

minutes

Meeting	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Date	3 November 2015 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with `A`

COUNCILLORS

Diana Meale (Chair)
Roy Allan (Vice-Chair)

Steve Calvert
John Knight
Keith Walker
Gordon Wheeler

Stan Heptinstall
Elliott Boyd
John Wilmott

A Alan Rhodes (Ex-Officio)

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

A Mr M Chivers – (Alliance Boots)
 Ms N Gasson - (Federation of Small Businesses)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Geoff George	- Place
Fiona Anderson	- Place
Nicola McCoy-Brown	- Place
Martin Gately	- Resources

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

The following changes of membership for this meeting were noted: Councillor Steve Calvert replaced Councillor Michael Payne for this meeting only. In addition, Councillor Boyd Elliott replaced Councillor John Ogle for this meeting only.

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 8 September 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mark Chivers.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

THE PROPOSED ROBIN HOOD ENTERPRISE ZONE

Geoff George made a presentation to the committee regarding the proposed Robin Hood Enterprise Zone. The committee heard that the July budget had been followed by a DCLG invitation to the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) seeking bids which "...have been clearly identified as the Local Enterprise Partnership's top local growth priority" and "...include smaller towns, places and rural areas. The benefits of the establishment of an enterprise zone are LEP's retaining 100% of business rate growth for 25 years. In addition, either a 100% business rate discount for 5 years for businesses that enter the zone before 31st March 2022 – or in an assisted area, companies investing in plant and machinery can qualify for Enhanced Capital Allowances.

Criteria for an enterprise zone are as follows: delivery of economic growth via development of a strategy at a commercially sound and 'strong' location with value for money where benefits exceed costs and additional activity producing wider benefits. Four sites are associated with the Robin Hood Enterprise Zone: Summit Park, Berry Hill, Former Thoresby Colliery and Sherwood Energy Village. There is the potential for the development of between 4000-10,000 jobs. The project is strategically aligned with the Robin Hood Line developments and wider economic development ambitions.

RESOLVED: 2015/035

That the report be noted.

BETTER BROADBAND FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE – QUARTERLY UPDATE ON THE ROLLOUT

Nicola McCoy-Brown introduced the quarterly update on Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire.

RESOLVED: 2015/036

That:

- 1) the progress of the BBfN programme, and in particular, the prospect of achieving 98% superfast coverage by 2018 be noted.
- 2) the ministerial commitment to have universal availability of basic broadband by the end of the year and the consideration of the appropriateness of pursuing the satellite scheme by the BBfN programme delivery board be noted

- 3) the prospect of Nottinghamshire benefitting from the national gain share announcement be welcomed.
- 4) the Council's response to the Culture Media and Sport Select Committee inquiry into establishing world-class connectivity throughout the United Kingdom, which was taken as an urgent decision due to the deadlines involved, be noted.

THE D2N2 GROWTH HUB

Geoff George introduced the report on the D2N2 Growth Hub.

RESOLVED: 2015/036

That:

- 1) a budget allocation of £150,000 over a period of three years towards the D2N2 Growth Hub, commencing in the 2016/17 financial year subject to the terms referenced in the report be approved
- 2) it be confirmed that the committee's financial commitment be used as match towards the proposed ESIF submission, subject to the conclusion of the details as referenced in the report, with the final signing off of the ESIF submission and the budgetary phasing being undertaken by the Corporate Director for Place with the Chair of the Committee.

EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUND (ESIF) SUPPORT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BID

Fiona Anderson introduced the report on the European Structural and Investment Fund Support for Technical Assistance Bid.

RESOLVED: 2015/037

That:

- 1) the allocation of staff time for the 0.5 FTE Band C post as match funding for the D2N2 TA project for a three year period to enable the recruitment of 1 FTE post, specialising in European Regional Development Fund project development be approved
- 2) the allocation of a budget of £10,000 over the 3 year period as an operational budget to support the delivery of the TA programme be approved. This will be matched by the ERDF TA Programme creating a total operational budget of £20,000
- 3) delegated authority for the Corporate Director, Place to sign a letter of match funding support which is submitted with the partners' funding submission be approved (deadline November 5th)
- 4) Delegated authority for the Corporate Director, Place to sign a Partnership Agreement prior to the commencement of delivery activities.

EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUND (ESIF) UPDATE

Fiona Anderson introduced the update report on the European Structural and Investment Fund Support.

RESOLVED: 2015/038

That:

- 1) the update on the ESIF Employ Local project be noted
- 2) delegated powers for the Corporate Director, Place to sign the Partnership Agreement of the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council for the Employ Local bid be approved
- 3) the update on ESIF Youth Employment be noted
- 4) the County Council should lead discussions in relation to the Nottinghamshire element of Youth Employment funding with local authority partners to evaluate the merits of submitting a collaborative bid including an assessment of the most appropriate lead delivery partner

WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED 2015/039

That the work programme be noted.

The meeting closed at 15:55 pm

CHAIR