



Millom Town Deal Board

Minutes of Board Meeting held on Friday 1st July 2022 at 1:00pm

1. Meeting Protocol

All participants were reminded of the virtual meeting protocol, to remain on mute unless speaking and to use the 'hand up' function to indicate a wish to speak.

2. Attendances and Apologies

- Robert Morris-Eyton (Chair) – Becksid Construction Ltd
- Felicity Wilson (Deputy Chair) – Copeland Borough Council
- Leanne Bolger – Deputising for Trudy Harrison MP
- Jo Lappin (Cumbria LEP)
- Cllr Doug Wilson – Cumbria County Council
- Cllr Bob Kelly – Millom Town Council
- David Savage – South Copeland Partnership
- Joe Martin – BEC
- Nick Lancaster – Lancaster and Lancaster Ltd
- Gavin Towers – As If By Magic
- Pauline Preston - Morecambe Bay Health Trust

Also Present

- Pat Graham – Chief Executive, Copeland Borough Council
- Mike Starkie – Directly Elected Mayor of Copeland
- Diane Ward – Copeland Borough Council
- Nicola Hartley – Copeland Borough Council
- Steven Brown – Copeland Borough Council
- Clive Willoughby – Copeland Borough Council
- Chris Gill – JCG Ltd
- Elaine Herbert – DWP
- Lauren Newby – Hatch Associates
- Lizzy Shaw – Cumbria County Council

Apologies:

Apologies for Absence were received from:

- Trudy Harrison MP
- Jennifer Jakubowski – Around the Combe
- Marion Giles – Millom Recreation Centre
- Jade Hughes – Millom Discovery Centre
- Sarah Mitchell – Copeland Borough Council

3. Minutes of the Meeting held 1st April 2022

Board members reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st April 2022.

RESOLVED: – That the minutes of the meeting held on 1st April 2022 be agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. Register of Interests Review

The current Declarations of Interests held were shared with the board and members were asked to update if necessary.

Nick Lancaster noted that he was no longer involved with the Norman Nicholson Society and therefore suggested his procurement interest in Reactivating Heritage be deleted.

It was also noted that Cllr Bob Kelly was associated with the Millom and Haverigg Civic Society, also now a Councillor on the shadow Cumberland Council.

5. Millom Town Deal – Summary Document Submission

Diane Ward presented to the Board the draft summary documentation which is going to be submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) by Copeland Borough Council (CBC).

The Board discussed each aspect of the summary document relating to the projects for the Iron Line, Reactivating Heritage Buildings, Activating Community Health and Connected Millom & Haverigg.

A number of clarifications were sought by the Board. The following points were confirmed, including:

- The RSPB remain supportive of the Iron Line and on board with the project development and proposed delivery;
- The heritage buildings to be upgraded through the grants scheme are still to be determined, as are the detailed public realm proposals under Reactivating Heritage Buildings.
- The outputs for Activating Community Health, in particular the number of additional visits, are aimed to be achieved within the funding timeframe.
- Public access to the swimming pool during school term time will be secured through formal agreement as this is critical for the facility to be sustainable.
- The length of the pool was discussed as it is the sustainability of the pool that is of significant concern and the proposed 15m pool is considered the most sustainable.

Risks were raised against both Reactivating Heritage Buildings and Connected Millom & Haverigg as it was felt that some mitigations expressed did not mitigate the risks sufficiently and the Connected M&H risks were not scored. It was agreed that these sections would be amended to ensure consistency and appropriate mitigations.

Through further discussion of risk, the impact of LGR was raised, as any ongoing revenue risk would require novation to the new Cumberland Authority, in particular for Activating Community Health. Officers are aware of the risk and are proposing recommendation of the scheme as formal Copeland Borough Council approval will be sought later in the month. The matter will ultimately rest with the new Cumberland Authority.

RESOLVED: – That, with vote of 11 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention, the Board:

- a) Commented on and agreed the draft summary document for submission to DLUHC by CBC.
- b) Authorised the Chair to sign the summary documentation on behalf of the Millom Town Deal Board.
- c) Noted the areas where further refinements and updates will be provided prior to finalisations, particularly against PSED Project and Programme Equality Impact Assessments and match funding.
- d) Provided a recommendation to the Accountable Body to enable the submission of all documents to DLUHC by 31st July 2022.

During the vote, Jo Lapin asked for it to be noted that she had significant concerns around the viability of the Activating Community Health project.

6. Millom Town Deal – Business Case Assurance

This item was excluded from the press and public on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information.

An overview of the report was presented by Copeland Borough Council's Director of Financial Resources and the Head of Corporate Governance and Legal before members of the Board were invited to ask questions and seek any clarification.

RESOLVED: – That the risks were noted and the mitigations process set out in the report on the Business Case Assurance process were endorsed.

Prior to closing the meeting, the Chair outlined the next steps in the process, highlighting the deadline for submission and then the wait for Government's response.

The Chair thanked all the consultants and advisers who had worked so hard on the project and also all the Board members.

The Meeting closed at 2:22 pm