

MINUTES OF THE PENZANCE TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION BOARD MEETING held at 5pm on Monday 11th June 2018 in the Zennor Building, Penwith College

Present: Martin Tucker (Penwith College/Chair)
Jim McKenna (Cornwall Council)
Tim Dwelly (Cornwall Council)
Nigel Pengelly (Penzance Town Council)
Nigel Davis (Penzance Town Council)
Nick Hood (Penzance BID)
Kevin Brownridge (Perfect Moment)
Jessica Colliver (Penzance BID)
Sarah Shaw (Penzance Chamber of Commerce)
Emily Kavanaugh (Penzance Chamber of Commerce)
Dick Cliffe (Mayor)

1. Apologies for absence

Simon Elliott, Sue Nicholas, Susan Stuart, Ian Harris, Cornelius Olivier

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Exclusion of press and public for confidential items

None

4. Minutes of meeting held on 30th April 2018

Park and Sail have yet to reply to SE's email. DC – park and ride is not a simple matter, no permission to park buses under the covenant. TDw has been in contact with Johnny Alford who is coming back with more details.

Street food project – lease has been signed, JMck has emphasised the urgency of them taking up residence before the school holidays. To be put on agenda for next meeting.

Action: JMck to chase

Street planters (DC) – Town Council is now taking on this project as Cornwall Council highways dept cannot give the BID permission to install them. We now need to go through the Parish Act. All planters will be additional rather than removing existing ones. TDw – it is important that the planters have uniformity, the previous plan was to replace the granite seat with a new planter and seat which can be moved if antisocial behaviour is a problem. EK – the petition etc. has been based on misinformation and we therefore shouldn't base decisions on this. SSh – once members of the public have had the situation explained to them their attitude changes and they agree the existing planter needs to be removed. JMck – this is another example of our problems with publicity and getting clear messages across. It is important to get the planters issue solved quickly so that something is installed before the summer. TDw – this decision reflects poorly on the effort to clean the existing planter by Causewayhead Traders. SSh – a CCTV camera will be installed on the roof of The Cornish Hen with 24-hour footage of the bench. MT – a proactive approach is needed from the local constabulary. Can we add to the proposal that it is subject to review depending on the bench's use? ND – why will the new planter be different and not used to dispose of drug paraphernalia? JCo – people will not be sat at the same level as the soil and therefore not in danger from needles. MT – close monitoring of this is essential. NP is happy to write amendments to the proposal before

the meeting tomorrow. DC – any decision made will be in place for 6 months before it can be changed.

5. Finance Update (circulated before the meeting)

DC – releasing the money from the parking budget for the planters was delayed due to James Hardy being off work.

Action: DC/JH to put this through

Budget still needs to be added to website.

Action: DC

TDw – SSt suggests a proposal that Trish is employed 4 days a month on comms across the Regeneration Board and the Neighbourhood Plan. Cost to the Regen Board would be £400 per month. TDw – it is vital that someone takes this on as this issue has been raised regularly for over 2 years and is causing problems. NH – we need the details of the proposal before we can decide this. JMCK – Trish is very good and well-connected throughout Cornwall. DC – the Town Council are appointing a Comms Manager for 21 hours per week (interviews on 21st June). JMCK proposes that a detailed proposal is requested to be looked at next meeting and reviewed after 6 months. TDw to ask (via SSt) for a proposal which will be circulated well before the July Regen Board meeting.

Action: TDw/SSt

6. Signage/Public Realm Improvements

Paper circulated by KBr prior to the meeting. KBr has worked on reducing the financial contribution previously requested. Priority must be wayfinding and signage. There is a time factor for this as BID have money to contribute. First stage of this would be public consultation, then designs approved and fully costed. Cost of this would be £30,000 – NH will raise at the next BID board. Cost for signage itself would be around £70,000. Possibility of getting some funds from West Cornwall LAG. Adam Birchall is also looking at possible funding from Cornwall Council. Public art – KBr will be approaching the Arts Council.

DC – public consultation can be a potential waste of money as individual opinions are not necessarily in line with what is best for the town. JMCK – what is the BID's position? JCo – it is a high priority on the business plan and very important to the members. TDw – should BID be leading on this? KBr – the suggestion is that the Regen Board contribute £15k to phase 1 of the wayfinding work. SSh – there is never a problem-free time to do this exercise, but a starting point needs to be agreed with some flexibility. DC – the main landmarks will not move; therefore, the wayfinding work can be done. TDw – this needs to be actioned asap. JCo – this will take a minimum of 2 years, therefore the BID needs Regen Board backing in case BID does not continue past this point. ND – we need a starting point. Planning will be needed so it will be a long-term project. NH – this needs the agreement of the BID Board, who are meeting on 13th June. KBr proposal will be considered as part of this. (KBr stepped out of the meeting at this point.) SSh – the BID must have 3 presentations to consider before appointing someone. MT – this will now be handed over to BID to lead on this with full Regen Board support. DC – Falmouth could be helpful as their signage has won an award. Design style could be done concurrently to phase 1.

JMCK – a proposal for the creative industries workspace hub at the top of Causewayhead has been made. Krowji are committing £3,500, Cornwall Council have pledged £7000. Regen Board has been asked for £3,500. (KBr re-entered the meeting.)

7. Cornwall Allocations Document & Long Rock – getting the best outcome for Penzance (SE)

SE not present – item to be carried forward to next meeting. TDw – there is a meeting at 3pm on 12th June regarding site allocations. The Inspector of the local plan in Cornwall has raised some concerns regarding the proposed Heamoor sites. If there will be fewer homes in Heamoor the numbers will need to be found elsewhere, possibly Jennings Street, hence the relevance to the Regen Board.

8. Tourism Development – China (TDw)

A proposal has been circulated that a group of Chinese officials visit Cornwall and Penzance in particular. This is a great opportunity and involvement from Board members is welcomed. JMck – Tamsin Daniel's brother is in a very senior role in China and visiting for a month in the near future. He is happy to come and speak to this Board/Placeshaping etc. TDw – we need to cultivate Malcolm Bell and Visit Cornwall. TDw to speak to Malcolm and update the Board at the next meeting. EK – Chinese tourists visit generally because Penzance features on the Top 50 Places to Visit list. BID PR are responsible for this.

Action: TDw

9. Project Updates:

(a) Spatial Strategy

TDw – Lavigne Lonsdale proposals regarding Jennings Street housing and creative hub at top of Causewayhead. Cornwall Council have agreed a package can be worked up. TDw has met the future CEO of the LEP and asked whether the Coinagehall Street agreed funding could be transferred to the Krowji project, which may be possible. EK – why are we proposing a new build rather than using existing buildings? TDw – it is cheaper to do a new build. KBr – Cornwall Council have pledged £6,500 of a total cost of £13,500 for Lavigne Lonsdale to take the project to RIBA stage 1. Ross Williams is willing to put in £3,500. Lavigne Lonsdale have requested £3,500 (+ VAT) from the Regen Board.

JMck proposed the Regen Board agree to this. Seconded by TDw. **All in favour – motion carried.** This would run through BID. JMck – this has been discussed at Placeshaping before and if it doesn't go forward Penzance could lose out to other towns. ND – can a document be circulated detailing the proposal? TDw – future proposals need to be circulated to the entire Board. MT to circulate email and write to John Dobson. SSh – communication needs to be handled well for this to prevent problems with public opinion.

Action: MT/DC (finance)

(b) Penzance Digital Skills Bid (MT)

Contracts have been signed and appointments made. It is unlikely that it will be possible to change the end date of the project.

(c) Market Bid (JC)

Going to Committee on 25th June so a decision will have been made regarding LAG funding before the next Regen Board meeting.

(d) Penzance Harbour Coastal Communities

TDw – Nige Blackler is exploring redesign options. A decision will be made by the end of the month. Cornwall local plan policies preclude the harbour becoming a leisure zone. Improved visitor economy is possible but cannot be the main purpose. JMCK – Steamship Company are on board and happy to work together on this. ND – Penzance harbour is at present an industrial place rather than a leisure facility. Conditions are not adequate. MT – the current proposed scheme will also address this. JMCK – this is phase 1 of 3.

(e) Jubilee Pool (SSt)

ND – a new Manager has been appointed and the pool is now open. There is a need for a defibrillator. MT – SSt should contact the Business Manager at Humphry Davy school who can advise on getting a free one of these.

10. AOB

TDw – SSt reports that the Neighbourhood Plan referendum will hopefully be held in the spring of 2019.

DC – special meeting tomorrow for Town Council regarding ASB etc. and the BBC will be present. A large public turnout is expected. It is forbidden to ban drinking, but the MP will be taking this to Parliament. ND – the Town Council is very limited in what they can do, but Cornwall Council has more power and also needs to look at this. SSh – is the Council's view that we should hire someone to address this? DC – a community patrol is suggested. JMCK – the Town Council should be applauded for taking the lead on this. DC – there is a suggestion that the ASB representative take premises within the town centre.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 16th July, 5:00pm

Meeting closed at 6:45pm

Chairman
June 2018