

**CITY CENTRE REGENERATION BOARD
MINUTE OF MEETING OF 15 SEPTEMBER 2014**

In attendance: Councillor Boulton, Chair; Councillors Laing, Thomson (for part of the meeting), Young and Yuill; Bob Collier, Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce; Sir Ian Diamond, University of Aberdeen; Steve Harris, Visit Aberdeen; and Richard Noble, Aberdeen Inspired. Officers – Angela Scott, Chief Executive; Gordon McIntosh, David Leslie, Angela Taylor, Louise MacSween, Margaret Bochel and Steph Dunsmuir.

Also in attendance: Scott Mackenzie, BDP.

No.	Agenda Item	Notes of Discussion	Action / Decisions	By Whom
1.	Welcome & Apologies	Apologies received from Derek McCrindle, Ferdinand Von Prondzynski, Colin Crosby, Rita Stephen, Paul Fleming and Andrew Win.	Noted.	
2.	Minute of Previous Meeting of 23 July 2014		The minute was confirmed as accurate and approved.	
3.	Presentation from BDP	<p>The Board received a presentation from Scott Mackenzie of BDP, setting out the work which had been undertaken to date in relation to the programming of consultation events; the identification of themes; a review of peer cities; and baseline studies. The Board heard that the public consultation would start with a series of events at the Academy from 24 to 27 September. The aim would be for the public to express their ideas, prompted by an exhibition.</p> <p>Mr Mackenzie advised the Board that ten peer cities had been identified – Glasgow, Cardiff, Manchester, Bilbao, Gothenburg, Lisbon, Stavanger, Freiburg, Calgary and Pittsburgh. These had been chosen for</p>	<p>Mr Mackenzie advised that he would take the comments in relation to the themes and peer cities back to the BDP team.</p> <p>The presentation slides would be emailed to Board members, and Ms MacSween would look into organising a OneHub account so that large documents did not have to be emailed in future.</p>	<p>S Mackenzie</p> <p>S Dunsmuir / L MacSween</p>

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	Presentation from BDP cont.	<p>various characteristics, e.g. riverfront regeneration, compact city centre, governance, sustainability, working port, oil with diversified economy and integrated transportation.</p> <p>Mr Collier suggested that Belfast should be included ahead of Lisbon, and proposed that 'people' should also be added as a theme, in relation to how they occupied the city centre. Sir Ian Diamond agreed, noting that it was increasingly the case that people did not work in the city centre, and suggested that there should be some analysis of this.</p> <p>Mr McIntosh added that Stavanger actually had a narrower economic base than Aberdeen. He also had some concern about the inclusion of Calgary, as it was a modern city with a grid pattern, and so he did not feel it was a model for Aberdeen. Mr Mackenzie explained that it had been included for how the city had been connected up.</p> <p>Councillor Yuill agreed with the inclusion of Belfast, and added that there were a number of cities on the list which had big metropolis areas, which Aberdeen did not. He also referred to the physical regeneration mentioned in relation to some of the cities and stated that Aberdeen did not have any big empty sites.</p> <p>Mr Harris added that Visit Scotland undertook benchmarking against Bristol, and suggested that this might be something for BDP to consider. He also mentioned Rotterdam, noting that a percentage of the people there worked outwith the city centre. He stated that the 'hub' at Dyce also needed to be considered in</p>		

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	Presentation from BDP cont.	<p>the context of connectivity between Dyce and the city centre.</p> <p>Councillor Laing supported the inclusion of the 'people' aspect in the themes, adding that it was important that people lived in the city centre. Councillor Boulton agreed, referring to the city's large student population and the wasted space above some shops. She added that 'culture' should also be a key theme, and it would be important to look at how the heritage of certain buildings in the peer cities had been blended with new buildings.</p> <p>Mr Mackenzie also set out the work which had been undertaken in terms of the economic and social baseline, and reviews of the current position with Aberdeen's market, townscape, utilities, culture and visitors. Mr Mackenzie advised that work was ongoing in relation to traffic and transport.</p> <p>Finally, Mr Mackenzie provided an update on the rest of the project timeline and advised that the conclusion of Stage 1 and the issue of baseline reports would be undertaken at the start of October, with the Stage 2 Options Appraisal commencing afterwards. He also set out proposed meeting dates into 2015.</p>		
4.	Roles for Board Members	<p>As part of the presentation, Mr Mackenzie set out the proposed areas of engagement for each Board member to take forward:-</p> <p>Aberdeen University : Sir Ian Diamond: Engagement with transient student population, AU senate/boards/partners/funders etc., specific AU</p>	<p>BDP would provide Board members with a set of prompts for discussion / engagement purposes.</p> <p>It was agreed that officers and BDP would contact the members who were not present to update them on the details of the presentation and engagement process.</p>	<p>S Mackenzie</p> <p>S Mackenzie L MacSween</p>

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	Roles for Board Members cont.	<p>expertise</p> <p>Robert Gordon University : Ferdinand von Prondzynski: Transient student population, RGU boards/partners/funders etc., School of Architecture (Existing drawings, models, surveys of city centre), transportation</p> <p>Aberdeen City and Shire Economic Futures : Colin Crosby: Economy, Oil and Gas</p> <p>Visit Aberdeen : Steve Harris: Tourism partners</p> <p>Aberdeen Inspired (BID): Richard Noble: Retail partners</p> <p>Scottish Enterprise: Derek McCrindle: Business development, nationally, Economy, Oil and Gas</p> <p>Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce : Robert Collier: Business development locally</p> <p>Aberdeen City Council Members: Communities via officers and BDP</p> <p>The Chairperson and Chief Executive advised the Board that the task for members was now to share information and to engage with the areas / sectors as set out above. The next meeting in November would then be used to feed back on progress. The Chief Executive added that by November, there would be an emerging process around the masterplan which the Board could then disseminate to the various sectors.</p>	<p>The proposed meeting dates were set out by BDP as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 November 2014 – Workshop around emerging Draft Masterplan. Roles for the Group. • 18 February 2015 – Workshop around Final Draft Masterplan • 25 March 2015 – Workshop around Delivery Programme <p>Once these dates were confirmed, appointments would be issued via email.</p> <p>It was noted that additional meetings could be arranged between these dates if required, and the Chair suggested that members could request that a meeting be arranged if they felt it was necessary for the Board to get together outwith these dates.</p> <p>It was agreed that BDP would liaise with Mr Collier in relation to dates for another business breakfast towards the end of the masterplan process.</p>	<p>S Dunsmuir</p> <p>S Mackenzie</p>

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	Roles for Board Members cont.	Mr Collier added that the Chamber of Commerce had various network and sector groups which could be utilised, and also had specific research capabilities which could be made available to BDP. Mr Noble advised that engagement information could be shared on the Aberdeen Inspired website, and added that he also had access to other partners, as well as retail. The Chief Executive noted that members would have access to partners other than those listed against their names, and suggested that it was for each member to ensure that they used their contacts to engage as widely as possible.		
5.	Date of Next Meeting - 11.00am, Friday 28 November 2014			