

Cheltenham Development Task Force Board Meeting

Item 47/17

Friday 28th April 2017 - 2.00pm – 4:30pm
Pittville Room, Municipal offices, Cheltenham

Open Minutes of meeting

Present: Graham Garbutt (Independent Chair)
 Stephen Clarke
 Simon Excell
 Michael Ratcliffe
 Jeff Brinley
 Tim Atkins
 Rohan Torkildsen
 Cllr Nigel Moor
 Cllr Andrew McKinlay
 Diane Savory
 Joyce Clifford

Other: Jeremy Williamson
 Cllr Steve Jordan
 Fraser Reid
 Howard Barber
 Mirjam Wiedemann
 Tracey Crews

No.	Item	Action
24/17	Apologies: Rosalind Andrews, Bernice Thomson, Robert Duncan, Dorian Wragg, Cllr Chris Nelson, Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Vernon Smith, Mark Sheldon, David Roberts, Mike Redman, Scott Tompkins & Mark Parker	
	The Chair welcomed Mirjam Wiedemann the new Place & Economic Development Manager and Rohan Torkildsen now attending in place of Board member Ross Simmonds.	
25/17	Declarations of Interest: SE confirmed declaration of interest as sponsor of GLTB projects but noted that these were now managed as part of the growth fund by the LEP; also interest in relation to the TRO issues.	
26/17	Minutes of previous meeting 20/01/16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open minutes – issues of accuracy: Page 3 under item 06/17 - JCS update, the last sentence in paragraph 7 should read, “Cllr N Moor noted that the Inspector’s view of the overall growth proposal was not significant <i>in terms of transport implications</i>”. Also on page 3 under the same item number, paragraph 9 should read, “inadequate cycle paths in developments around <i>North West Cheltenham</i>”, and not Bishops Cleeve as stated. The minutes were otherwise approved. • Confidential minutes – recorded as accurate. 	

27/17	<p>Action Matrix and Matters Arising – as noted All other items were either actioned or on the agenda for discussion.</p>	
28/17	<p>Confirmation of confidentiality of items Agreed as proposed - held as confidential commercial items.</p>	
Matters for information		
29/17	<p>Wider matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheltenham BID update SJ provided an update. The current focus was on new events such as Cocktail Week. BID Board were scheduled to meet again on 03/05/17. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Core Strategy & Cheltenham Local Plan Cllr SJordan & TC confirmed that public consultation in response to the strategic allocations and main modifications had concluded 2 weeks previously & that feedback would go directly to the Inspector for consideration. The planning team were anticipating an examination in public being set up to start on 26/06/17 and the Inspector would write a report at the outcome of the process. Once confirmed the start date will be put in the public domain. <p>An AONB review had been carried out as part of the public consultation on which the Inspector's views were yet unknown. All representations were now within the public domain.</p> <p>TC advised the public to start planning their representations for the Inspector to hear during the session to be held on West Cheltenham. Cllr AMcKinlay confirmed that an application for a neighbourhood area being formed at Springbank would be considered by Cabinet on 16/05/17; providing a further vehicle for representation. Papers for Cabinet would be published the following week.</p> <p>SE confirmed the new transport model was now available for use by the JCS as a priority and that information to be fed into the model would be provided by the Inspector. TC reported that once JCS and related planning appeals had been submitted a final decision would be entirely down to the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth Fund 3 DS confirmed that overall the LEP had now secured £107m for Gloucestershire. £28m funding being awarded under Growth Deal 3 and a significant proportion (£22m) would be coming to Cheltenham; providing huge opportunities. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J10, A46 <p>SE confirmed GCC had failed in its DfT bid for £1.2m feasibility funding to make J10 in to a four-ways junction. However linkages to the North West Cheltenham planning application and West Cheltenham Cyber Park would provide further opportunities to look at need in parallel with the outcome of traffic modelling once completed. SE to provide further update at the next meeting.</p> <p>In terms of the A46 JW updated on recent activity relating to the link from the M5 J9 and Coventry. The last 18 months had seen significant works carried out at Coventry and as the A46 was effectively a release corridor for the M5 discussions had taken place around possible short term measures being introduced, eg: improved traffic light signalling works at Ashchurch. Longer term measures might see the entire corridor being made dual-carriageway. SE confirmed that Cllr VSmith had organised two public events at Tewkesbury in February - one directed at the public and the other at business; information from both would go to Highways England and the DfT.</p>	SE
Matters for consideration		
30/17	<p>Place Strategy</p> <p>TA circulated copies of an overarching strategy now agreed by CBC and provided a brief summary of objectives and strategic ambitions for Cheltenham to make itself a greater place than currently.</p> <p>A strategy was needed to ensure from a business and investment perspective that the necessary interventions are put in place to deliver making Cheltenham a place where everyone thrives. Core values need developing around creating, nurturing, connecting and pioneering to make Cheltenham the place we want it to become during the next 10-20 years.</p> <p>As the visitor economy is important to the wider region there was need to build stronger visitor attractions, but at the same time there is need to attract investment as a major challenge will be keeping young people in the County.</p> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an action plan for specific work streams. • Look to develop a world class space – improving public realm, town centre, town hall etc. • Develop unique selling points Cheltenham has eg: cyber park. • Take forward initial consultation via stakeholder groups and broaden consultation of action plan through open events. <p>Cllr NMoor felt public realm should be the driving focus to unite everyone’s interest. The Chair highlighted the need for public spaces that could enhance the tourist and local experience. TA currently working on consistent messaging about delivering great ambition through an overarching structure.</p>	

	<p>JB queried whether there was a plan to incentivise regional businesses and large employers to help create career paths for young people. TA explained how space was currently a challenge but that the longer term strategy was to put infrastructure in place. DS highlighted that Gfirst LEP's role was to help local educators provide what's needed for businesses and how the Growth Hub's network was being rolled out over the next 12 months to help grow businesses.</p> <p>In response to RT's query about linkages to the Local Plan TA reported his intention to feed the information into the long term future view of the town for which the action plan would provide necessary correlation. The document being discussed had a more overarching view to set ambition against using the Local Plan as a delivery tool.</p>	
<p>31/17</p>	<p>Cheltenham Spa Station Since the last presentation by Matt Barnes (GWR) further meetings had taken place with GWR about the framework of a wider project incorporating 'access for all', cycle track, improved parking and new frontage to the station. A key element to address was Cheltenham Festival and a sub-group involving Stagecoach and the Racecourse had been set up to look at related issues. Of 120,000 visitors to the Racecourse 90,000 had been transported from the station so it was key to ensure logistics are sorted before any changes to the station takes place. Project funding for these items was effectively in place; only funding for station enhancements such as improved ticket office was yet to be secured. Meanwhile works would also be carried out to accommodate the new Inter City trains scheduled to come into service next year eg: longer platforms.</p>	
<p>32/17</p>	<p>Cheltenham Transport Plan – update & early outcomes of phase 2 FR reported that phase 2 changes to the road network on Imperial Square North were completed before The Festival. Re-surfacing was carried out just after and the road re-opened the following week. To date some feedback received about impaired traffic flows during certain times of day. Formal traffic monitoring to begin w/c 8th May to compare effects of work against modelled data.</p> <p>If no major issues identified phase 3 changes will be implemented in Clarence Street / Clarence Parade in terms of removing the signalised junction on the corner into Clarence Parade and making the area two-way for greater permeability. GCC potentially looking to put an experimental Order in place for closure of Boots Corner later in the year depending on monitoring results overall.</p> <p>So far phase 1 saw two sets of traffic lights removed and phase 2 one set. In addition GCC is undertaking a review of traffic lights across Cheltenham so any areas of concern will be passed on accordingly.</p> <p>MR reported that phase 2 works around Wolseley Terrace had significantly improved pedestrian access to the Town Hall.</p> <p>SE offered to provide members of the public with further updates in advance of the next Task Force meeting if required.</p>	
<p>Confidential items</p>		

	<p>To confirm date & time of next meetings Friday 14th July 2017 Friday 20th October 2017 Friday 19th January 2018 All 2:00pm at the Municipal Offices, Cheltenham</p>	
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