

**DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON**

**TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2015 FROM 10.00 AM TO 12.30 PM AT THE ARTS UNIVERSITY  
BOURNEMOUTH**

**Board Attendees:**

Alison Moore (AM)  
Andrea Smith (AS)  
Bruce Grant-Braham (BG)  
Diane Grannell (DG)  
Emma Hunt (EH)  
Geoffrey Smith (GS)  
Gordon Page (GP) - Chair  
James Weld (JW)  
Janet Walton (JWa)  
Jim Andrews (JA)  
Jim Stewart (JS)  
John Beesley (JB)  
Richard Smith (RS)  
Robert Gould (RG)

**Also Present:**

Angela Alderman (AA)  
Debbie Ward (DW)  
Ian Alford (IA)  
Kate Ryan (deputising for Andrew Flockhart)  
Kathryn Hill (KH)  
Martin Hamilton (MH)  
Richard Bates (RB)  
Rob Dunford (RD)  
Tony Williams (TW)  
Vinita Nawathe (VN)

**Presenting:**

Andrew Martin - Dorset County Council  
Annabel King - Dorset County Council  
Gareth Jones - Strategy Review  
Ian Price - Hanson Consulting  
Lawrence Vincent - ESB

**Apologies:**

Deborah Croney (DC)  
Jitinder Takhar (JT)  
Terence O'Rourke (TO)  
Andrew Flockhart (AF)

Item	Content	Who
1	<p><b>Apologies and Declaration of Interest</b></p> <p>1.1 Apologies received: Deborah Croney, Jitinder Takhar and Terence O'Rourke. Apologies also received from Andrew Flockhart.</p> <p>1.2 Alison Moore and Diane Grannell declared an interest in agenda item 3.1.2 in respect of project updates.</p>	
2	<p><b>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising</b></p> <p>The Minutes were agreed as an accurate reflection of the last meeting and the Action Log was reviewed.</p> <p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p>Housing Group - AS updated that they have considered the programme of works and projects coming up. She informed that the £50,000 was no longer necessary for what it was originally intended. The Projects are not reliant on LEP funding. She informed that the policy agenda was changing radically for housing and there is a need to consider that. The LEP should have a greater input into policy.</p>	
3.	<b>FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION</b>	
3.1.1	<p><b>Presentation on A338</b></p> <p>Andrew Martin - Head of Dorset Highways at Dorset County Council, Ian Price - Project Manager for Hanson and Annabel King - Senior Ecologist for Dorset County Council, gave a presentation on the A338 project, explaining the reason why the A338 needed to be re-built and the progress of the project.</p>	
3.1.2	<p><b>Programme Management Update (Confidential - Board Only)</b></p> <p>RD gave a Programme Management update. He explained the current situation in regards to the Growth Deal money that needs to be spent by the end of this financial year and that £3.1 million of the Growing Places Fund was going to be frozen to mitigate any problems arising with bringing forward some of the projects.</p> <p>RD informed that he had spoken to everyone concerned as to whether they were able to bring any work forward. Everyone who had a Growth Deal 2 project has been consulted.</p> <p>JWa said she will support it but does have some uncomfortable concerns. RB informed that he was happy that we have covered all the risk as far as we were able from an Accountable Body and Dorset County Council point of view. He explained we are not alone in this and that most LEPs around the country are in the same position.</p> <p>IA mentioned that the Western Growth Corridor would like to give a presentation to the Board if it was of interest and also that Holton Heath may come forward again at a later date and there was a wish that the LEP would consider this when it does.</p> <p><b>Action: All agreed happy to approve all the proposals in the paper.</b></p>	<p><b>All agreed</b></p>

Item	Content	Who
<b>3.</b>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION CONT'D</b>	
3.2.1	<p><b>Combined Authority Update</b></p> <p>RG gave an overview of the paper and the work being undertaken to move towards a Combined Authority.</p>	
3.2.2	<p><b>Devolution</b></p> <p>DW gave a presentation and update on Devolution. She explained it was about driving economic growth, public service reform and local government reform. It is about a deal being negotiated with Government by areas asking to do things they have not previously done. Creating jobs and delivering homes is a key part of any Devolution deals.</p> <p>She mentioned that if you have an elected Mayor the deals are being done quicker but we do not have that model in Dorset at the moment. Dorset is to have some of those discussions early in the New Year.</p> <p>JWa posed the question as to what this meant for the LEP and how the local authorities are going to work with the LEP. IA said it was a real opportunity for the LEP and business to be involved.</p> <p>BG asked the question as to why we don't have an elected Mayor.</p> <p>RG explained that we have got to sort out the ask and offer first and then sort out the governance.</p>	
3.3	<p><b>An Economic Vision for Dorset (Confidential - Board Only)</b></p> <p>VN introduced the Vision for Dorset and Gareth Jones and reminded that all had agreed at the last Board meeting to move forward with the strategy. Gareth Jones ran through his presentation.</p> <p>KR mentioned that need to think of future weaknesses/threats and not just the current ones. In regards to the aging population, EH also informed that need to look at the lower end of the age gap and that there will also be an issue with 17-18 year olds.</p> <p>IA stressed the need for speed with the discussions on this, so the LEP is able to feed into the Asks of Government and the local authority discussions.</p> <p><b>Action: If anyone would like to speak to Gareth they can contact him directly.</b></p> <p><b>Action: KH circulate presentation to the Board.</b></p> <p><b>Action: VN to organise some workshops with Board Members before Christmas to discuss the Vision and strategy.</b></p>	<p>All</p> <p>Closed</p> <p>VN</p>

Item	Content	Who
<b>3.</b>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION CONT'D</b>	
3.4	<p><b>Board Incorporation (Confidential - Board Only)</b></p> <p>VN spoke to the paper about incorporation and the Memorandum of Articles. She explained that she was steering towards a CIC, as this restricts what can be done with any assets acquired, so would be better for the LEP.</p> <p>Terms for the Chair was discussed and about making it a 3 year term with the option to re-appointment for another 3 year term and then another 3 year term.</p> <p>JWa expressed concerns about becoming a Director and wanted a legal view of implications involved in each decision that has to be made. VN said that it was fine if members wanted to take it back to their legal teams for review.</p> <p>IA pointed out that with Bournemouth Council, Poole Council and Dorset Councils the organisation would be the member, whereas with the District representative, the person would be the member. He wondered why it was to be set up differently.</p> <p><b>Action: Diane Grannell to come up with the definition of an FE College.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Jim Andrews to come up with the definition of a HE institution.</b></p>	<p><b>DG</b></p> <p><b>JA</b></p>
3.5.1	<p><b>ESB Annual Report</b></p> <p>GS introduced the paper and Lawrence Vincent (LV) who gave a presentation about the ESB Annual Report. The ESB want clarity from the LEP that the role of ESB is still wanted. LV explained that 'Making it Happen' was not a set of random projects but were selected to align with LEP priorities. The ESB thought the Strategic plans of the FE colleges should be put in front of Dorset LEP to ensure they align with the LEP's strategy. The ESB need to work more at advising the LEP.</p> <p>DG said she thought that the ESB should be setting the priorities for the FE colleges.</p> <p>LV explained that the ESB will set a work plan but they have to respond quickly to any change happening. The ESB are looking for formal support from the LEP.</p> <p>GP assured that skills and the ESB are key to the LEP and the LEP strategy.</p> <p>In regards to a question about representation from the financial services section, GS explained that there was a representative on the Board but they have recently stepped down. The ESB is currently looking at applications for a replacement.</p>	

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<b>4.</b>	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	
4.1	<p><b>Budget (Confidential - Board Only)</b></p> <p>The Budget was reviewed and an error was spotted in the Core Support line.</p> <p><b>Action: RB to ask Heather Lappin to correct the Core Support line and re-circulate the paper to the Board.</b></p>	Closed
<b>5.</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
5.1	Vinita reminded the Board that this was her last Board meeting, as Lorna was returning to work on 11 January. She informed that she would continue to cover until Lorna's return.	
5.2	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> 26 January 2016 at 1.30 pm</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Bournemouth University, Fern Barrow, Poole</p>	