

## **Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)**

**Minutes from the meeting held on  
Monday 18th July 2011 from 5pm until 7.15pm**  
at Yours Business Networks, Bishop's Lynn House, King's Lynn

### **Board Members Present**

Neville Reyner CBE DL (NR)                      Chairman  
Allan Arnott OBE (AA)  
John Bridge OBE (JB)  
Mark Reeve (MR)  
Cllr Nick Clarke (NC)  
Cllr Terry King (TK)  
Cllr Sian Reid (SR)  
Trevor Ellis (TE)  
Prof Mike Thorne (MT)  
Dr Lynn Morgan (LM)  
Cllr Ian Bates (IB)

### **Apologies**

Dr Robert Swann  
Prof Sir Richard Friend  
Cllr Marco Cereste

### **Also in attendance**

Alex Plant (AP)	Interim Strategic Director
Neil Darwin (ND)	Interim Operations Director
Laura Halstead	Minute taker
Cllr Nick Daubney	Item 1 only
Kevin Jones	BIS Local - Observer
David Riches	Item 5 only
Dr Geoff Brighty	Item 6 only
Cameron Adams	Item 6 only

### **1. Introductions**

NR welcomed everyone and thanked Cllr Daubney from the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk Council for hosting the LEP meeting.

### **2. Overview of King's Lynn economy**

Cllr Daubney then gave an overview of the local area to the Board Members.

### **3. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**

The minutes from the last meeting (16th June 2011) were agreed after one typo amendment.

AP updated the Board on progress with the Enterprise Zone bid. Since the last meeting the bid has been worked up and submitted. The decision is now in the hands of Government and we are waiting for confirmation of the announcement date.

NR and ND provided the Board with an overview of a Technology Strategy Board (TSB) day that they attended on 1st July with LH. The TSB is keen to work with the LEP. The LEP team are looking at ways to create stronger linkages between the organisations, including promoting funding opportunities via the LEP website.

AP informed the Board of a meeting that took place with a number of local MPs to discuss how the LEP could help to preserve and enhance services on the Fenline - the train line from King's Lynn to Cambridge (which then goes on to London).

A small team with representatives from Norfolk County Council, the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council has been brought together by AP to further develop this work.

AP

The wider rail picture for the whole LEP area should be noted as a potential future issue for a sub-group.

#### **4. Outline Business Plan**

ND introduced the first draft of the LEP Business Plan which has been developed from information gathered at the Strategic Away Day and LEP Summit.

The Board had a good discussion about the direction of travel of the Business Plan and agreed that it was generally sound and that AP and ND should develop it further.

AP/ND

There was general agreement that the ordering of the Business Plan should be changed to put the Priority Areas of Focus, with potential projects, nearer the front.

Other detailed feedback was given about the wording of some phrases, ordering of document, and the importance of keeping the message that our LEP area is open for business at the forefront of the document.

#### **5. UK Trade and Investment presentation**

David Riches from the UKTI and British Chambers of Commerce talked to the Board about their role in the new LEP landscape.

David is keen to engage with the LEP to support international trade

and investment into our area.

It was agreed that AP and ND would work further with David Riches to create an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding). AP/ ND

**6. Environment Agency presentation**

Dr Geoff Brighty and Cameron Adams from the Environment Agency talked to the Board about their work, and potential areas for joint working with the LEP.

The EA were invited to join a LEP sub-group concentrating on economic vision and strategic planning, once created.

**7. Establishing the GCGP LEP**

AP gave a verbal update on the LEP finances. AP confirmed that we are still waiting for an announcement on the £245,000 Start Up Fund bid.

NR and AP introduced a proposal to create a Science, Innovation and Industry Council Sub-group. The Board discussed the importance of sub-groups coming forward to reflect the business plan priorities, and agreed that this sub-group should move forward now.

AP led a discussion about the Legal Entity status of the LEP. Preliminary work has been carried out by lawyers who recommend that the LEP should become a Company Limited by Guarantee. The Board were happy with the broad direction of travel and asked AP to coordinate further work with both the lawyers, and other LEPs to share knowledge and costs where possible.

AP to contact other LEPs about legal status work, and review Cambridgeshire Horizons Memorandum and Articles of Association to ensure that in the event of dissolution of the LEP any remaining money is returned to the organisations who provided it. AP

**8. Any other business**

TK informed the Board that the Government has confirmed that RAF Cottesmore (which has recently closed) will become an Army base from 2015 and that RAF Marham will remain open. He is keen to lead work relating to the economic implications of this change of use for both this site and other sites owned by the Government within our LEP area. The Board agreed this work should be moved forward.

AP and KJ to look into the potential to set up a CLG led special interest group nationally. AP/KJ