

Cheltenham Development Task Force Board Meeting

Item 64/18

Friday 6th July 2018 - 2.00pm – 4:30pm
Pittville Room, Municipal offices, Cheltenham

Open Minutes of meeting

Present: Graham Garbutt (Independent Chair)
Tim Atkins
Bernice Thomson
Robert Duncan
Michael Ratcliffe
Rohan Torkildsen

Other: Jeremy Williamson
Cllr Steve Jordan
Tracey Crews

No.	Item	Action
44/18	Apologies: Jeff Brinley, Simon Excell, Dorian Wragg, Joyce Clifford, Cllr Andrew McKinlay, Rosalind Andrews Stephen Clarke, Cllr Tim Harman, Cllr Nigel Moor, Cllr Paul Baker, Rob Vale, Diane Savory, Simon Excell, Howard Barber, Scott Tompkins, Mark Parker, Mark Sheldon & Fraser Reid	
45/18	Declarations of Interest: None raised	
46/18	Gloucestershire 2050 Discussion The chair introduced the debate by checking that members were familiar with the GCC slides and video utilised for the 2050 roadshow. The purpose was to allow the Task Force to submit a response to CBC (in line with request from S.Jordan) and GCC although individual responses also encouraged; B.Thomson noted that voluntary bodies would also be responding. The chair then articulated key messages from Cllr Nigel Moor whom he had met earlier in the week with S.Excell and J.Williamson and referenced the notes circulated from S.Clarke, and also notes from D.Savory. Key points from the debate included:- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The growth agenda will require new forms of partnership for effective delivery eg noted that GCC has secured observer status on West of England combined authority. The unitary concept may be a solution but delivery was perceived to be too far into the future to influence the 2050 ambition. We need a structure now and the Task Force loose coalition based upon agreed common aims may be a model to consider, albeit with a wider geographical remit and appropriate constituent membership• We should explore the Oxford-Cambridge axis model	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns over the 2050 consultation management and ownership of the project. Noted that the districts were debating but GCC seemingly not. One event per district and responding to requests to engage is not sufficiently pro-active and will leave many bodies unheard eg chambers of commerce, professional bodies and critically the young. • How does the newly appointed County planning co-ordinator role connect with 2050? • The young have transport, housing & culture as their priorities and critically the first two but no projects focusing specifically upon affordable public transport or housing • A key lesson from the JCS and elsewhere is that development must follow infrastructure not vice versa, so the public sector has to take the lead and direct the location, density and scheduling of development • The values expressed in 2050 are very laudable but not yet translated into the 6 long term infrastructure projects with no explicit connection to people, communities and sustainability • Risk of overlap eg LEP will be leading on Local industrial Strategy • There needs to be a prioritisation over a period as the scale of ambition could impede delivery simply as a result of the sheer scale of associated complexities. The cyber park appears the most deliverable but to be the game changer needs effective collaboration both at a local and national level • We urgently need to invite additional HE partners into the County to address STEM issues as demanded by employers. Concern that our local Uni fails to produce graduates relevant to the predominant industries, notably advanced engineering. Uni of Glos should build upon its credentials and for example create an environmental led programme in the Forest of dean • Of the 6 project proposals some should be seen in soft focus as a long way off but others need action urgently eg JCS housing delivery needs to be planned around effective infrastructure, notably public transport • To maintain momentum and deliver will require incisive action <p>Following the debate it was agreed that the chair and JW would draft a Task Force response for CBC and GCC and this would be circulated for comment early next week but would require a speedy turnaround in order to feed into CBC council process</p>	GG/JW All
47/18	<p>Open Minutes of previous meeting 20/04/18 Open minutes – approved as accurate</p> <p>Queries raised over</p> <p>31/18 West Cheltenham Parking – members keen to see changes to parking regime implemented in line with discussion at Task Force on 20/04/18. JW to follow up.</p> <p>31/18 Quarterly update – noted that there was a proposal to merge TF communications with BID and Marketing Cheltenham. To be explored further</p>	JW/NM TA/JW

48/18	Open minutes Action Matrix 27/18 Quadrangle – JW tabled current thinking on relationship of building and grounds with Imperial gardens and town Hall. S.Jordan noted that options for the Town Hall had been appraised but that there was a significant budget challenge so alternatives being considered. Other items were either on the agenda or actioned.	
49/18	Confirmation of confidentiality of items Agreed as proposed.	
	Matters for information	
50/18	Wider matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheltenham BID update S.Jordan reported upon additional Christmas lights funding which will allow more streets to be lit; feedback concerning CTP phase 4; “lighting-up” Cheltenham scheme and ice rink proposal. D.Stead noted that ice rink proposal was hampered by existing Town Hall commercial catering contract. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place Strategy T.Atkins noted that the strategy had been adopted by CBC and that a place governance group established 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Core Strategy T.Crews reported that the JCS team was progressing the scoping of JCS v2 which will aim to address the under-delivery of housing units in the latter part of the plan plus address the requirement for a further retail review. It was noted that the CIL inquiry had concluded but that the report was awaited. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J10 / HIF JW referred to the HIF letter from DfT confirming that J10 had progressed to the next stage. Also the letter of support submitted by the TF for the GCC led Transforming Cities Bid. 	
	Matters for consideration	
51/18	Cheltenham Spa Railway Station JW talked to the paper previously circulated. Members very keen to understand the cycle-rail issue and expressed concern that this must not be allowed to slip down the agenda. Agreed JW to re-engage and seek stakeholder meeting asap	JW
52/18	Cheltenham Transport Plan phase 4 JW tabled the update paper from Scott Tompkins and Fraser Reid highlighting the key points. Members were pleased with the trial so far but keen to see more signage and enforcement. Looking forward to understanding wider traffic flows and impacts once data sets available. It was noted that Stagecoach were analysing their timetable data to understand impacts upon services; particularly pertinent as stagecoach had recently written to CBC and GCC expressing their concerns over ever challenging timetable drift and the need for additional services to achieve reliability.	ST/FR JW
53/18	Quarterly update The quarterly update was tabled for comment. JW to circulate to members unable to attend. Comments to JW asap	All

54/18	<p>Any Other Business JW flagged approach from Maxine Melling – Cheltenham Civic Society noting that S.Clarke was an independent rather than CCS representative and seeking the opportunity for a new member. Given TF review agreed to hold over until October meeting. JW to respond.</p>	JW
	<p>Future meeting dates To confirm date & time of next meetings Friday 19th October 2018 Friday 18th January 2019 Friday 12th April 2019 Friday 5th July 2019 All 2:00pm at the Municipal Offices, Cheltenham</p>	
	Confidential items	