

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
GREATER BRIGHTON ECONOMIC BOARD

10.00am 21 APRIL 2015

RICHMOND ROOM, WORTHING

MINUTES

Present: Councillor J Kitcat (Chair), Councillor Beresford, Councillor Blackman, Councillor Theobald, Councillor Turner, Councillor Wall

Business Partners: Monica Box, Dr. Carter, Peter Davies, Dean Orgill, John A. Peel, Andrew Swayne

PART ONE

37 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

37a Declarations of substitutes

37.1 Councillor Beresford was present as substitute for Councillor Parkin.

37.2 Councillor Turner was present as substitute for Councillor Humphreys.

37.3 Dr. Carter was present as substitute for Prof. Davies.

37b Declarations of interests

37.4 There were none.

37c Exclusion of the press and public

37.5 In accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the Act"), the Board considered whether the public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item of business on the grounds that it is likely in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during it, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information as defined in Section 100A (3) of the Act.

37.6 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting.

38 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AND ANY ACTIONS

- 38.1 Councillor Wall stated when he was present at the meeting but was not listed as such in the attendance list. Councillor Wall also referred to recommendation two of Item 31 and asked if the Board had not also agreed that there should be a sense of realism, caution and a position of caution in the draft proposals for the devolution propositions of the City Region.
- 38.2 Nick Hibberd clarified that the tender proposals for this matter were currently advertised and the issues raised by Councillor Wall as discussed by the Board at the previous meeting were clearly set out in the specification of that tender. Nick Hibberd added that this was likely to be realised in one to one sessions or through a Member reference group.
- 38.3 Councillor Wall welcomed the assurance provided.
- 38.4 Andrew Swayne noted that Scott Marshall had been present at the meeting as his substitute and the minutes should be amended to reflect that.
- 38.5 John A. Peel noted that minute item 27.4 should read “*any decision on a new runway*” rather than “*any decision on a new airport*”.
- 38.6 Dean Orgill noted that minute item 31.14 should be amended to read “*Brighton & Hove Economic Partnership*” rather than “*Brighton & Hove Business Partnership*”.
- 38.7 **RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 February 2015 be approved as the correct record subject to the above amendments.

39 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 39.1 Councillor Kitcat noted that he would be standing down at the forthcoming local elections and therefore this would be his last meeting as Chair and member of the Board. Councillor Kitcat extended his thanks to his fellow Board members as together had they realised significant progress for the city region in the past year.

40 GREATER BRIGHTON INVESTMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

- 40.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that provided a progress update on the Greater Brighton Investment Programme in the period 16 February to 31 March 2015. The report was supplemented with a presentation.
- 40.2 Councillor Kitcat expressed his thanks to Officers for achieving a huge amount of progress in a relatively short timeframe.
- 40.3 Andrew Swayne asked for a verbal briefing on *Enhancing business and skills- Skills Capital* that was currently the only category ranked as red.
- 40.4 Nick Hibberd stated this issue related to the Skills Capital Budget and was currently ranked red because of the requirement to spend allocated capital in a set timeframe.

- 40.5 Monica Box further clarified that City College were making every effort to get this issue back on track. Initial work had started and was progressing well.
- 40.6 Councillor Theobald asked for further clarification on estimated timescales.
- 40.7 Monica Box stated that the issue had been delayed predominately by the need to ratify legal agreements. These were now in place and the initial stage of regeneration and renewal could begin.
- 40.8 Councillor Kitcat asked what the likely outcome would be of the allocated funds not being spent in the 2015/16 financial year.
- 40.9 Nick Hibberd clarified that it was likely the allocation would return to the LEP to re-profile. He added that meetings were taking place and assistance provided.
- 40.10 Councillor Kitcat asked the Further Education representative if they were currently receiving everything they needed to progress.
- 40.11 Monica Box confirmed that the assistance provided had been valuable and there would be a meeting on 27 March to confirm the legal agreements.
- 40.12 Councillor Theobald stated that he wished to echo the sentiments of the Chair that significant progress had been made on projects across the counties.
- 40.13 John A. Peel recorded his thanks to Nick Hibberd for an excellent, succinct presentation.
- 40.14 **RESOLVED-** That the report is noted.

41 GREATER BRIGHTON ECONOMIC BOARD OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2015/16

- 41.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that outlined the preparatory steps needed to support the operational aspects of the Greater Brighton Economic Board in 2015/16.
- 41.2 Andrew Swayne stated that from a business perspective, the Board has been run very professionally, established excellent partnership working and had laid a platform of success to build upon. Andrew Swayne stated that he hoped the annual report would be short and sharp to allow continued focus on delivering projects.
- 41.3 Dean Orgill stated that he believed that it would be of benefit to the Board to conduct a PR exercise on the significant and continued progress being made.
- 41.4 Councillor Kitcat agreed with the comments made and that it was also important for Board Members who represented local authority's to convey the work of the Board to their colleagues.
- 41.5 John A. Peel stated that he had spent time providing individual engagements that had achieved great success.

41.6 Councillor Wall stated that he wish to record the commendable role of Councillor Kitcat in establishing the Board and bringing together the private and public sectors to achieve success. Councillor Wall stated his personally thanks to Councillor Kitcat for his excellent stewardship of the Board.

41.7 **RESOLVED-** That the Board:

- (1) Agree and secure the budgetary contributions that are being sought to fund the costs of running the Board in 2015/16;
- (2) Agree the process by which the Chair of the Board shall be nominated for 2015/16;
- (3) Note that the Heads of Terms will be revised to include the South Downs National Park Authority as a formal member of the Board;
- (4) Note the date by which the lead authority must be notified of all named substitutes and instruct any necessary actions within their respective organisations;
- (5) Note the date by which the lead authority must be notified of all nominations to the Greater Brighton Call-In Panel and instruct any necessary actions within their respective organisations;
- (6) Note the date and time of the Board's training session, and;
- (7) Note that the Annual Report will be drafted for presentation to the Board at its first meeting in the new municipal year.

42 PRESENTATION ON NEWHAVEN INVESTMENTS STRATEGY

42.1 The Board considered a presentation provided by Max Woodford outlining the progress made on a number of projects related to the Newhaven Investment Strategy.

42.2 Councillor Theobald enquired with regard to extra housing developments intended to support the rise in employment levels.

42.3 Max Woodford stated that sites had been identified on the east side of Newhaven and in the Harbour Heights are of the town. Newhaven District Council were currently developing their Neighbourhood Plan proposing sites for additional housing. He added that increased housing levels and developments would assist the economy and improve the perception of Newhaven.

42.4 **RESOLVED-** That the Board note the presentation.

43 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

43.1 John A. Peel updated the Board that following discussions, the European Union had agreed to provide technical assistance toward the European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF) of 2% of the overall funding and officers were currently putting bids together.

43.2 Dean Orgill added that he had attended the first meeting of the C2C ESIF Committee that he had found valuable adding that the LEP had worked very hard in liaison with the Department for Local Government and Communities to move the matter forward.

The meeting concluded at 11.00am

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

