

Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Deal Advisory Group

Monday 31 July 2023, 17:30 – 18:30

Microsoft Teams

<p>Attendees: Darrel Canvin (DC), Paul Hammond (PH), Emma Pierce (EP), Cllr Veronica Belcher (VB), Cllr Ed Hume (EH), Arosh Ali (AA), Ayesha Khanom (AK), Mariee Wymer (ME), Cllr Mo Imran (MO), Cllr Nigel Long (NL), Cllr Waqas Ahmad (WA), Clare Baars (CB), Paul Egerton (PE), Cllr Mohammed Khan (MK), Valda Stuckey (VS), Lorraine Andrews (LA), Roger Bradbury (RB), Cllr Ethaniel Kelly-Wilson (EK)</p>
<p>Apologies: Cllr Emily Darlington</p>
<p>Action Notes: Emma Pierce</p>

	Discussion items	Action
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>DC welcomed the group members and provided a background on the Town Deal programme</p>	
2.	<p>Appointment of the Chair</p> <p>Cllr VB had expressed an interest in Chairing the group prior to the meeting. No additional expressions of interest were received during the meeting. It was unanimously agreed that VB will undertake chairing duties for the initial term (1-year).</p> <p>EH nominated CB as Vice Chair. Group members unanimously agreed to CB undertaking Vice Chair duties for the initial term.</p>	
3.	<p>Purpose of the Advisory Group</p> <p>DC summarised the purpose of the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To engage with the local community and obtain feedback on matters pertinent to the delivery of the Town Deal Programme To act as a critical friend to the Town Deal Board, acting as a liaison between the Board and local community For the Chair to attend Town Deal Board Meeting and represent the views of the local community 	

	<p>Membership of the group will consist of local residents, local businesses, faith representatives, MKCC ward councillors, Town and Parish councillors and other stakeholders that reflect the diverse community of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford.</p> <p>NL suggested that the group needs to find a way to engage with younger people as there is currently no youth representation. DC advised that this has been explored with local schools and there is a potential year 9 student who has expressed an interest but wants to ensure that the correct rules and procedures are in place before agreeing to this.</p> <p>CB agreed that youth engagement is important and suggested it might be easier to look at representation from a college student who is over the age of 18.</p> <p>Action: CB to send DC contact details for MK College regarding youth representation.</p> <p>Faith group and business representation were discussed. DC confirmed that Bletchley Business Association were approached, and a member has already expressed an interest in joining.</p> <p>Action: To email faith group representatives to promote Advisory Group membership and provide DC with contact details of anyone interested in becoming a member.</p> <p>MK said that he would like to see small businesses involved and several of them have already expressed their interest.</p> <p>EH said that we need to be careful that group membership doesn't get too big as there would be a danger the scope and purpose could shift.</p>	<p>CB</p> <p>WA/AA</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Town Deal Programme Overview</p> <p>PH provided a high-level overview of the programme and details of the 9 individual projects.</p> <p>MK referenced the Public Realm project and said that there are a lot of problems with parking on Queensway and it seems like there is a big opportunity for improvement. Unfortunately the pot of money allocated to the project does not seem large enough to solve the current issues.</p> <p>PH said that it is important to understand that each project is underpinned by an approved business case, so we do have certain parameters for delivery that we need to adhere to.</p> <p>Action: Programme team to explore options for sharing the businesses cases which will provide further information on each project.</p>	

<p>5.</p>	<p>Draft Terms of Reference</p> <p>DC had circulated the TOR in advance of the meeting; however the time was not sufficient to enable all members to review.</p> <p>Expectations from the Town Deal Board were discussed and what accountability will be put in place for the Board to provide responses to the Group. DC advised that the Board were aware of and approved formation of the Group and provided re-assurance that the Board would actively engage. The expectation is for the Chair of the Advisory Group to attend Town Deal Board meetings to provide feedback from these meetings going forward.</p> <p>Action: To invite VB to future Town Deal Board meetings</p> <p>Action: To provide feedback and comments on the ToR and send to DC by 14 August.</p>	<p>EP</p> <p>All</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Date for Future Meetings</p> <p>The future of these meetings and frequency was discussed. It was agreed as a minimum these meetings would take place quarterly to coordinate with the Town Deal Board. It was suggested that the next meeting would take place on 12 September online via Teams.</p> <p>An afternoon workshop, in order for the members to meet informally in person was also suggested.</p> <p>After the next meeting in September these should then take place in a hybrid format to work alongside members other commitments.</p> <p>EK said that a hybrid approach to meetings is likely to attract better representation and provided the offer of a suitable facility to accommodate in person and online meetings in Newton Leys.</p> <p>Action: To set up the next meeting on 12 September via Teams and explore the option of an afternoon informal meeting.</p>	<p>DC</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>CB submitted a request ahead of the meeting for more information on communications and community engagement plans and requested that communications are ongoing outside of these meetings.</p> <p>Action: To provide the group with the details of the communications and engagement plan that is being implemented.</p> <p>Action: To add an agenda item to the September meeting for Community Engagement in Bletchley.</p>	<p>DC</p> <p>EP</p>

Meeting concluded at 18:40

Date for the next meeting: 12 September 2023 17:30 – 19:00 – Microsoft Teams