

Joint Strategic Growth Implementation Committee

Minutes from the Committee Meeting of Tuesday, 17 July 2007 Room 128, 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 Nichola Harrison, Cambridgeshire County Council
Cllr Lewis Herbert, Cambridge City Council
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 Roy Pegram, Cambridgeshire County Council
Cllr Sian Reid, Cambridge City Council
Cllr John Reynolds, Cambridgeshire County Council

Also in attendance:

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

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

Andrew Tice, Kings Sturge – presenting Item No. 11

PART 1 (Public)

Item 1 – Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the Joint Strategic Growth Implementation Committee.
- 1.2 No apologies had been received.

Actions

Item 2 – Minutes of the Joint Strategic Growth Implementation Committee – 17 April 2007

- 2.1 The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting of Tuesday, 17 April 2007.

Item 3 – Progress on Major Development Sites

- 3.1 The Director for Development presented the paper and asked the Committee to note and comment on the progress made.

- 3.2 Committee Members asked questions and made the following comments:-

- (a) Cllr John Reynolds – what underpins the delivery of the items listed in the Strategic Programme Summary and Project Risk and Opportunities Register?

The Chairman confirmed that this would be discussed further under Agenda Item No. 5 of the agenda.

- (b) Cllr Roy Pegram – Members are accountable and responsible for the delivery of the major developments in the Cambridge Sub-region and as such requested more detailed documents under this item rather than the Summary provided to assist in the scoping of this and to reflect accountability

- (c) Cllr Lewis Herbert – asked for confirmation that the North West Cambridge Transport Strategy will be consulted on and the final report agreed before the Submission of the AAP.

Graham Hughes confirmed that the Transport Strategy would be consulted on.

- (d) Cllr Sian Reid – confirmed that the item 3.4 Cambridge North West in the report accurately summarises the current situation but is subject to legal advice.

- (e) Cllr Ray Manning – South Cambridgeshire District Council had passed Option E today for North West .

- (f) Cllr Nichola Harrison – suggested that the Master Programme for each of the development sites be given under this item at future meetings. Cllr Harrison also asked for the Committee to be given some steer in tackling some of the items listed in the Project Risk and Opportunities Register I Appendix 3.

The Director for Development responded by saying that a summary in tabular form was provided as the Master Programmes are very long. The Delivery Boards set up for

**Director for
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(Cambridgeshire
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**The Director of
Sustainable
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(CCC)**

**Director for
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the major sites have responsibility for the Programmes and Risk Register. Officers collectively decided what items need debating at this Committee.

Item 4 – Planning for the Future Secondary Education Provision in Cambridge City

- 4.1 Hazel Belchamber, Head of Infrastructure at Cambridgeshire County Council tabled (attached) and presented a paper on this issue and asked the Committee to note the work that had been undertaken to date.
- 4.2 Hazel Belchamber went on to say that the synchronisation of Post-16 Provision with secondary schools is also being discussed and consultation will take place in the early part of the Autumn term.

It has also been indicated by the new Prime Minister that the responsibility for Post-16 education will return to the Local Authority from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) in the future but no indication has been given as to how this transition will take place.

- 4.3 Hazel Belchamber tabled a further 3 papers to the Committee, these were entitled:-
- Consultation and Competition – Outline Timetable Northstowe and Southern Fringe Secondary School;
 - New Schools Competition Process;
 - Developing the Specification for a New School

- 4.4 Committee Members asked questions and made the following comments:-

- (a) Cllr Sian Reid – has any other source of funding for the provision of secondary schools been identified outside of S.106? Will the specification for a new school incorporate design and sustainability standards?

Hazel Belchamber responded by saying that the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Programme will come on stream in 2012/13. However this is restricted to investment in existing schools.

Design standards for new schools will be of Breeam Excellence. The architectural design rests with the promoter, however the specification in terms of standards will be set for Cabinet to endorse.

- (b) Cllr Sebastian Kindersley – congratulated Hazel Belchamber on the quality and information in the report. He then referred to 4.3 (b) of the minutes of the meeting of the 17 April 2007 and

requested that similar reports from the Highways Agency, Anglian Water, Cambridge Water, Environment Agency and the Fire Authority be brought to this Committee. The Chairman agreed to this request.

Chairman

- (c) Cllr Dr David Bard – concerned that the education provision allocated for Northstowe ie one secondary school was insufficient for the new town.

Hazel Belchamber informed the Committee that she would be meeting with the Planning Officers from South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) and Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) to examine the demographics of Northstowe with the view that it maybe necessary to recommend to Cabinet the provision of 2 secondary schools for Northstowe.

4.5 The Chairman thanked Hazel Belchamber for her work.

Item 5 – Co-ordination of Programme, Strategic Risks and Key Issues

5.1 The Director of Development presented the paper to the Committee. The Director confirmed that the Delivery Plans highlighted in 2.9 would be brought to this Committee. The Director invited Members of the Committee to a Project Management Workshop for Cambridgeshire Horizons Board Members and which is likely to be held on the morning of Thursday, 4 October 2007.

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Development
(Cambridgeshire
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5.2 Committee Members asked questions and made the following comments:-

(a) The Chairman suggested to the Committee that agenda item no. 3 Progress on Major Development Sites and agenda item no. 5 Co-ordination of Programme, Strategic Risks and Key Issues be brought to future meetings as a combined paper. This was agreed.

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(Cambridgeshire
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(b) Cllr Pegram – suggested that the Director incorporates a ‘*by exception*’ reporting slip with the combined paper.

(c) Cllr John Reynolds – How do we prepare ourselves for these essential Planning Functions? Posts not likely to be filled until the next calendar year, what impact does this have in terms of timelines and delivery standards required?

The Director replied by saying that the 3 year Business Plan Key Dates in Appendix 2 was approved for consultation at the Cambridgeshire Horizons Full Board meeting on 22 June 2007. Resources will be allocated to tasks to meet the timeline, consultants will be used to fill any gaps and to undertake any studies.

The Chairman confirmed this and informed the Committee that we have had slippage of some 2 ½ months whilst awaiting the agreement of the Section 29 Committee which confirmed the exact amount of funding allocated to the Cambridge Sub-region.

- (d) Cllr John Reynolds – Consultants still need managing, this may need to be incorporated into the Risk Register.
- (e) Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith – Do we need to spend all the funding by 31 March 2008, is there any year-end flexibility with DCLG/Treasury? Chief Executive confirmed that he would explore this with DCLG but it may not help Programmes by carrying funding over to the next financial year, we need to look at what is needed and how this can be delivered in the appropriate timescale.

**Chief Executive
(Cambridgeshire
Horizons)**

Item 6 – Long Term Delivery Plan and Strategic Infrastructure Funding

6.1 The Chief Executive presented the paper and asked the Committee to consider and debate the report.

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

- (a) Cllr Sian Reid – Climate Change is an integral part of the Long Term Delivery Plan (LTDP) and needs to be included within the Plan and requested through this Committee that the LTDP be reviewed to include Climate Change..
- (b) Cllr Sebastian Kindersley – Referred to 3.2 of the report, and said that which growth scenario option will be used for infrastructure requirements depends on political decisions.
- (c) Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith – Need to plan for future infrastructure requirements as far as is reasonably possible.
- (d) Cllr Nichola Harrison – Suggested that an external appraisal of the Environmental Sustainability of the LTDP is commissioned. The Chairman agreed to this and a report will be brought to this meeting in October.

**Chief Executive
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Cllr Harrison also suggested looking at other sources of funding for specific projects as we need to test the market as a back-up for S.106 and highlighted Chesterton Station as a possible pilot.

The Chief Executive responded by saying that this was a good idea although Chesterton Station would provide both

capital growth and an income stream that is likely to make it very affordable by the private sector. What might be more appropriate would be to pilot a project that had no obvious income generation as this would be a better indication for most of the infrastructure projects to be funded.

Item 7 – Section 29 Committee (including Terms of Reference)

7.1 The Director of Sustainable Infrastructure at Cambridgeshire County Council presented the paper. He confirmed that the principle of the Section 29 Committee had been agreed and asked the Committee to consider the Outline Terms of Reference in Appendix 1

7.2 Committee Members asked questions and made the following comments:-

(a) Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith – signed up in principle to the Section 29 Committee but need to get to an agreed common approach. Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council need to work together to get to this agreement. No need to endorse today.

The Chairman responded by saying that the signing off of the Section 29 Committee was a matter of some urgency. The rolling fund, essential funding for infrastructure, needs to be made available and the Government will not make a start on funding until the Section 29 Committee proposal had been submitted to Government.

(b) Cllr Dr David Bard – Some issues need clarity before the Section 29 Committee can be signed off.

(c) Cllr Sebastian Kindersley – questioned the inclusion of the bullet point outlined in the Terms of Reference namely:

There are no specific powers in relation to planning for County Infrastructure that could be given to the Committee. However, the County's role as statutory consultee on development plans should be fulfilled and enhanced by participation in the Committee.

The Director responded by saying that the scope of the committee in the Terms of Reference was agreed by Senior Officers from the 3 Local Authorities and are suggestions for debate.

(d) Cllr Ray Manning – Require a Plan to be attached with the Terms of Reference showing the area where the Joint Committee will cover.

(e) Cllr Lewis Herbert – Delivery of growth should be joined up and needs joint working. The Section 29 Committee needs to be agreed as soon as possible, suggested a deadline be set.

(f) The Chairman requested that a confirmed proposal and agreed Terms of Reference be brought to the next JSGIC meeting in September for agreement by the Committee.

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Item 8 – Proposed Allocation of Additional Resources for Growth

8.1 The Director of Sustainable Infrastructure at Cambridgeshire County Council presented the paper on behalf of the Directors from Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire Horizons and asked the committee to note the work that had been undertaken on identifying the proposed allocation of additional resources and asked the Committee to approve the proposed resource allocation contained in Table 1 and the detail behind that contained in Appendix 1

8.2 Committee Members asked questions and made the following comments:-

(a) Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith & Cllr Sian Reid – Agree to the allocation of funding but requested that a post be moved from Appendix 2 to Appendix 1– Biodiversity Projects Officer for Cambridge City Council.

(b) Cllr Ray Manning – Agreed to the proposals as outlined in the report and appendices.

8.3 After a lengthy debate it was agreed by the Committee to approve the proposed resource allocation contained in Table 1 and Appendix 1 to allow the process of allocation to commence. Assessment of the other posts listed in Appendix 2 to be considered at the September meeting.

Agenda Plan

Item 9 – Agenda Plan and Any Other Business

9.1 There was no other business.

9.2 The following items would be put on the Agenda Plan for the meeting on 11 September :-

- Southern Fringe S106
- Proposed Allocation of Additional Resources for Growth
- Section 29 Committee

9.3 The following items would be put on the Agenda plan for the meeting on 17 October:-

- Long Term Delivery Plan

Item 10 - Date of next meeting

Tuesday, 11 September 2007 at 3 pm – 5 pm in the Swansley Room at South Cambridgeshire District Council.