

THE CITY OF NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 10.30 AM AT ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMBERS PRESENT

(A denotes absent)

Chairman – Councillor Alan Rhodes – Nottinghamshire County Council
Vice- Chairman – Councillor Neil Clarke MBE – Rushcliffe Borough Council

Mayor Kate Allsop – Mansfield District Council
Councillor Roger Blaney – Newark and Sherwood District Council
Councillor Cheryl Butler – Ashfield District Council
Councillor John Clarke – Gedling Borough Council **A**
Councillor Jon Collins – Nottingham City Council **A**
Councillor Tony Harper – Broxtowe Borough Council (substitute for Councillor Richard Jackson)
Councillor Richard Jackson – Broxtowe Borough Council **A**
Councillor Michael Payne – Gedling Borough Council (substitute for Councillor John Clarke)
Councillor Jo White – Bassetlaw District Council

OFFICERS PRESENT

Fiona Anderson – Nottinghamshire County Council
Keith Ford – Nottinghamshire County Council
Geoff George – Nottinghamshire County Council
Allen Graham – Chief Executive, Rushcliffe Borough Council
Chris Henning – Nottingham City Council
Mike Hill – Gedling Borough Council
Ruth Hyde – Broxtowe Borough Council
Anthony May – Chief Executive, Nottinghamshire County Council
Robert Mitchell – Ashfield District Council
Andrew Muter – Newark & Sherwood District Council
Mike Robinson – Mansfield District Council
David Ralph – Chief Executive, D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership
James Schrodell – Nottingham City Council
Neil Taylor – Bassetlaw District Council
Robert Wilkinson – Bassetlaw District Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Clarke, Councillor Jon Collins and Councillor Richard Jackson. Apologies were also received from Ian Curryer (Nottingham City Council), John Robinson (Gedling District Council) and Bev Smith (Mansfield District Council).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2016, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true and correct record and were confirmed and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

4. EMERGING EAST MIDLANDS HS2 GROWTH STRATEGY AND PHASE 2 ROUTE ANNOUNCEMENT

David Ralph reported to the Committee on two recent Government announcements concerning:-

- i) New command papers for HS2 which set out the revised preferred route for the second phase of HS2. This included some changes to the original proposals, for example the route would now go around East Midlands Airport, close to Keyworth and the M1 corridor, rather than underneath the airport. Also, the Sheffield station was no longer planned for Meadowhall. The final preferred route would be published in a year's time. The main contracts for Phase 1 would begin to be awarded from early 2017 and the successful contractors were likely to have a chance of securing the Phase 2 contracts also.
- ii) The East Midlands HS2 Growth Strategy – Emerging Strategy – this document was tabled for Members' information. The final strategy would be published in early summer 2017. A Skills and Supply Chain scoping report about the economic opportunities of HS2 was being developed and had been initially considered by the Skills Programme Board last week. Further work was needed with this, with specific focus upon:-
 - i. the station and immediate area;
 - ii. directly related sites – e.g. Chesterfield, Staveley, Station ironworks and Chetwyn Barracks;
 - iii. other sites affected but not directly on the route – e.g. city centres and park and ride sites.

The review of economic opportunities would include a mix of hi-tech, knowledge economy, housing and connectivity. Two specific pieces of additional work were needed around the opportunities for Chesterfield and Staveley and the investment proposition for the station and other sites. It was highlighted that the land around Toton station is owned by five different landowners. There had been initial discussions about developing a delivery vehicle to help progress the implementation of HS2.

During discussions, the following issues were raised:-

- with regard to the 'Mass Transit Strategy', Ashfield District Council planned to arrange a meeting around this aspect and Members were encouraged to input;

- Members emphasised the importance of keeping relevant Members and officers in the various councils informed of progress;
- it was clarified that the HS2 Strategic Board was the body leading on the overview of HS2, including the wider connectivity issues and engagement with relevant stakeholders. The HS2 Station Delivery Board was the lead body with regards to the area directly around the Toton Station, and the Greater Nottingham Planning Advisory Board was also undertaking planning and infrastructure work related to the Station. In terms of reporting lines it was clarified that the HS2 Programme Board was a sub-committee of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and that interested members from Councils not directly represented would not be excluded from attending meetings. Links into the HS2 Programme Board could be further clarified as part of any work around the potential new joint committee;
- Members highlighted that different councils had different priorities in terms of connectivity, including to the East Midlands Airport and the A1. The potential for turning the stretch of A1 in South Yorkshire into a motorway would be explored as part of the HS2 work;
- the 'East Midlands Hub' name was not finalised at this stage although an alternative suggestion put forward had not been taken on board.

RESOLVED 2016/029

- 1) That the Emerging East Midlands HS2 Growth Strategy be endorsed.
- 2) That the Phase 2 Route Announcement and the development of progress towards the full Growth Strategy for submission to Government in July 2017.

5. MIDLANDS ENGINE TRADE MISSION TO CHINA – 28 OCTOBER TO 4 NOVEMBER 2016

Anthony May introduced the report, highlighting the background and aims of the trade mission. The success of other authorities (including Nottingham, Derby, Sheffield and Birmingham) in securing inward investment as a result of trade links being developed with China were highlighted.

In discussions, the following issues were raised:-

- the importance of devoting appropriate levels of ongoing resource to this type of work was demonstrated by Nottingham City Council's experience, with a three year presence in China now starting to deliver results (the City Council offered to share their lessons learnt with the County Council in that respect);
- Members queried whether tangible outcomes from the Midlands Engine were apparent as yet. David Ralph clarified that the creation of the Midlands Engine Investment Fund was one such development, although the outcomes would not feel tangible until businesses began to receive investment from this £280m fund. Mr Ralph said that John Peace (Chairman of the Midlands Engine) had

been requested to attend a meeting of the LEP to discuss the Midlands Engine and it may also prove helpful if he were to attend a meeting of the Council Leaders. The role of the West Midlands Combined Authority in helping to drive the Midlands Engine was highlighted and they were keen to see a similar drive from the East Midlands authorities. Mr Ralph suggested that the establishment of dedicated posts could help to develop the Midlands Engine at a faster rate. The commitment of Nottinghamshire County Council and Derbyshire County Councils to ensuring that the interests of all parts of both counties were represented within the Midlands Engine was underlined.

RESOLVED 2016/030

That the following be noted:-

- a) the successful engagement of Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Council in the Midlands Engine Trade Mission to China;
- b) the opportunity to further enhance the relationships and activity, for both the City and County Councils, by building on the work in Ningbo and developing a bi-lateral agreement with the province of Zhejiang;
- c) the opportunity for District and Borough Councils (and the Local Enterprise Partnership) to collaborate with this initiative, working with the Chief Executives of the City and County Councils.

6. A COUNTY WIDE APPROACH TO THE MAYFLOWER 400 PROJECT

Robert Wilkinson introduced the report, explaining the history behind this issue and the fact that Bassetlaw had the strongest links of any place in the country to the Pilgrims. He highlighted the success of the 'Illuminate' event held on the evening of 24 November, attended by over 250 people.

During discussions, the following issues were raised:-

- Members welcomed the work undertaken so far and the planning in place for 2020 and 2120;
- Bassetlaw District Council was keen to encourage tourists to stay overnight in the area and was developing a package, including assisting potential visitors to trace their roots (with over 40 million United States citizens able to claim links back to the Pilgrims). The County's archives service had an important part to play, and the links to the Civil War Centre (with many pilgrims returning to England to fight on the side of the Parliamentarians before then returning to America) needed to be fully utilised;
- the shortage of overnight accommodation in the area would be best addressed by joint working. Creative solutions, such as seeking help from local residents to accommodate people for short stays; offering grants to people to adapt homes onto Bed n Breakfast accommodation; utilising the growing popularity

of companies such as 'Airbnb'; and pop-up hostel from the Youth Hostel Association would be fully explored;

- further discussions would be held with the new Chief Executive of Experience Nottinghamshire to see what work could be undertaken within the existing arrangements with the County Council and Newark & Sherwood District Council, with a view to developing an offer, which could be widened with additional resource provided from other Councils where appropriate.

The Chair thanked Mr Wilkinson for his interesting and informative presentation.

RESOLVED 2016/031

That the progress on the work to maximise the opportunities provided by the Mayflower 400 project be noted.

7. ERASMUS+ APPRENTICESHIP PROJECT

Mike Hill introduced the report about this scheme which had been fully-funded by the European Commission.

In discussions, the following issues were raised:-

- the City Council had developed a Jobs Hub in conjunction with the Futures careers service and officers agreed to share practice with Gedling colleagues;
- further discussions would take place on behalf of the Committee with the City Council about the City's proposals to run an Apprenticeship Brokerage Service which other Councils from within the County could link into. Members felt that it would be useful if the N2 Apprenticeship Strategy agreed at the last meeting could outline how the various different initiatives could be co-ordinated.

RESOLVED 2016/032

That the report be noted and Gedling Borough Council be requested to share any learning and best practice with partners.

8. WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED 2016/033

That the work programme be noted

The meeting closed at 11.38 am

CHAIRMAN