

Interreg Project

WP5 Steering Group Meeting Minutes

7th February 2019

Peel Office, Princes Dock

Attending

Peter Sandman, (LLEP)

Steve Sherlock, (LLEP)

Julia Bennett-Smith (CBA)

Sue Grindrod (GES)

Ian Pollitt (Peel)

Andrea Barrett (Canals Trust)

Lesley Woodbridge (LCC)

Apologies

Janet Dugdale (NML)

Peter Skates (LCC)

Daniel Greenhalgh (CRT)

Opening

- PS thanked IP for hosting this meeting, introductions given for Andrea Barrett, Development Manager, Canals Trust – (standing in for Daniel) and JBS for CBA who would provide the update on WP4 & WP5 to date and next steps.

PS followed with an overview of the project for AB.

- Previous Minutes accepted.

Matters Arising

- SG's comments for the Evolutionary Study – acknowledged and being woven into the draft.
- LW – feedback also sent on the Study, commenting that this was a “very good piece of work”.
- PS raised the status of one to one meetings with partners. Most have been held, only missing Peter Skates – LW will chase on behalf of LCC. (PS on annual leave until next week).

- PS introduced the agenda – with a need to focus today on agreement of the priority plans for CBA to consider. PS handed to JBS to present findings to date and the key areas are work in progress.

Presentation & Discussion:

Evolutionary Study

- JBS commented that the CBA interpretation of the outputs can be summarised as follows: that the Evolutionary Plan focus is historical to aspirational, the development plan focuses on real world / realisation, with the management plan taking essential projects, looking at these in detail, providing a broad pathway. Therefore, the plan will provide projects and importantly the way to activate them.
- JBS further noted that on the Evolutionary study – heritage themes focus on WW2, the story of engineering, the role of the merchant navy and moving goods as well as changes to the docks. Architecture is also recognised as a theme ancillary features and finally transportation along and to the docks – the movement of people recognised as a pertinent point.
- LW added the comment that a key point to consider is the movement of people and places – ingenuity and innovation are key common elements.
- SG concurred – good to use this project as an exemplar and celebrate the dock and river walls, draw it out, as a ground-breaking historical narrative.
- LW further commented that the story of William Roscoe should be factored in – and possibly narrative of trade as a facilitator of culture.
- SG added that the Docks were at the centre of British Empire - and is exemplary when considering old and new stories and continued innovation.

Character Zones

- JBS commented that, as observed in brief, these points will be drawn out. JBS then recapped on the three geographical areas.
- SG commented that Kings Dock should be factored if not included – similarly, Dukes Dock should be included as its where you get people onto the water. AB added its an up and coming area (water park). ACTION: JBS to check the designation to see if it is valid.
- SG highlighted the need to be clearly explicit on the geographical footprint and rationale for the assets - JBS will make clear that its recapturing heritage assets.
- SG commented that we must remember we are supporting the aspiration for what this waterfront could look like. PS added that this is a catalyst, starting with heritage assets as part of wider context.
- AB – raised the issue of potential connectivity, and how do we join up the areas. JBS replied that this will be within a new innovation theme, including strengthening, unlocking and creating at each of the three zones with common factors of character, community and connectivity – and how do we draw these together physically and intellectually.

- Comments were received on the “Strengthening the offer” slide – with regard to a Jesse Hartley memorial, SG noted there is a plinth location on site, and LW agreed to visit.

Priorities, Constraints and Opportunities

- LW added the possible opportunity to commission artist/s for work around culture and engineering. JBS agreed, citing what links links technology to tidal activity. Noting the area In SW corner SG added more people will flow through this part of the Dock due to intervention plans next year.
- LW further commented that she could develop a brief for artist, SG adding this should be around Jesse Hartley, and added that it is important for complementarity in one story – we’re not competing. JBS added this about raising awareness of man who changed the tides and there are possibly linkages to explore with RIBA and Council on a wayfinding project. JBS concluded there is a need to find out more.
- JBS raised an idea for a collection of memorials, LW adding that she is already involved in that dialogue – the idea of a reflective space and a reason to go up there. SG concurred - with the positive idea of a place of reflection, with Pier Head cited as an area that quieter, more conducive...
- SG noted the need to discuss the area around Canning – Andy Barr at LCC was given as the best contact.
- SG noted the extent of hidden assets - needing signage, PS added – it’s inherent in promoting a sense of discovery. JBS continued: CREATE THE OFFER (from Waterloo to Princes Dock) – activating water space, (ferries, zorbing fun stuff etc...improve interpretation and transport modes – AG concurred there is a need to create variety of opportunities and experiences to attract more canal tourists.
- SG added that there is a wider question around the city offer, the cruise and liner offer –PS added that this is part of the application around destination marketing for visitor arrival within the new SIF application. IP commented on the significance of the arrival / welcome from the water – the first impressions visitors receive within the first 5 mins off a boat.
- SG agreed with IP and PS – there is a piece of work to do on what it looks like when arriving by water. IP concurred, that there needs to be direct positioning into the city offer, adding that the new Jesse Hartley way will point back to dock road and would complement the heritage trail and potentially future Everton location.
- Discussion returned to connectivity and the movement of people. SG noted the need to quantify how much new residential development is a reference point (IP noting 3000 new apartments around Princes area). PS asked is there a connecting strategy – SG replied no – this is the problem, adding IP asked LCC however 10 Streets and Peel plans are congruent.
- Partners agreed that connectivity messaging needs reinforcement - PS confirmed with JBS that key access areas are identified and pinpointed with the focus of offer and intended footfall.
- IP - there will be section 106 contribution toward Liverpool waters. Existing 106 is in a joint pot with the city.
- JBS added that new transport links are longer term consideration - considering the new volume of residents and infrastructure. PS offered water taxis as a possible consideration SG replied that we must consider the commercial and practical challenges associated with water / tidal levels. JBS added that

the tourism and leisure aspect may not really be viable as a commercial standalone proposition nor functional.

- UNLOCKING THE OFFER at Salisbury, Stanley, Trafalgar - JBS questioned whether these are the parcels of land that can be used. IP replied the plans around residency development and car parking, the hub for apprentices – however certain parts of the locations are currently dangerous, with Peel looking at filling spaces.
- JBS added enquired is there is a way to factor training and apprenticeship interventions, to potential funding – adding that Historic England currently looking at calls with themes including conservation and preservation of heritage sites.
- JBS concluded the presentation with a summary of on the development of the Director Plan and Management Plan.
- Closing comments - everyone concurred the considerable common synergy that is emerging. PS added the overview of the progress to be presented at the forthcoming meeting. IP added, that in many ways, added “the big cost work” is already being done.
- SG asked PS if will be more Interreg opportunities post the end of this project. PS replied that there is consideration in trying to align UK funders then potentially post Brexit funding in EU and beyond.
- SG concluded there is a need to identify who else is looking at funding at the city and this should be included as a part of this part of this scoping work.

Director Plan - Concept / Vision

- JBS returned to the presentation, outlining the process of how the Director Plan will develop based upon policies to guide, the potential projects to take forward based upon partner input and review work conducted and the timescales to achieve this by mid-March in order to meet the contracted schedule for delivery (recognising the slippage for WP4 / Evolutionary Study).
- JBS noted that a summary of progress from WP4 to WP5 will be co-presented with LLEP at the project meeting in Cadiz on the 14th February.

Due to time constraints, the meeting concluded after this summary.

Summary of Actions

- CBA to finalise last meetings with contactees: LW to chase Peter Skates on return from leave to arrange session with Peter Skates w/c 18/2/19 (post leave).
- CBA to reinforce the narrative and rationale for the selection of assets (within MMI context)
- CBA to finalise WP4 / Evolutionary Study based feedback from LW and SG w/c 11/2/19
- CBA to check Dukes Dock designation (Lizzie / CBA – immediate)
- NM to distribute final Evolutionary Study to partners w/c 11/2/19
- CBA / JBS to share WP5 Director Plan Partner presentation with PS w/c 11/2/19
- LW to visit SW dock area – (potential memorial site) date tbc.
- CBA - Director Plan Methodology – Innovation theme to include greater onus on connectivity.
- CBA to engage with Andy Barr at LCC re Canning Dock area (date tbc)
- WP5 Director Plan (First Draft) delivered to LLEP w/c 4/3/19
- Partners to review WP5 Director Plan draft 11-22/3/19 (comments to LLEP)
- Completion of Director Plan and Local management Plan – 8/4/19.

AOB

- Next meeting details - tbc