

**GREATER BRIGHTON ECONOMIC BOARD**

**10.00am 26 JANUARY 2016**

**QUEEN ELIZABETH II ROOM, SHOREHAM CENTRE**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillors Parkin (Chair), Humphreys, Morgan, Smith, G Theobald and Wall

**Business Partners:** Prof. Davies, John A. Peel, Caroline Wood

**PART ONE**

**21 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**21a Declarations of Substitutes**

21.1 Caroline Wood was present as substitute for Peter Davies.

**21b Declarations of Interests**

21.2 There were none.

**21c Exclusion of press and public**

21.3 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.

21.4 **RESOLVED-** That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items contained in Part Two of the agenda.

**22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

22.1 **RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 October 2015 be approved and signed as the correct record.

**23 CHAIRS COMMUNICATIONS**

23.1 The Chair provided the following communication:

*"I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome a new Member to the Board: Councillor Andy Smith from Lewes District Council".*

## **24 UPDATE ON GREATER BRIGHTON INVESTMENT PROGRAMME**

- 24.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that provided a progress update on the Greater Brighton Investment Programme that included projected that had already been allocated City Deal and Coast to Capital Growth Deal funding and covered the period 16 September 2015 to 16 December 2015.
- 24.2 John A. Peel noted that there had been a drift toward delay in projects and asked what actions were being taken to advance projects quickly.
- 24.3 Nick Hibberd stated that there had been some delay to enable the accountable body to become familiar with projects and process and some problems had been experienced with State Aid. He strongly believed that the process would quicken henceforth from established working practices and becoming more familiar with a new process adding that getting critical projects over the line may mean escalation.
- 24.4 **RESOLVED-** That the Board note the report

## **25 UPDATE ON GREATER BRIGHTON DEVOLUTION BID**

- 25.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that provided an update on progress in relation to the development of the City Region's devolution bid since the previous meeting held on 13 October 2015.
- 25.2 Nick Hibberd updated the Board on recent developments noting that a meeting had been held with Baroness Williams from whom a letter of thanks had been received with a further meeting with government officials scheduled for the current week.
- 25.3 Councillor Morgan congratulated officers for their work and the Chair of the Board for leading the delegation.
- 25.4 The Chair echoed the congratulations to officers adding that the meeting had gone very well.
- 25.5 Councillor Theobald stated that a second line between Brighton station and Three Bridges station was essential to improve access to and from London and he sought assurance that the matter had been raised.
- 25.6 Geoff Raw stated that the matter had been raised and there had been further discussion with the Department for Transport (DfT) and input from the new Chief Executive of Coast to Capital on the matter.
- 25.7 Phillip Carr agreed that the meeting had gone well and ministers had subsequently commended the diversity of the proposals and the range of skills and backgrounds of those presenting them.

25.8 Councillor Wall stated it was important that the focus of the Greater Brighton region and the 3SC's be closely aligned and planned to ensure there was no duplication in work and that it met the respective local authorities aims. Councillor Wall stated that there were three essential issues: transport, infrastructure and housing and progress required consensus and political support.

25.9 **RESOLVED-** That the Board:

- (1) Note the contents of the report, and;
- (2) Receive a verbal update at its meeting on 26 January 2016 on the City Region's Ministerial challenge session, confirmed for 14 January 2016, and the recommended next steps in line with the feedback that is received.

## **26 UPDATE ON COASTAL WEST SUSSEX AND GREATER BRIGHTON LOCAL STRATEGIC STATEMENT**

26.1 The Board considered a presentation from Caroline Wood and Liz Hobden (Planning Manager- Brighton & Hove City Council) that detailed the strategic context and objectives plus next steps of the Local Strategic Statement refresh.

26.2 Geoff Raw stated that the Local Strategic Statement was an ongoing demonstration of co-operation and formulation of a robust process that would assist with infrastructure bids and demonstrations to central government.

26.3 **RESOLVED-** That the presentation be noted.

## **27 PRESENTATION ON WORTHING TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION**

27.1 The Board considered a presentation from Martin Randall detailing several regeneration projects that were planned and in progress in Worthing Town Centre.

27.2 Councillor Theobald thanked Martin Randall for his presentation adding that he had found the projects very impressive.

27.3 Councillor Humphreys stated that whilst there were constraints there was potential for delivery on a number of exciting projects and he was very keen to push these forward.

27.4 Amanda Menahem enquired as to the timescales of delivery for the projects.

27.5 Martin Randall explained that delivery was programmed for 2018-2021 but each project required overlap with the necessary public realm improvements.

27.6 Councillor Smith stated that the focus in programme delivery for Lewes was on creating revenue streams as the authority was capital rich but currency poor.

27.7 Martin Randall agreed that whilst asset sales would provide capital receipts, creating new revenue streams was more important, albeit more challenging.

27.8 Councillor Wall noted the complexities in convincing developers toward mixed home, retail and office space.

27.9 **RESOLVED-** That the presentation be noted.

**28 UPDATE ON GREATER BRIGHTON PROJECT PIPELINE**

28.1 The Board considered a report of the Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board that sought endorsement of a shortlist of projects prioritised to be submitted to the Coast to Capital (C2C) Local Economic Partnership (LEP) Growth Projects.

28.2 John A. Peel stated that on behalf of the LEP, he was very encouraged by the positive approach to the process displayed by the Board.

28.3 **RESOLVED-** That the Board:

- (1) Endorse the amended Pipeline, recognising that new projects may still come forward;
- (2) Endorse the project 'shortlist', and;
- (3) Task the Officer Programme Board with completing a C2C LEP Growth Projects Application Form for all projects on the 'shortlist', by 31 March 2016 deadline.

**29 GREATER BRIGHTON PROJECT PIPELINE- EXEMPT CATEGORY 3**

29.1 The Board moved to private session to discuss confidential information pertaining to Item 28 before returning to open session.

**30 PART TWO MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

30.1 **RESOLVED-** That the Part Two minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 October 2015 be approved and signed as the correct record.

**31 PART TWO PROCEEDINGS**

31.1 **RESOLVED-** That the Part Two appendix and minute item remain exempt from disclosure from the press and public.

The meeting concluded at 11.45am

Signed

Chair



