

Joint Strategic Growth Implementation Committee

Minutes from the Committee Meeting of Tuesday, 17 April 2007 Kreis Viersen Room, Shire Hall, Cambridgeshire County Council

Committee Members Present:

Sir David Trippier, Chairman

Cllr Dr David Bard, South Cambridgeshire District Council
Stephen Catchpole, Cambridgeshire Horizons
Cllr Sebastian Kindersley, South Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Ray Manning, South Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith, Cambridge City Council
John Onslow, Cambridgeshire Horizons
Cllr Sian Reid, Cambridge City Council
Cllr John Reynolds, Cambridgeshire County Council

Also in attendance:

Steve Hampson, South Cambridgeshire County Council
Sally Hutchinson, Cambridgeshire Horizons
Simon Payne, Cambridge City Council
Brian Smith, Cambridgeshire County Council

Hazel Belchamber, Cambridgeshire County Council - presenting Item No. 4

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Lewis Herbert, Cambridge City Council
Cllr Shona Johnstone, Cambridgeshire County Council
Cllr Keith Walters, Cambridgeshire County Council

Item 1 – Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of the Joint Strategic Growth Implementation Committee.
- 1.2 The Chairman has received apologies from Cllr Herbert, Cllr Johnstone and Cllr Walters.

Item 2 – Terms of Reference

- 2.1 The Chairman presented the paper (*Terms of Reference/Operating Conventions*) which had been previously agreed by the Local

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Authorities. The Chairman outlined the Key Tasks that are listed in the Terms of Reference paper for this Committee and asked for any comments or amendments to the paper.

2.2 Members of the Committee asked questions and made the following comments:-

(a) Cllr John Reynolds – referred to the bullet point in Key Tasks on the implementation programmes for Northstowe and the Fringe Cambridge Sites. Cllr Reynolds stressed the importance of the upgrading of the A14 to the Growth Agenda. A crucial letter had been received from the Minister regarding the A14 and a subsequent letter about the other section of the A14 was awaited. To ensure continued progress including the appointment of contractors and avoiding any slippage, Cllr Reynolds asked that Cambridgeshire Horizons in conjunction with the County Council keep abreast of progress made by the Highways Agency.

(b) Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith – Cambridgeshire Horizons has already put down significant markers in relation to the A14. Other significant issues are also pressing and need Horizons attention.

(c) Cllr Dr David Bard – The A14 is essential to the Northstowe Project.

(d) Cllr Sian Reid – requested that the development of the Public Transport Strategy and the Long Term Delivery Plan be brought to a future meeting for discussion.

(e) Sir David Trippier – suggested that an earlier meeting of this Committee be arranged for the end of May to discuss S.106 Critical Path applications.

(f) Cllr John Reynolds – asked for consideration to be made regarding substitutes for this Committee. It was agreed that one named substitute for each authority be formally identified.

**Director for
Development**

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Item 3 – LDV Review

3.1 The Chief Executive presented the paper and asked the Committee to note the progress made. Discussions continue to reach a common position on the proposed Section 29 Committee. Authorities would continue with the current planning arrangements until the end of August with the new arrangements (S.101 Committees) taking effect from 1 September 2007. The Chief Executive went on to ask if each authority could give an early indication of which Members will be on the S.101 Committees so that training can be arranged before 1 September 2007. Members

of the Committee confirmed that this would not be possible until each authority has held their AGM in May.

3.2 The Director of Development informed the Committee that Senior Officers from each authority had been meeting weekly to discuss Joint Working Arrangements and have made good progress to date

3.3 Members of the Committee asked questions and made the following comments:-

- (a) Cllr Ray Manning – confirmed that nomination of Members to the S.101 Committees would not be able to take place until after the elections on 3 May and then through Full Council scheduled on 26 May 2007.
- (b) Cllr John Reynolds – confirmed that the process for consideration of nomination of Members for the S.101 Committee would be made through the County Council's Cabinet Committee after the elections and then to Full Council on 15 May 2007.
- (c) Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith – nominations for the S.101 Committee to be decided at Full Council on 24 May 2007.
- (d) Cllr Sian Reid – requested that the dates be set as early as possible for the S.101 Committees so that Members who wish to be nominated can diarise them. Suggested that an early meeting of the Committees would be very beneficial with training and briefings scheduled from the end of June.
- (e) Cllr Sian Reid – said that the planning arrangements in place for the Addenbrookes 20:20 Vision/MRC will continue through Cambridge City Council under the present arrangements. It is expected that outline planning would be made before 1 September 2007.
- (f) Cllr Sebastian Kindersley – asked if outline planning was not made before 1 September 2007 would the application be determined by the S.101 Committee? It was agreed by the Committee that both the outline and full application for Addenbrookes 20:20 Vision/MRC would be determined under the existing arrangements.
- (g) Cllr John Reynolds – need to be clear of the process that this Committee is taking. Discussions at these meetings will be reported back to each authority for verification and approval.

**Chief
Executive**

Item 4 – Planning for the Future Secondary Education Provision

- 4.1 Hazel Belchamber, Head of Infrastructure at Cambridgeshire County Council presented the paper and asked the Committee to note the work that had been undertaken to date.
- 4.2 Hazel Belchamber went on to say that the report had been endorsed by the Cabinet of Cambridgeshire County Council today and it was agreed to progress to the next stage. A further report would be presented on the 22 May 2007 setting out recommendations on the future provision of secondary education in Cambridge. This report would consider all alternative options including the needs of the 11-19 age range not just 11-16 age range working with the LSC to contribute to the report. Further consideration would be made with S.106 contributions and the Building Schools for the Future programme. All alternative options will be considered.
- 4.3 Board Members asked questions and made the following comments:-
- (a) Cllr Sian Reid thanked the County Council especially Hazel for the progress that has been made with the Review of Secondary Education. Cllr Reid asked that Post 16 education be considered at the next stage. Cllr Reid also stressed the importance of the Design Champion Role for the Primary/Secondary schools so that in 20 years time not all locations within the Cambridge Sub-region will look the same.
- (b) Cllr Sebastian Kindersley – agreed with Cllr Reid’s comments. Stressed the importance of engaging the public in the growth agenda. Cllr Kindersley asked how the new education provision would effect the existing residents between Cambridge and St Neots ie those within the catchment area of Bassingbourn and Melbourn Village Colleges?
- Cllr Kindersley went on to ask if this Committee would receive similar reports for example from the Highways Agency, Anglian Water, Environment Agency and the Fire Authority. The Chairman confirmed this.
- (c) Cllr Dr David Bard - unfortunate that the scope of the Review was limited to Cambridge City. Need to take an holistic approach to education provision in the Cambridge Sub-region. This was agreed.
- (d) The Chairman asked if the report to Cabinet in May would cover education provision for Northstowe. Hazel Belchamber confirmed that they are looking initially at provision for 6 primary schools and one secondary school and also looking at Federation Models.

- (e) The Chief Executive stressed the importance of discussing this report again at the meeting to be scheduled at the end of May in relation to the S.106 funding. This would also give the opportunity to receive feedback from the developers.
- (f) Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith – Where will the final arbitration be made on S.106, is it this Committee’s responsibility? The Chief Executive recommended that a joint decision be made at this Committee then these recommendations be put to Councils for authorisation. This was agreed.

4.4 It was confirmed that as part of legislation governed by Statutory Regulations all new schools would be established under the new competition regulations of the Education and Inspection Act 2006.

Item 5 – Minutes of Senior Officer Board/Northstowe Delivery Board/Fringe Sites Delivery Board

5.1 The Chief Executive presented the first set of minutes from the Senior Officer Board/Northstowe Delivery Board and the Fringe Sites Delivery Board.

5.2 Board Members asked questions and made the following comments:-

- (a) Cllr Dr David Bard – essential that the Highways Agency is invited to future Northstowe Delivery Board meetings so updates on the progression of the A14 are given to this Board. The Director for Development confirmed that the Highways Agency would be attending future meetings.
- (b) Cllr Sebastian Kindersley - referring to 5.9 of the Northstowe Delivery Board paper on the foul drainage, if the Swavesey drain does not have the capacity to cope with Northstowe and Cambourne does the Environment Agency have a plan and is this flagged on the Risk Assessment Register. The Director for Development confirmed that the Risk Management approach to major sites will flag up any key issues
- (c) Cllr John Reynolds – How will the Risk Register be reported to this Committee, suggest that the Committee focuses on the top risks. Need to ensure that correct processes are in place to expedite and solve any risks. The Director for Development confirmed that the Senior Officer Board that supports this committee will closely monitor identified risks. The highly rated risks will be brought to this Committee for debate.
- (d) Cllr John Reynolds – How is Programme Management progressing? The Director for Development confirmed that there is a layered approach to Project Management in place.

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- (e) Cllr Sebastian Kindersley – do not underestimate the challenges that lie ahead, we need to be open and involve the public at every opportunity.

**Item 6 – Major Development Sites Key Issues and
Item 7 – Conflict Resolution**

6.1 The Chief Executive presented the paper as an example of critical issues/agreements that will need to be resolved. The Chief Executive asked the Committee to consider how future conflicts will be resolved between the authorities before negotiations with developers can be concluded.

6.2 Board Members asked questions and made the following comments:-

- (a) Cllr Sebastian Kindersley – What happens when there is a conflict and a decision needs to be made?
- (b) Cllr John Reynolds – S.106 finality of resource available although awaiting the outcome of PGS. Other funding will need to be found to support growth delivery.
- (c) Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith – Capital Programmes directed to the needs of the County. Revolving Fund important to this.
- (d) Cllr Sian Reid – S.106 cannot be the only source of funding. Where is the funding gap coming from? Need to assess the infrastructure requirements identified in the work on the Long Term Delivery Plan.
- (e) Director for Development – the work on the Long Term Delivery Plan by Deloitte is nearing completion and will assess the long-term infrastructure requirements to 2021 and 2031. Recommendations for the infrastructure deficit and how this could be addressed will also be identified in the report.
- (f) Chief Executive – the Heads of Terms for Southern Fringe Addenbrookes 20:20 Vision will need to be settled by the end of May for outline planning to be given in July. The Chief Executive asked that discussions/agreements relating to S.106 applications for Southern Fringe be made at the next meeting of the Joint Strategic Growth Implementation Committee.
- (g) Cllr John Reynolds – The Committee need to be able to put forward the right suggestions to take back to the Local Authorities.
- (h) Cllr Sian Reid – asked that Resourcing/Growth issues to be discussed at the next meeting.

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- (i) Cllr Ray Manning – in relation to the Conflict Resolution felt that this Committee would be able to find a way forward to take back to Members.

6.3 From the discussions the Chairman proposed that this Committee would endeavour to resolve any conflicts within its remit. This was agreed.

Item 8 – Agenda Plan and Any Other Business

8.1 It was agreed to hold an additional meeting of this Committee at the end of May and this was scheduled for Thursday, 31 May from 10 am – 12 noon.

8.2 It was agreed that the following items would be put on the Agenda Plan for the meeting on 31 May include:-

- Strategic Programme
- Risk Register
- Long Term Delivery Plan
- Southern Fringe
- Update on Review of Secondary Education Provision in Cambridge
- Resources

8.3 The other scheduled Committee meeting dates for 2007 were agreed.

Item 9 - Date of next meeting:-

Thursday, 31 May 2007 at 10.00 am – 12 noon in the Swansley Room at South Cambridgeshire District Council.