

**GREATER BRIGHTON ECONOMIC BOARD**

**10.00am 14 OCTOBER 2014**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, LEWES TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillor J Kitcat (Chair), Councillor Blackman, Councillor Parkin, Councillor G Theobald, Councillor Turner, Councillor Wall

**Business Partners:** Chris Baker, Prof. Michael Davies, Peter Davies, Dean Orgill, Ian Parkes, John A. Peel, Andrew Swayne, Lynn Thackway

**Others present:** Councillor Goldsmith

**PART ONE**

**16 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**16a Declarations of substitutes**

16.1 There were none.

**16b Declarations of interests**

16.2 There were none.

**16c Exclusion of the press and public**

16.3 In accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the Act"), the Board considered whether the public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item of business on the grounds that it is likely in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during it, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information as defined in Section 100A (3) of the Act.

16.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items contained in part two of the agenda.

**17 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AND ANY ACTIONS**

17.1 **RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 July 2014 be approved and signed as the correct record.

17.2 In reference to item 10.11 John A. Peel enquired to the outcome of these discussions, if they had taken place.

17.3 Ian Parkes clarified that the discussions had clarified a disagreement in the positions of the LGA and LEP.

**18 (PRESENTATION) RAMPION OFFSHORE WIND FARM**

18.1 The Board considered a presentation from E.O.N representatives regarding the Rampion Offshore Wind Farm project. The presentation covered:

- Key project milestones
- Scope of the project (Offshore and onshore)
- Preparation for construction
- Construction
- Operation and maintenance
- Community benefits
- Opportunities for local businesses and training
- An indicative project timetable

18.2 Councillor Blackman extended an offer of assistance for apprentice placement from Lewes District Council and further enquired as to the schedule of payback on the project.

18.3 The representative from E.O.N clarified that there was a 20 year life cycle investment based on the current rates of return adding that the project was part of a sustainable technology drive by the organisation.

18.4 The Chair asked if sharing Shoreham power station had been considered.

18.5 Representatives from E.O.N explained that this option had been analysed but there was not currently sufficient spare capacity available at Shoreham power station for this project.

18.6 Councillor Wall stated he welcomed the focus on making a very large facility discreet within the landscape.

18.7 John A. Peel asked how tall the turbines would be.

18.8 The E.O.N representatives clarified that the turbines were permitted to be 210 metres tall (to the tip) but the organisation were currently planning for less than that height.

18.9 John A. Peel asked of organisations were being consulted on the proposed supported community fund and if Sussex Community Foundation would be one of those.

18.10 The E.O.N representatives confirmed that they had met with various groups including Sussex Community Foundation. They explained that E.O.N's approach was to leave the decision on how to use the fund to the local community and they would be appointing a Liaison Officer to assist this process.

18.11 **RESOLVED-** That the presentation be noted.

## 19 CITY DEAL AND GROWTH DEAL IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

19.1 The Board considered a report that provided an update on the progress made on setting up and delivering the projects in the Greater Brighton Investment Programme which had already been allocated funding through either the City Deal or Coast to Capital Local Growth Fund. Furthermore, the report also provided an update on the governance arrangements with the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for the Local Growth Fund funded projects.

19.2 The Chair stated that it was very important for the Board to deliver the projects in order to demonstrate capability to do so should there be a next round of funding.

19.3 Councillor Theobald asked how the project for Brighton City College was progressing.

19.4 Ian Parkes clarified that the project was expected to be completed sometime during the 2015/16 financial year.

19.5 Prof. Davies noted that spend profiles for some projects were incomplete.

19.6 Ian Parkes clarified that the document was a work in progress and was expected to be complete by October or November 2015 and all would be supplemented with better commentary.

19.7 John A. Peel reiterated the importance of delivery of projects but also stressed the importance of thorough preparation as there was an expectation that the detail requirements would be much more narrow in the next funding round.

19.8 **RESOLVED-** That the Greater Brighton Economic Board:

- 1) Note the progress made in the delivery of City Deal and Local Growth Fund projects
- 2) Note the current position in relation to the development of governance and assurance arrangements between the LEP and the Economic Board for Local Growth Fund projects

## 20 GREATER BRIGHTON INVESTMENT PROGRAMME - 2016/17 PROJECT PIPELINE

20.1 The Board considered a report that outlined the proposed project pipeline for projects within the Greater Brighton Investment Programme that were scheduled to start in 2016/17 and could form part of the Coast to Capital's LEP bid for funding from Round 2 of the Local Growth Fund. The report also outlined the proposed list of projects for submission to the LEP for loan financing through the LEP's allocation of £88m Public Works Board facility.

20.2 Councillor Wall noted that there was currently no prioritisation in the list of projects.

20.3 The Head of City Regeneration clarified that it was not deemed necessary to rank the projects as it was very early in the project timeline.

20.4 **RESOLVED-** That the Greater Brighton Economic Board:

- 3) Agrees the project pipeline for the 2016/17 Greater Brighton Investment Programme, recognising the new projects may come forward
- 4) Requests that the Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board develops full business cases for each of the pipeline projects
- 5) Agrees to submit the list of proposals outlined in para 3.7 to the LEP for consideration for Public Loan Work Board facility

## **21 GREATER BRIGHTON EMPLOYMENT & SKILL PLAN**

21.1 The Head of Regeneration Brighton & Hove City Council provided a verbal update on the item that covered the following:

- The commitment to a city region approach to employment and skills and ongoing discussions whether this would be most effective as a strategy or targeted;
- Ongoing discussions regarding school attainment and the possibility of a Greater Brighton Skills Plan;
- Coast to Capital currently had their own skills strategy and were helping set up a skills event alongside Coastal West Sussex. This was one of three events that would also include others on Business Support and Social Inclusion;
- The Programme remained a work in progress and it was hoped to bring a report to the next Board meeting in January that would include the result of the events above.

21.2 The Chair asked if the Board Members could attend the events.

21.3 Ian Parkes stated that they were all open events and he would clarify the status for Board Members.

21.4 **RESOLVED-** That the update be noted.

## **22 (PRESENTATION) CITY REGION BRANDING STRATEGY**

22.1 The Board considered a presentation outlining ideas for City Region branding.

22.2 Andrew Swayne stated that the idea was a good solution and was bright and simple.

22.3 Councillor Yallop asked if the strategy would be discussed with the South Downs National Park Authority.

22.4 The Chair stated that discussions regarding mutual benefit were in progress.

22.5 Councillor Theobald stated his support for branding for the City Region.

22.6 **RESOLVED-** That the presentation be noted.

**23 GREATER BRIGHTON INVESTMENT PROGRAMME - 2016/17 PROJECT PIPELINE-  
EXEMPT CATEGORY 3**

As detailed in the Part 2 confidential report.

**24 PART TWO PROCEEDINGS**

24.1 **RESOLVED-** That the information contained in the appendix to item 23 remains exempt from disclosure to the press and public.

The meeting concluded at 11.20am

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

