

DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON

THURSDAY 21 MAY 2015 FROM 1.30 PM TO 4.00 PM AT LULWORTH CASTLE

Board Attendees:

Alex Picot (AP)
Alison Moore (AM)
Andrea Smith (AS)
Bruce Grant-Braham (BG)
Deborah Croney (DC)
Emma Hunt (EH)
Gordon Page (GP) - Chair
James Weld (JW)
Janet Walton (JWa)
Jim Stewart (JS)
Jitinder Takhar (JT)
Richard Smith (RS)
Robert Gould (RG)

Also Present:

Angela Alderman (AA)
Andrew Flockhart (AF)
Debbie Ward (DW)
Kathryn Hill (KH)
Kelly Hunter - DLEP (KHu)
Lorna Gibbons (LG)
Paddy Johnson - DLEP (PJ)
Richard Bates (RB)
Stephen Hill (SH)

Presenting:

Colin Morgan - Swanage Railway
Peter Sills - Swanage Railway
Anna Lee - Purbeck District Council
Bridget Downton - Purbeck District Council
Nigel Jump - Bournemouth University

Apologies:

Geoffrey Smith (GS)
Jim Andrews (JA)
John Beesley (JB)
Steve Davies (SD)
Terence O'Rourke (TO)
Tony Williams (TW)

Item	Content	Who
<p>1</p> <p>1.1</p> <p>1.2</p>	<p>Apologies and Declaration of Interest</p> <p>Apologies received: Geoffrey Smith, Jim Andrews, John Beesley, Steve Davies, Terence O'Rourke, Tony Williams</p> <p>No declarations of interest were made, apart from James Weld who expressed an interest in Item 3.2, The Purbeck Local Plan.</p> <p>GP mentioned that we had sent round for information, letters sent to MPs from the LEP Network.</p> <p>GP welcomed to the meeting Colin Morgan and Peter Sills from Swanage Railway, Anna Lee and Bridget Downton from Purbeck District Council and Nigel Jump from Bournemouth University.</p>	
<p>2</p>	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as an accurate reflection of the last meeting and the Action Log was reviewed.</p> <p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Hinkley Point - Heart of the South West LEP mentioned a report giving information on future construction worker requirements from the South West.</p> <p>ACTION: LG will request the report and we will circulate to the Board once received and signed off by the Heart of the South West LEP.</p> <p>Heritage Lottery Fund - RS updated that the Dorset County Museum got a Stage 1 pass which means they go to the Key Competitive stage. Jurassica were not successful at Stage 1 but may appeal.</p> <p>Housing - JT mentioned that the Chair of the South West Region of the Royal Town Planning Institute would be keen to work on a South West core housing strategy. JT also informed that she has passed her position on the LEP Housing Group on to Andrea Smith. AF informed that a discussion was planned for the next Housing Strategy meeting about the housing policy of the new Government.</p>	<p>LG</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION</p>	
<p>3.1</p>	<p>Swanage Railway Update for Information</p> <p>Peter Sills and Colin Morgan attended the meeting to give a presentation and update on the current plans regarding Swanage Railway. An electronic copy of the presentation will be circulated to the Board for their information.</p> <p>RG informed that Dorset County Council have been helping Swanage Railway a lot with this project.</p> <p>ACTION: RS to take forward discussions with the Further Education Colleges in respect of the gap in Heritage Engineering apprenticeships.</p>	<p>RS</p>

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3.	FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION	
3.2	<p>Purbeck District Council's Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation</p> <p>Bridget Downton and Anna Lee from Purbeck District Council presented at the meeting due to a requirement on Local Planning Authorities to engage with the LEP. The LEP raised three specific points in relation to the Partial Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of working with neighbouring authorities under the Duty to Cooperate to identify the most appropriate locations for growth across the county as a whole. • The importance of linking the location of new housing with new and existing employment opportunities, in order to provide the opportunity for reduced commuting. • The importance of planning for infrastructure and services, such as improvements to roads, to support new housing. <p>ACTION: DC mentioned that housing needs to be looked at Dorset wide. So if all the local plans are aggregated will that meet the Dorset housing needs? She explained this was going to the Leaders Growth Board to get a view of Dorset as a whole and this will then be brought back to the LEP.</p> <p>ACTION: AS also mentioned that the LEP Housing Group needs to have a view on this and to look at it in the context of other opportunities.</p>	<p>DC</p> <p>AS</p>
3.3	<p>The State of the Dorset Economy</p> <p>Professor Nigel Jump from Bournemouth University gave an update on the Dorset Economy. He explained the weakness in the Dorset economy is due to the lack of productivity. The South West has always been able to create jobs but Dorset ranks fairly low on the table next to others due to productivity. It is a problem with success and not a problem with failure. Export potential is one problem, along with innovation and skills. Also competitiveness, as there is always less competition in rural areas than the urban areas.</p> <p>GP asked whether it was possible to create a model that Dorset could aim for, one that looks at the constraints.</p> <p>NJump explained this was potentially possible.</p> <p>RG offered help from Dorset County Council in regards information they have and databases they make use of in the local councils.</p> <p>JS asked if transport had an effect on GVA and productivity and NJump explained it did and that every mile from London the figures drop.</p> <p>ACTION: LG to talk to Nigel about a framework for further information and to map way forward.</p>	<p>LG</p>

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3.	FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION	
3.4	<p>Assurance Framework</p> <p>LG went through the Assurance Framework.</p> <p>SLA with Dorset County Council - RB talked about the Accountable Body role. RB reassured that no decision is ever made by DCC on behalf of the LEP.</p> <p>ACTION: All Agreed happy to approve Dorset County Council as the Accountable Body.</p> <p>Terms of Reference - to be reviewed by the Governance and Strategy Group and brought back to the Board.</p> <p>A discussion took place about the legal status of the LEP.</p> <p>ACTION: LG to look at what other LEPs are doing in regards legal status and bring back to the Board.</p> <p>Summary points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The framework provides a robust and accountable process for handling all public funding and ensuring value for money and so relates to all aspects of LEP funded activity • The framework covers the full lifespan of projects receiving funding, from their inception to their delivery and subsequent monitoring and evaluation • A key element is the relationship with the accountable body • It is intended to cover the period up to 2021 and subject to annual review <p>It is of particular importance to have an open and transparent process for the identification and prioritisation of projects that will deliver good value for money for Dorset. We hope that the Board will approve the approach laid out in the framework so that it can be put into practice immediately.</p> <p>ACTION: All agreed happy with the above recommendations.</p> <p>DC requested social impact of a project as an additional criteria and that the cost ratio benefit would fall down in rural areas and so social impact should also be looked at. JT explained they need a way of monetising social impact and that there are models to do that.</p> <p>ACTION: RD to look into models that monetises social impact and how this could link to prioritisation of future schemes.</p>	<p>All Agreed</p> <p>LG</p> <p>All Agreed</p> <p>RD</p>

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3.	FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION	
3.5	<p>DLEP Business Plan</p> <p>Paddy ran through the presentation on the business plan and a discussion took place.</p> <p>ACTION: PJ to do more work on the Business plan and bring back to the next meeting.</p>	PJ
3.6	<p>Growth Deal 3</p> <p>Given the success of the Growth Deal and additional Growth Deal funding, it is now timely to review and re-fresh the SEP. PJ presented a proposal on how to attract projects for the next Growth Deal (3) which might come through in the Autumn.</p> <p>LG explained that we will be asking projects to refresh what they have already submitted and a call for new projects to be submitted.</p> <p>JW asked whether we could develop a single page guide to be given out to people explaining the process.</p> <p>ACTION: PJ to produce a comprehensive process including timeline, application process and guidance documentation</p>	PJ
3.7	<p>Budget 2015-16</p> <p>The budget was reviewed and all agreed happy to authorise it.</p>	All Agreed
3.8	<p>Update on Programme Management</p> <p>KHu explained there were 3 grant agreements now in place and signed. For Growth Deal 15-16 the final three projects grant agreements are being finalised and are nearly ready to be signed.</p> <p>ACTION: James Hassett to provide a more detailed update on the Airport project at the next meeting addressing in particular the risks.</p>	JH
3.9	<p>Growing Places Fund</p> <p>GP gave an update on the Growing Places Fund.</p> <p>GP asked for a Board Member to volunteer to join the Growing Places Fund Steering Group and JW said he would be happy to do that.</p> <p>Action: All agreed happy to approve recommendations made in the paper.</p>	All Agreed

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4.	FOR INFORMATION	
4.1	<p>Dorset LEP Annual Report</p> <p>LG updated the Board on the progress of the Annual Report. GP said he would like to be able to use it to send out to people.</p> <p>ACTION: All to let LG know if they have any comments or feedback.</p>	LG
4.2	<p>Rural Enterprise Group</p> <p>JW gave an update on the Rural Enterprise Group. He explained that EAFRD funding is a last resort funding and there has been some delay in putting forward final submissions. They are waiting for final guidance from DEFRA on how to make calls. He explained that in regards to LEADER, a great deal of effort was put in to make sure that Dorset was entirely funded. This has made a difference of £1m. In total £6m for the rural areas including both EAFRD and LEADER.</p> <p>JW informed that the Rural priorities paper would undergo a large review and that they also hope to be able to make calls in the summer.</p>	
4.3	<p>Early Scoping Paper on Hinkley Point</p> <p>PJ spoke to the Early Scoping paper. He informed that there was not a lot of news to present currently. The Heart of the South West LEP are setting up a SW Nuclear Cluster Group and would like each LEP to send one private sector Board member to sit on it.</p> <p>ACTION: KH to circulate the details of the initial meeting to see if anyone is able to attend.</p>	KH
4.4	<p>Director's Update</p> <p>LG updated the Board that Vinita Nawathe had been appointed as the Interim Director for her maternity cover and she was starting on 15 June for a two week handover.</p> <p>The Scheme of Delegation was presented.</p> <p>ACTION: All agreed to approve The Scheme of Delegation.</p>	All Agreed
5.1	<p>Growth Board Update</p> <p>BC gave an update on the Growth Board. He informed they were looking at governance and freedom and flexibilities from Government. He explained this fits into the devolution agenda from Government.</p> <p>RG explained there was an opportunity to shape something for Dorset.</p>	
5.2	<p>Date of Next Meeting: 28 July 2015 at 10.00 am Venue: Spectrum House, Grange Road, Christchurch</p>	