirm capacity, skill set and experience to meet new guidance including the requirement for quarterly meetings.
 - b. To expand the Board to include an additional local councillor and a senior Police representative to meet the mandatory criteria of The Long Term Plan for Towns fund
 - c. To elect a deputy chair to improve capacity and succession planning, using the criteria set out in The Long Term Plan for Towns guidance for selection.
 - d. To consider increased representation from active community stakeholders within the local youth, community, SME and culture/sport sectors, either directly on the board, or as part of any new sub-groups.
3. That, under resolution 2 (b), Councillor Shreeve and the Police and Crime Commissioner be appointed to the Greater Grimsby Board, with Chief Supt Paul French appointed as a substitute member for the Police and Crime Commissioner.
4. That following membership review, a governance review be undertaken, with the result and any recommendations being brought back to the next meeting of this Board
5. That following membership review, the Board follow a quarterly meeting regime, with at least two meetings a year operated as face-to-face meetings.
6. That the Grimsby Masterplan boundary be utilised as the geographical footprint for the first three years investment for the Long Term Plan for Towns.

7. That the principle of working with a local established stakeholder organisation to assist with engagement and priority setting to inform a 10-year vision and three year investment plan be approved, namely:
 - a. That the Board, utilising allocated capacity funding, delegate authority to North East Lincolnshire Council, in consultation with the Chair, to run an exercise to appoint a local stakeholder organisation to achieve the below expectations:
 - i. Carry out wider community and local stakeholder engagement to complement any Highstreet priorities, to inform a 10-year vision for Grimsby and three-year investment plan as set out in the Long Term Plan for Towns.
 - ii. Identify a range of interventions in priority order, supported by engagements within the funding themes set out in the Long Term Plan for Towns.
 - iii. Engage with the High Street Accelerator Partnership/2025 Group in order to carry out engagement with businesses and other stakeholders with an active interest in Grimsby Town Centre. Engagement to take into account the 10 year vision for Grimsby, the long term vision for Victoria Street, the expression of interest submission for Green Spaces Fund, and a refreshed Grimsby Town Centre Master plan.
 - iv. Identify a range of interventions which would support a vibrant and thriving town centre and comply with the funding themes of the Long Term Plan and add value to the High Street Accelerator Pilot.
 - v. It is recommended that high priority should be given to interventions which have the potential to deliver long term change and unlock additional investment or funding opportunities.
8. That the board set up a sub-group to oversee the commissioned work and act as delivery vehicles for the Long Term Plan and High Street Accelerator Fund, on behalf of the board and nominate one board member as a chair of this group.
9. That David Ross be re-appointed as Chair of the Greater Grimsby Board.

5. Grimsby Town Centre Regeneration

The Board received a presentation providing an update on regeneration schemes within Grimsby Town Centre.

Mr Jaines-White provided an update on progress with a number of schemes within the Grimsby Town Centre Masterplan – the Activation Fund, Riverhead Square, Projekt Renewable, Alexandra Dock, the Horizon Youth Zone, the Skills Hub, the Public Realm and Connectivity project, and the Freshney Place Leisure Scheme. Key risks were noted around inflation and the rising costs of materials and labour. Next steps would be heavily focused on delivery and there would be a refresh of the Masterplan in due course

Ms Walmsley enquired how local social housing providers could be involved in the plans, particularly the housing proposals within the Alexandra Dock project and wider brownfield developments that may arise from devolution proposals.

Ms Borgstrom noted that they were aiming to provide a number of brownfield plots and there would be a requirement for affordable units. She offered further discussions on this with Ms Walmsley.

The Board welcomed the progress reported.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

6. Greater Lincolnshire Devolution

The Board received an update on plans to progress a devolution deal for Greater Lincolnshire.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

There being no further business, the Chair declare the meeting closed at 1.51 p.m.