

Greater Norwich Growth Board

Minutes

10am to 11.25am

8 October 2014

Present:

Board members:

Norwich City Council:

Councillor Brenda Arthur (chair)

South Norfolk Council:

Councillor John Fuller (vice chair)

Broadland District Council:

Councillor Stuart Clancy
(substitute for Councillor Andrew Proctor)

Norfolk County Council:

Councillor Steve Morpew

Officers:

Graham Nelson
Gwyn Jones

Tim Horspole

Phil Kirby
Phil Courtier

Tom McCabe
Fiona McDiarmid
Sandra Eastaugh
Richard Doleman

New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership:

Chris Starkie (substitute for Mark Pendlington)

1. Sandra Eastaugh

The chair and vice chair expressed their gratitude to Sandra Eastaugh, who would be leaving her post on 31 October 2014, for her support to members and officers on the Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board and the Greater Norwich Growth Board, and on behalf of the three district councils thanked her for her work and contribution to the City Deals bid and the Joint Core Strategy.

RESOLVED to record the board's gratitude to Sandra Eastaugh for her contribution and to wish her well in the future.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Andrew Proctor (Broadland District Council) and Mark Pendlington, New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

It was noted the LEP had not appointed a board member to substitute for Mark Pendlington and had confirmed that Chris Starkie would be act as substitute for this meeting.

3. Minutes

RESOLVED to approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 31 July 2014.

4. Greater Norwich City Deal – Skills

Fiona McDiarmid presented the report and circulated a table showing progress against targets. (A copy of the table is available on the website.)

The chair referred to government funding for regeneration and growth and said that the bidding process was costly and complicated; and that she welcomed ways that it could be more easily accessed. Members were advised that the New Anglia Structural Investment Fund was ring fenced for the urban areas in the county and split across the Greater Norwich districts as follows: Broadland £51,000; Norwich £82,000 and South Norfolk £70,000.

RESOLVED to note the update on the skills element of the Greater Norwich City Deal.

5. Presentation on joint working to deliver the right infrastructure to promote active and healthy lifestyles.

(Lucy McLeod, Norfolk County Council's interim director of public health, attended the meeting for this item.)

Lucy McLeod presented a power point presentation on the need to ensure that the right infrastructure was delivered to promote active and healthy lifestyles. (A copy of the presentation is available on the website.)

During discussion members considered that the presentation was a timely reminder that the growth programme was about creating healthy communities and addressing disadvantages particularly in the early years.

In summing up, Lucy McLeod invited members to contact her or her colleagues in Public Health.

RESOLVED to thank Lucy McLeod for the presentation.

6. Growth Deal - update

Chris Starkie, managing director, New Anglia LEP provided an oral overview of the New Anglia LEP Growth Deal 2015/16. He said that in July the government had announced a growth deal of £173.3m. This included £81.8m of new funding for 2015-16 and future years and confirmation of £91.5m of previously announced funds including funding for the NDR (£65.5m). Projects awarded new funding included skills capital, transport, enterprise and innovation, broadband and wider infrastructure. The deal also covered a range of freedoms and flexibilities on use of the funding, partnership working with government departments and additional borrowing for infrastructure projects. Since the announcement in July the LEP and its

partners have ensured that all projects set for delivery in 2015-16 were prepared to commence. Since the July announcement the LEP and partners have been preparing projects set for delivery in 2015-16 (setting clear milestones, ensuring value for money and ensuring that projects have the necessary permissions); agreeing governance arrangements and reporting arrangements with government; establishing whether any of the projects can be brought forward to 2014-15 or later projects moved to 2015-16; and making a case for additional projects that did not receive funding in case additional funds become available. The LEP was also working up proposals for the LEP's 2016-17 growth deal bid. It was working with the Norfolk and Suffolk growth groups to prepare a "pipeline" of projects for inclusion in the growth deal bid and would include other funding streams.

Chris Starkie also referred to the progress of the delivery of the Norwich City Deal enterprise and innovation funding; and gave an example of the innovation voucher being used by a business in Loddon to launch a new product with students and said that the growth hub was on track to exceed targets.

RESOLVED to note the report.

7. Growth programme 2015-16

Sandra Eastaugh introduced the report and referred to the additional papers circulated at the meeting, comprising an amendment to the proposed resolution (3) and the amendment of a typographical error in paragraph 7.5 of the report, second sentence, deleting "2018/19" and replacing it with "2019/20". (Colour printed copies of appendix 1 were circulated at the meeting.)

Richard Doleman presented the report and explained the annual timetable for the sign off of the Greater Norwich Growth programme; the programme management and the Strategic infrastructure programme as set out in appendix 1. (Slides illustrating these points are available on the website).

During discussion members considered that the projects listed under the Strategic infrastructure programme should, for completeness, also include schemes funded by S106 agreements. Members asked to have all the information in one place to provide a comprehensive picture of all of the infrastructure that would be delivered. It was also noted that another variable was the community infrastructure levy (CIL). Project delivery was dependent on its receipt and therefore the programme should show how CIL income supports its delivery. Chris Starkie said that it was important for the LEP and the government to see where the funding was being used.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) note the progress on the 2014-15 Growth programme;
- (2) approve the 2015-16 Growth programme in table 3 and on the conclusion of scheme preparatory work, note that additional schemes will be recommended for approval;

- (3) endorse the 5 year NATS programme as set out in Appendix 2 of the report and the use of £2,875,000 of pooled CIL funds to support delivery from 2016-17 to 2019-20 within future annual growth programmes;
- (4) recommend that the responsible groups take forward feasibility /preparatory work to inform future growth programmes for the schemes identified in the annual business plans and set out in paragraph 9.2 of the report (listed below):

Broadland

- North West Norwich Forest Connections: Enhance woodlands and heathlands, creating links between in the Horsford, Felthorpe, Drayton and Hevingham area.
- Burlingham: Green Infrastructure
- Thorpe Ridge: protection and enhancement of woodlands and provision of public access
- Section of North East orbital route between Salhouse Road and the proposed junction on the northern edge of Brook Farm
- Improvements to Bittern Line including potential rail halt at Broadland Business Park
- Cycle improvements at junction between Wroxham Road, Cozens Hardy Road and Cannerby Lane

Norwich City

- Rose Lane / Prince of Wales Road
- Tombland: Public Realm
- Dereham Road BRT - Guardian Road roundabout
- Guardian Road Traffic Signals scheme development
Blue Pedalway

South Norfolk

- Hempnall Crossroads improvements
- Long Stratton Bypass
- Longwater / Easton highways improvements, including improved walking and cycling
- BRT Longwater to City Centre.

8. Greater Norwich Local infrastructure fund

(Councillors Steve Morphew and Stuart Clancy declared an other interest in this item because the county council owned land at Beeston Park.)

Sandra Eastaugh presented the report and updated members on the progress of the three schemes that the board had approved in principle at its meeting on 31 July 2014.

Phil Courtier referred to the report and summarised the proposal for housing at Beeston Park and the application for £5m funding to deliver the new North Walsham Road Corridor and divert the North Walsham Road.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) note progress on the proposals approved in principle at the board meeting held on 31 July 2014;
- (2) subject to further detailed financial scrutiny under item 10 (below), approve in principle, the proposal for Beeston Park and authorise negotiations to commence between the accountable body and the applicant to prepare a loan agreement.

9. Exclusion of the public

RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (paragraphs 1 and 3).

10. Greater Norwich Local infrastructure fund (paragraphs 1 and 3)

(Councillors Steve Morpew and Stuart Clancy declared an other interest in this item because the county council owned land at Beeston Park.)

Phil Courtier presented the report and answered questions. He advised members that outline planning permission had not yet been granted for this scheme.

During discussion the board members concurred with the conclusions and recommendations set out in section 5 of the report. Members were mindful of the public interest in the use of the funding and the general need to require that it was secure. It was also noted that further work was required on the business plan and that dependent on the risk identified the application would need to come back to the board for further consideration.

RESOLVED to approve in principle, subject to local infrastructure fund governance arrangements, and confirm resolution (2) of item 8 (above) and to note that if necessary the application will be referred to the board for further consideration.

CHAIR