

Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board

Minutes of a meeting of the **Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board** at City Hall, Norwich on **Thursday 20 September 2012** at **2pm** when there were present:

Cllr Andrew Proctor – Chairman

Representing

Cllr Stuart Clancy	Broadland District Council
Cllr Brenda Arthur	Norwich City Council
Cllr Bert Bremner	Norwich City Council
Cllr Derek Blake	South Norfolk Council
Cllr Colin Foulger	South Norfolk Council
Cllr Ann Steward	Norfolk County Council
Cllr Murray Gray	Broads Authority
Claire Hupton	Homes & Communities Agency
Andy Wood	New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership

Officers

Phil Kirby – Officer	Broadland District Council
Andrea Long	Broads Authority
Sandra Eastaugh – Officer	GND Partnership Manager
Chris Starkie	New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership
Richard Doleman	Norfolk County Council
Mike Jackson	Norfolk County Council
Phil Morris	Norfolk County Council
Mike Burrell	Norwich City Council
Gwyn Jones	Norwich City Council
Andy Radford	South Norfolk Council
Sara Utting (Clerk)	Broadland District Council

Mr Pilkington of Price Waterhouse Coopers also attended the meeting for its duration.

32 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from: Cllr John Fuller (South Norfolk Council); Cllr Derrick Murphy (Norfolk CC); Cllr Graham Plant (Norfolk CC) and Cllr Alan Waters (Norwich CC).

33 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2012 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the following amendment:

Minute no: 29 – Joint Core Strategy (JCS) for Broadland, Norwich and South

Norfolk – Pre-Submission Publication following the Legal Challenge to the JCS

Paragraph headed “Stage 2 – assessing the suitability of the sectors for different scales of growth”

First sentence, after “had been tested against the” delete the words “Sustainability Appraisal”.

34 JOINT CORE STRATEGY FOR BROADLAND, NORWICH AND SOUTH NORFOLK

Richard Doleman gave an oral update on the proposed submission consultation timetable. It was noted that the public consultation had commenced on 10 August and the deadline had been extended to 2 November 2012, to allow all parties full opportunity to comment. The outcome of the consultation would be reported to the Board’s meeting on 13 December and then be reported to each of the authorities’ Council meetings in January. Therefore, it was intended, if possible, to make a submission by February 2013 but the subsequent timetable would be dependent on the Planning Inspectorate. It was hoped to have the hearing in late March, receive the Inspector’s report in late May and adoption of the pre-submission content by July 2013.

35 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

Sandra Easthaugh gave an oral update on the progress with the CIL timetable. An Inspector had been appointed and a Service Level Agreement signed. Although 3 days had been reserved for the hearing (16 -18 October) it was hoped this would be completed in two days. The venue was “The Space” in Norwich and all respondents (35 in total) had been notified of the arrangements. A Programme Officer had been appointed to assist the Inspector. Respondents’ statements had to be submitted by 25 September and comprise no more than 3,000 words. It was anticipated that the Inspector’s report would be received approximately 2-3 weeks after the Inquiry, following which it would be presented to each partner authorities’ Council for adoption (having been fact checked first) in the November / December cycle of meetings.

36 CITY DEALS

Further to Minute no: 15 of the meeting held on 15 March 2012, Phil Morris presented the report on the preparation of a “City Deals” bid, together with the preparation of a revised Greater Norwich Economic Strategy, supplemented by a presentation on the potential content of a deal (attached as an appendix).

The Board noted that that a locally developed and credible Economic Strategy would be central to any local deal. Therefore, the current Greater Norwich Economic Strategy (GNES) needed to be refreshed as it was completed in 2009.

In response to questions, Mr Morris advised that there was no prescribed timetable to submit a bid. However, once a draft bid had been submitted, this would be presented to the Government to confirm Norwich's interest and highlight potential outcomes and achievements. Therefore, work needed to start pretty quickly.

A Member questioned the amount of funding available and the likely amount to be received. He expressed concern that, while there was merit in doing the work involved, there must be specific outcomes. Simon Pilkington from Price Waterhouse Coopers advised that there was no specific pot of money as the focus was on freedoms / control. However, there were incentives and other forms of financial assistance associated with the deal. The Government had not allocated a finite amount of money.

Mr Morris stated that work would be undertaken to reassess the GNES and it was likely that the actions would probably remain the same but it had to be shown to be fit for purposes. The Chairman endorsed this approach stating that the emphasis would be on "review and renew". He considered that a draft City Bid should be progressed and the best means would be through the GNDP. Work would focus on reviewing and renewing the GNES and other aspect of the LEP, reviewing the 10 key objectives.

Regarding the timescale, Mr Jackson advised that work needed to done quickly as this was a live initiative and the Government's second wave would be announced imminently, with Norwich probably not included on that list. Therefore, a draft needed to be prepared in advance of the Board's next meeting which could be shared with Board members electronically for agreement / endorsement.

RESOLVED

to agree to the drafting of

- (1) a revised Greater Norwich Economic Strategy and
- (2) a City Deals bid

both on the basis as outlined above.

37 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

AGREED:

to note the date of the next meeting as Thursday 13 December 2012 at 2pm.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm