**Redditch Town Deal Board**

**Minutes**

**Friday 20 November 2020**

**11:00 – 12:30pm**

1. Welcome and apologies

Present: Penny Unwin Worcestershire County Council OPE

Adam Freeth (Chair) Shaker-UK/The Orangery

Ruth Bamford RBC Head of Planning

Julie Breakwell HOW College

Leigh Walton (Vice Chair) Redditch Resident/CF

Cllr Matthew Dormer Leader - Redditch Borough Council

Kevin Dicks Redditch Borough Council

Ostap Paparega North Worcs Economic Development & Regeneration

Josh Godfrey Redditch MP’s office

Simon Hyde Faun Zoeller (Uk) Ltd

Gary Woodman Worcestershire LEP

Duncan Berry YMCA

Shanaaz Carroll Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP

Simon Geraghty Leader – Worcestershire County Council

Ollie Hindle Cities & Local Growth Unit

Apologies: Tim Martin WMCA

1. Minutes of the last meeting

* Board members agreed the previous minutes

1. TIP Section 1 discussion –

Vision & Objectives, targets etc

OP outlined the key areas of the vision and objectives of the TIP.

* Digital Town
* Green Town
* Connected Town
* Cultural Town

OP outlines the existing work in the ‘key pilots or sector strengths’ and provides examples of how the TIP investment proposals can achieve the TIP priorities by building on the existing strengths of the town and wider area.

OP notes that AR Urbanism have been appointed to undertake the Redditch masterplanning work that focuses around the south side of Redditch town (Cultural/Residential/Education quarters).

RM – Thanks OP and team colleagues for the work the team (NWedR) has done so far. RM stresses we should not be limited by the £25 million cap as this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to transform Redditch. Due to the current fiscal challenges facing public sector organisations we should take this opportunity as we may not have another opportunity for next 5/10/15 years.

AF asked for clarification on the cap of £25 million. They noted whether the cap was actually a cap and whether our proposal were too low or not ambitious enough.

OP notes that Blackpool is the only town that had over £25 million but this was because of the unique position of Blackpool. It has an airport and a large tourist event; Blackpool Illuminations, which draws 4 million visitors a year. The other town deals agreed that have been agreed were between £20-£25 million.

LW – It is important to learn from the other successful TIPs to ensure we have that evidence base to argue for significant investment in Redditch.

RC – a lot of other town deals are debating whether £25 million is a ceiling limit. But the focus should be developing proposals and evidencing what investment could achieve critical mass. Then town deals should decide whether the total proposals are over £25 million.

PU – a lot more work is needed in creating a compelling case for Redditch’s Train station. This will support a variety of themes to improve Redditch and connectivity links.

MD – there will be a regional impact of any investment in skills development

GW – we need to link the college in more with the TIP as it’s not as prominent as it should be. It is a strength of Redditch. Also the vision/objective seems to be missing the residential/housing element.

OP – the visioning document is a draft and is not a detailed document yet. But both (residential and skills) play a crucial role. Manufacturing is the key sector in Redditch. The town centre masterplanning contains housing options and residential options for existing town centre assets e.g town hall

JB – TIP development and the team should work closely with the college to align strategic principles.

KD – moved to agree the vision – board in agreement.

1. Programme

Update programme attached.

1. AOB
2. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 03rd December