

## NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

### TOWNS FUND BOARD

23 July 2021

MS Teams

**PRESENT** – Board Members: Holly Mumby-Croft MP (Chair); Cllr Rob Waltham MBE; Becky McIntyre, Director of Governance & Partnerships, North Lincolnshire Council; Simon Green, Deputy Chief Executive, North Lincolnshire Council; Susan Oliver, H&WRA, Voluntary & Community Sector Alliance; Samantha Cook, Hampton by Hilton; Board Advisors: Helen Manderson, North Lincolnshire Council; Lesley Potts, Head of Economy & Growth, North Lincolnshire Council.

Peter Thorpe, Director of Learning, Skills & Culture, North Lincolnshire Council; Sandra Simmons, Head of Participation & Achievement, North Lincolnshire Council; Lisa Coates, North Lincolnshire Council, were also in attendance.

**APOLOGIES** – Apologies were received from Mary Stuart, University of Lincoln; Peter Campey, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy; Diana Taylor, Marketing Humber; Roxeanne Asquith, British Steel; Lisa Oakley, Nationwide; Duncan Willey, PPH Commercial; Dr Faisal Baig, North Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group (NLCCG); Ruth Carver, Greater Lincolnshire LEP; Roj Rahman Community Representative; Jo Corney, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)

The meeting was held as a Teleconference via MS Teams.

101 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** - The Chair welcomed all those present to the meeting.

102 **NOTES AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Resolved** - The minutes of the meeting of the Scunthorpe Towns Fund Board held on 25 June 2021 be approved as a correct record.

103 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS** – There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and personal or personal and prejudicial interests.

104 **PROJECT PRESENTATION – ADVANCED MANUFACTURING PARK** – Simon Green, North Lincolnshire Council, gave a verbal project update to the Board. A 65-acre site has been earmarked for commercial use as part of the Lincolnshire Lakes project. The site is located just off the new northern roundabout. A partnership has been formed with ARUP who have experience of developing AMPs in other areas. Two workshops have been held involving private/public sector and universities in order to sell the vision and create some soft networks. A study is taking place, involving the private sector and universities, to compare what AMP model is best for North Lincolnshire, together with some desktop research looking at other areas to establish what works well and what needs further work. Following completion of the study, more work will be undertaken on the

detail of the AMP and bringing key partners on board. Simon Green, North Lincolnshire Council, highlighted a potential ‘amber’ risk around the acquisition of the land. At the present time there are issues which could jeopardise the acquisition of the 65-acre site. It was agreed for the Board to voice its concerns around this and write to Homes England. Mary Stuart, University of Lincoln, and Holly Mumby-Croft MP will initially meet with Simon Green to come to a view on the next steps around this. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, will share a precis of the current situation with Mary Stuart, University of Lincoln, and Holly Mumby-Croft MP in order to give them a full understanding of the position with Homes England. Questions were invited on the presentation. It was noted that the land is required for commercial development and there is a plan B in terms of alternative sites of the same size which would not jeopardise the project at this stage.

**Resolved** – The Board thanked Simon Green, North Lincolnshire Council, for the presentation. Holly Mumby-Croft MP and Mary Stuart, University of Lincoln, will meet with Simon Green, North Lincolnshire Council, to establish a view on how to deal with the potential risk highlighted around the acquisition of the land. Subsequent to that meeting, a letter will be sent to Homes England voicing the Board’s concerns.

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**PROJECT PRESENTATION – DEVELOPING CULTURAL ARTS & HERITAGE OFFER (PROJECT HORIZON)** – Peter Thorpe, North Lincolnshire Council, gave a powerpoint presentation to the Board. He outlined why we are developing a new cultural offer and why it is seen as a priority, what the offer is and how it will be funded. North Lincolnshire Council is working closely with leading architects and experts from across the museum industry and will be seeking the views and ideas of residents at each stage of the development. Potential funding in the region of £18m in total from the LUF, Towns Fund and North Lincolnshire Council contributions. Peter Thorpe, North Lincolnshire Council, clarified the key milestones in the development of the new cultural offer and took the Board through the RIBA stages. The development is currently at RIBA Stage 0 (the beginning of the process) with a need to define the interior space and technical requirements, develop a business case and put in place risk management, culminating in building handover in January 2025. Peter Thorpe, North Lincolnshire Council, highlighted the most urgent need is to confirm the site and 3 different site appraisals within the Church Square area of Scunthorpe have been initiated to avoid any potential delays if there are any issues with a particular site. Engagement with all stakeholders will be undertaken throughout all of the stages of the project through media, focus groups, school projects, presentations, online engagement events, community outreach and events. Also working with businesses and partners to develop an offer which is sustainable for the future. Questions were invited on the presentation and further discussion held. It was confirmed the procurement process was in progress and is looking positive with 2 potential developers on the framework who have a strong understanding of what is needed and able to move quickly to keep the momentum and pace going forward. Cllr Rob Waltham MBE, wants Scunthorpe Town Centre to be family friendly and this new offer to be affordable and attainable for everyone. The next stage will be around putting Scunthorpe on the map and raising our ambition so families have a positive experience when visiting Scunthorpe. Also need to consider how to connect ambition and opportunities for everyone and how to harness this and make it new while significantly regenerating the Town Centre. Sandra Simmons, North Lincolnshire Council, clarified that this is already being worked on together with engagement with business and industry and looking at research and sponsorship. Bringing in innovative exhibitions comes with a significant budget. A marketing plan is currently being put together to look at engagement with business and

industry. It is important also to look at the revenue business case around this. The complexity of the revenue ask is recognised and in the response to Government, support for revenue running costs in the first year was included to help get the scheme off the ground. The amount allocated is a helpful amount. Sandra Simmons, North Lincolnshire Council, confirmed an EOI has been submitted for a potential £5m funding from the Cultural Development Fund to help push this forward.

**Resolved** – the Board thanked Peter Thorpe, North Lincolnshire Council, and noted the presentation.

106 **The following presentation is considered to be exempt and not for circulation in the public domain on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)**

**PROJECT PRESENTATION – ENABLING A FUTURE FOR CLEAN GROWTH**

- Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, gave a presentation to the Board and highlighted the significant risk identified with this project. 4 options were presented and the Board were asked to confirm their preferred option.

**Resolved** – The Board thanked Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council and noted the presentation. Option 2 was agreed.

107 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – No other business was discussed. The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance.

108 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING** – The Chair confirmed the next meeting as Friday 3 September 2021 at 9.30am.