

Lowestoft Place Board

Tuesday 21st May 2024, 10:30 – 12:30 | Virtual

**THINK
LOWESTOFT**

Attendees (Board)	Apologies (Board)
Amanda Ankin – Suffolk Chamber of Commerce Angela Grey – Lowestoft Vision (attending on behalf of Danny Steel) Cllr Ben Falat – Parish Councils representative Cllr Toby Hammond – East Suffolk Council Emma Ratzer – Lowestoft Rising George Wall – Department of Work and Pensions Marjorie Barnes – Sizewell C Peter Aldous – MP for Waveney Stephen Javes – Chair Tim Green – CEFAS Tom Duit – Associated British Ports	Andrew Brown – Anglian Water (& BiTC) Cllr Keith Patience – Lowestoft Town Council Cllr Paul Ashdown - Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership Cllr Richard Smith – Suffolk County Council Danny Steel – Lowestoft Vision Keith Moore – Environment Agency
Attendees (Officers)	Apologies (Officers)
Andrew Jarvis – East Suffolk Council Benjamin Porter – East Suffolk Council Darren Newman – East Suffolk Council Jai Raithatha – Suffolk County Council Jason Benham – BiTC Matt Jones – Suffolk County Council Nicole Rickard – East Suffolk Council Paul Wood – East Suffolk Council Sarah Foote – Lowestoft Town Council	Emily Cashen - Cities & Local Growth Unit Gary Bellward – East Suffolk Council Kerry Blair – East Suffolk Council

	Description	Lead
1	Welcome and declarations of interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> George Wall joins the Place Board as the new representative for the DWP 	Stephen Javes
2	Actions and approval of minutes from previous meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darren and Peter to meet to discuss Enterprise Zones – <i>following discussions it is felt at this time there would be no value in moving this forward.</i> How can we introduce contractors to BCSE's – <i>Emma and Darren to take offline.</i> 	Stephen Javes
3	Lowestoft Eastern Energy Facility (LEEF) update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dredging is now underway, which will see a total of 170,000m³ removed from the Outer Harbour and approach channels, facilitating minimum depth berth pockets of 7.5m enabling Lowestoft to have a quay on par with Great Yarmouth - this is anticipated to be completed in June New pontoons being installed for transfer vessels LEEF anticipated to complete October 2024, with allowances for snagging issues. Asbestos removal now nearly complete in the Ice House. Change request: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the amount of quayside length being delivered from 240m to 345m. This will provide additional berthing space and allow more vessels to berth at the new facility simultaneously - thus potentially attracting multiple different operators to Lowestoft. The increased length of quayside represents an additional of private sector investment from ABP into Lowestoft. <i>The Chair asked for approval of the Board – change request unanimously approved.</i> 	Tom Duit

	<p>2. Removal of 1273m2 of commercial office space requirement. We request this is no longer an output of the project, however, in the future it will likely be an outcome of the project. This is mainly due to changing customer profiles and their requirements. <i>The Chair asked for approval of the Board – change request unanimously approved.</i></p> <p>Next steps: A project adjustment form will now need to be completed and submitted to DLUHC, alongside a letter of support from Peter Aldous MP, due to more than a 30% change.</p>	
4	<p>Lowestoft Rising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louise Thomas will pick up the primary Headteacher meetings, and Nicole the secondary school meetings. • LCEP – Aly Tipping (First Light Festival) will pick up this element after 2024's First Light Festival • Louise Thomas will take over VASP and the Mental Health Ambassador role 	Nicole Rickard
5	<p>Partner update Suffolk Chamber of Commerce – Amanda Ankin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chamber has now moved from Felaw Maltings to the University of Suffolk. <p>Lowestoft Town Council – Cllr Keith Patience/Sarah Foote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGM takes place this evening, where Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be appointed. • Town Hall tender documents are anticipated to be signed off next week • Work is progressing on RIBA 4 for the Marina Theatre <p>ESC Update - Paul Wood/Nicole Rickard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well into construction phase of The Nexus development which will provide industrial units on the PowerPark to support the offshore industry. Heads of Terms currently being signed for 3 units, and negotiations on a further 3. • UKSPF – approaching year 2 which has seen high street enhancements, events, and cultural grants. Year 3 will look at skills, including youth employment, apprenticeship support, and capital investment pot for Further Education facilities. Action: Kate to circulate progress report for UKSPF once available. • There will be one more phase of Warm Welcomes this winter, and 5 will continue summer support. • Health data has helped identify those who had been admitted to hospital within the last 6 months, and council data to look at deprivation levels - 400 calls were made in the Waveney area, and 89 referrals to the health hub team in partnership with the Integrated Care Board. Some very complex needs were identified through this pilot. <p>Oulton Broad Parish Council – Cllr Ben Falat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works to Lowestoft Museum are to progress • A number of events will take place throughout the year. Action: Cllr Falat to send event details to Kate for circulation with the minutes. • Renewed Allotment facility is now operational at "Neeves Pit" (off Normanston Drive); land cleared, levelled and new holders marking-out and setting-up. <p>Lowestoft Vision – Angela Grey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowestoft Vision have now entered the second year of the third term of the BID • Pride of Place – Easter Egg hunt took place for the first time in the town which saw increased footfall over Easter, and the annual pancake race returned. Summer trail will also return in the Summer holidays. • Lowestoft Vision business meetings have been gaining traction amongst local businesses, providing valuable updates on various business-related developments, and serve as an excellent platform for networking, allowing business owners and professionals within our BID area to connect, collaborate, and share insights. 	As stated

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training sessions, such as fire safety, have proved popular with businesses, with reduced fees for levy payers. • Lowestoft Vision BID Businesses were given the opportunity to spend time with Tim Passmore, Suffolk's Police and Crime Commissioner. Tim and the wider Lowestoft Police team were able to provide businesses an update on the new policing model in Lowestoft, give updates on current issues and also gather feedback from our local business. • UKSPF has enabled a new website and will be the landing page for the Wi-Fi in the town. <p>MP Update – Peter Aldous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gull Wing – we are nearing securing an opening date, but no formal date announced at present. • Lowestoft Flood Defence Scheme – this was delayed due to significant increase in costs which many projects across the country are experiencing. However, the works completed to date are now protecting the PowerPark, housing, and other locations around the town. <p>Note: Cllr Fallat raised concerns about climate change, and the rapidly deteriorating condition of land in East Suffolk/East Norfolk.</p> <p>Action: Stephen will write to Chris Bally to ask if there is an opportunity to explore partnership with Norfolk/Great Yarmouth councils.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Street Auctions – new powers to hold rental auctions of rental properties. Where a commercial property has been empty for more than a year, the LA can serve a notice, and subject to a number of conditions, auction the property to rent and lease up to 5 years to the highest bidder. <p>Action: Place Board to monitor when this goes live and Ben Porter to circulate a briefing paper once available.</p>	
6	<p>Monitoring and Evaluation return – Board member approval required The highlight report was circulated with the Board prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Darren wanted to direct the Board to projects that currently have a RAG score of 5, however the Board are aware of project changes from previous meetings.</p> <p>Project updates (detailed update available in highlight report).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEEF, Town Hall, and Marina Theatre projects have already been updated during this meeting. • Battery Green will be presented to Planning Committee this Friday. • Closely working with partners to remove any obstacles to purchase the Station Building, but there is still project risk. • ACE have provided £600,000 grant for capital works for the Post Office – the largest capital investment by ACE in Lowestoft. 	Darren Newman
7	<p>Place Board Governance Having reviewed the terms of reference, Stephen noted he has sat as Chair for over 2 years and suggested that the Board require a review of governance.</p> <p>The Lowestoft Rising board has now dispersed, but the Board feel that it is important to update on health and community.</p>	Stephen Javes
8	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter noted that Paul Padda is now the new CEO of East Coast College who he believes would be keen to join the Place Board. Stephen advised that he and Darren will reach out to him. • Stephen wanted to acknowledge that today's Place Board will be the last for Andy Jarvis before his retirement in the summer and wanted to thank him for all his work to support the Place Board and the Local Authority, which was shared by the Place Board. 	Stephen Javes
	Place Board meetings 2024:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Thursday 31 October 2024 – 10:00-12:00	
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