

GREATER BRIGHTON ECONOMIC BOARD

10.00am 6 FEBRUARY 2018

THE MAIN HALL, HILLCREST CENTRE, BAY VUE ROAD, NEWHAVEN, BN9 9LH

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Smith (Chair), Ash-Edwards, Humphreys, Lamb, Morgan and G Theobald

Business Partners: Steve Allen, Prof. Davies, Prof. Dean, Tim Norwood, Dean Orgill, Andrew Swayne, Peter Webb

PART ONE

20 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

20a Declarations of substitutes

- 20.1 Councillor Theobald was present as substitute for Councillor Janio.
- 20.2 Councillor Ash-Edwards was present as substitute for Councillor Wall.
- 20.3 Tim Norwood was present as substitute for Alison Addy.

20b Declarations of interests

- 20.2 There were none.

20c Exclusion of the press and public

- 20.3 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.
- 20.4 **RESOLVED-** That the press and public not be excluded.

21 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 21.1 **RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 November 2017 be approved and signed as the correct record.

22 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

22.1 The Chair provided the following communications:

On behalf of the Board I would like to welcome Phil Jones. Phil is the Managing Director of Wired Sussex and replaces Amanda Menahem as Business Representative for Coast to Capital.

“On the 1st February the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government announced the projects that have been awarded funding through the new Housing and Infrastructure Fund. A total of £48m has been awarded to projects from across our City Region, with investment heading to Shoreham, Hove, Lewes, Burgess Hill and Crawley. This is a major success for the City Region as it will directly unlock the delivery of 2,500 new homes and accelerate the delivery of a further 3,500 homes. This investment is further proof that by working together as part of the Greater Brighton Economic Board we can bring significant investment into our City Region.

In July 2017 Coast to Capital launched a new funding round for unallocated funds from rounds 1 & 2, and it's great news that around £12m of the £27m available has been allocated to help fund projects from across the City Region. Our Investment Programme continues to grow and, more importantly, it is delivering – unlocking much needed new homes, employment floor-space and jobs for our City Region.

Following approval by the Board a timetable for the Energy Plan and the Terms of Reference for the Infrastructure Panel and Biosphere Delivery Board Working group were discussed at the Officer Programme Board on 9th January. The first meetings will be held in the spring”.

23 ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBER TO THE BOARD

23.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that requested approval for Crawley Borough Council to join the Greater Brighton Economic Joint Committee (GBEJC) following formal ratification from the Board's member organisations.

23.2 RESOLVED-

- 1) That the Board approves that Crawley Borough Council joins the GBEJC and that Gatwick Airport Ltd joins the GBBP.
- 2) That the Board agree to amend the Board's Heads of Terms at Appendix 1.

24 CRAWLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL AND GATWICK AIRPORT PRESENTATION

24.1 The Board considered a presentation from Natalie Brahma-Pearl that provided an overview of Crawley Borough and detailed the various successes and challenges to the area.

24.2 Councillor Theobald asked for further information on the investment from Metrobus.

- 24.3 Natalie Brahma-Pearl clarified that the investment would be for new infrastructure including real-time bus information services, improvements to Manor Royal with the overall ambition of creating a modal shift in transportation methods.
- 24.4 The Board considered a presentation from Tim Norwood that set out a business overview and the role in the regional economy of Gatwick Airport.
- 24.5 Geoff Raw stated that Brighton & Hove City Council was working to better understand the businesses in their region and how they could be supported to develop their international trade levels. Geoff Raw asked if Gatwick Airport had such knowledge for the wider region and if that information could be pooled.
- 24.6 Tim Norwood replied that Gatwick Airport did collect information on local businesses in the region and held an annual Meet the Buyers event and a pooling of information could certainly be considered.
- 24.7 Prof. Humphris stated that the University of Brighton had a successful Graduate Engagement scheme especially in the area of civil engineering and work to further that would be welcomed.

25 GREATER BRIGHTON ONE PUBLIC ESTATE PROGRAMME 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

- 25.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that set out the local One Public Estate (OPE) Programme's 2017 Annual Report that would also be provided to the Local Government Association (LGA) and Cabinet Office Government Property Unit (GPU) as the Greater Brighton OPE Partnership's end of year report.
- 25.2 Andrew Swayne asked if all projects were on track.
- 25.3 Angela Dymott confirmed that all projects were on track to schedule.
- 25.4 Steve Allen asked for the list of projects that had not been awarded grant funding for Phase 6.
- 25.5 Angela Dymott answered that a detailed list of the unsuccessful projects could be circulated adding that a potential benefit would be that these projects were now readied and could be successful in the next round of funding.
- 25.6 **RESOLVED-**
- 1) That the Board note the 2017 Annual Report.

Councillor Smith left the meeting to attend an East Sussex County Council meeting and was replaced in the Chair by Councillor Humphries.

26 PROGRESS UPDATE ON GREATER BRIGHTON INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

26.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that that provided a progress update on the Greater Brighton Investment Programme since the previous meeting on 7 November 2017. The report also provided an update on the Local Growth Fund (LGF) allocations made as part of the Growth Deal Round 3 and the progress on projects awarded unallocated monies from Growth Deal Rounds 1 & 2.

26.2 RESOLVED-

1) That the Board note the contents of the report.

27 BRIGHTON MAINLINE ALLIANCE

27.1. The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that requested the Board become a member of the Brighton Mainline Alliance and promote the activities of the Alliance through its networks and contacts.

27.2. Councillor Theobald expressed his support for the proposal and asked how it was envisaged to overcome the problem of a single line to Brighton from Three Bridges which demonstrated the need for BML2.

27.3. Jonathan Sharrock stated that the Alliance did not rule out investments in other sections of the line nor the development of BML2.

27.4. Councillor Ash-Edwards expressed his support for the proposal adding that there was a demonstrative need for improvements to the Windmill Bridge Junction and he hoped this would be the first of many investment projects.

27.5. Councillor Morgan expressed his support for the proposal adding that he hoped Network Rail's recent investment announcement would be the start of continued rail investment.

27.6. Councillor Humphries stated his support for the proposals adding that the many obstacles to an efficient, reliable rail service had led to a negative impact on the economy and lives of commuters.

27.7. RESOLVED-

1) That the Greater Brighton Economic Board adds its support and voice to those campaigning for the Windmill Junction Scheme, by becoming a member of the Brighton Mainline Alliance.

2) That the Board promotes the activities of the Alliance through its networks and contacts.

28 REPORT ON THE INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY WHITE PAPER

28.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that set out the main themes of the Industrial Strategy White Paper and the resulting challenges and opportunities that it created for the City Region.

28.2 RESOLVED-

- 1) That the Board note the contents of the Report on the Industrial Strategy White Paper.
- 2) That the Board notes how the Industrial White Paper will shape future discussions and interactions with Government as Greater Brighton works towards developing a Housing and Growth Deal.

29 UPDATE ON GREAT BRITISH SCIENCE FESTIVAL

- 29.1 The Board considered a presentation from Andrew Swayne that provided an evaluation and legacy planning for the British Science Festival held in the region between the 5 and 9 September 2017.
- 29.2 Prof. Humphris stated that the evaluation and the Festival captured the potential interest in science amongst young people. Prof. Humphris added that she hoped that promotion of the two universities specialisation in the area would advance that interest further still.
- 29.3 Geoff Raw stated that the event was of huge importance and going forward, it was essential to devise branding and clearly state the regions local offer.
- 29.4 Natalie Brahma-Pearl welcomed the success of the event adding that science and technology was rapidly becoming of greater importance with the global increase in AI.
- 29.5 Dean Orgill stated that restrictions in the teaching syllabus needed to be overcome to realise the potential in the education of the sciences and political intervention was required to do that.
- 29.6 Nick Juba stated that he believed attention should be focussed on the creative subjects that would hold as much importance in the future as STEM subjects.

The meeting concluded at 11.40am

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of