

North East Local Enterprise Partnership Investment Board

11 February 2021

Meeting held via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Members:

Andrew Moffat
Gillian Hall
Cllr Bruce Pickard
Cllr Tracey Dixon
Mark Thompson

Advisors:

Ian Richards
David Furness
Jason Hobbs

NTCA Officers:

Katy Laing

LEP Officers:

Paul Woods
Ray Browning
Matt Ebbatson
Ben McLaughlin
Claire Prospert

Brenda Joyce (minutes)

1 WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair, Andrew Moffat, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Helen Golightly and Craig Winter.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Gillian Hall declared an interest as a Port of Blyth Commissioner.

Mark Thompson declared interests on the following projects as Ryder Architecture was engaged with Aykley Heads (item 5a), Tyne Dock Enterprise Park, Bedlington Town Centre, The Glassworks, NU Futures, Gateshead MSCP and North Bank of Tyne EZ.

3 **MINUTES OF THE INVESTMENT BOARD 14 JANUARY 2021**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 14 January 2021 were approved as a correct record.

4 **MATTERS ARISING AND ACTIONS LOG**

The Chair suggested that Action 03/20-1 was closed off. Gillian Hall commented that there still guidance specific to port operators required. This linked back to what was happening with the crane and the issue still existed with a different set of State Aid rules. The Chair asked that this be fed back to Craig Winter so that it could be addressed in the briefing (Action 01/21-4 updated accordingly).

The Action Log was noted.

'Progress against past approvals' was noted.

5 **PROJECTS FOR APPROVAL BY INVESTMENT BOARD**

(a) **Aykley Heads Plot C; GBF**

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

The Investment Board received a report summarising the business case received and appraisal undertaken for the Aykley Heads Plot C development in Durham City, from Durham County Council.

RESOLVED - the North East LEP Investment Board approve a Getting Building Fund grant subject to conditions

6 **PROGRAMME UPDATES**

(a) **Getting Building Fund (GBF)**

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

The Investment Board received an update on progress with the implementation of the £47m GBF budget since the previous update to Investment Board in December 2020.

RESOLVED – That the Investment Board noted the report.

(b) **Local Growth Fund (LGF)**

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

The Investment Board received a report outlining the latest budget and KPI forecasts for 2020/21 based on Qtr. 3 monitoring data, latest programme risks and notable milestones and issues on specific projects.

RESOLVED – The Investment Board noted the report.

(c) North East Investment Fund (NEIF)

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

The Investment Board received a report providing a high-level update on the current position of the North East Investment Fund (NEIF) and where appropriate highlighting where key delivery risks existed.

RESOLVED – That the Investment Board considered the report and approved the variation request for the Common Room for the North Ltd.

(d) Enterprise Zones (EZ)

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

The Investment Board received a report setting out the current position in relation to the Enterprise Zone programme; particularly focusing on the delivery of the EZ Development Fund and progress in developing the Enterprise Zone sites.

RESOLVED – That the Investment Board noted the progress in delivering the Enterprise Zone sites.

7 FORWARD PLAN

Noted.

The Chair thanked everybody again for the extra five meetings of Investment Board to process GBF approvals quickly.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ray Browning advised that he had shared Durham County Council's climate change priorities which included zero carbon on new builds; the Council needed to reflect on its own policy more clearly in the Aykley Heads application.

9 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

2:00pm on Thursday 11 March 2021