

Luton & South Beds Joint Committee
Notes of the Meeting of the Member Steering Group held at the JTU Offices
at Capability Green, Luton on 07th September 2009

Those present:-

Members:-

Cllr. Roy Davis – Chair (LBC)
Cllr. Tom Nicols Asst Chair (SBDC)

Officers:-

Chris Pagdin (CP) (LBC)
Lachlan Robertson (LR) (LBC)
David Atkinson (DA) (LBC)
John Ironside (JI) (NHDC)
Keith Dove (KD) (LBC)
Jennifer Bogle (PT) (Administrator)

Apologies Received:-

Cllr Tom Brindley
Colin Chick
Trevor Saunders

	Action
<p>1. <u>Matters Arising from the meeting held on 1st July 2009</u></p> <p>The Minutes were read and accepted by all present.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Progress on Analysing consultation responses</u></p> <p>DA reports: 9000 responses have been received of which 85% have been entered in to Limehouse. A covering report is in draft form. This includes Appendix A., the headline commentary and Appendix B the more detailed schedule of works.</p> <p>A discussion followed.</p>	

<p>Action: Cllr Roy Davis has requested copies of literature used by consultees that is the post card and standard letters.</p> <p>It is noted that consultees can also email their responses. In addition they can also send their comments through the Luton Green groups.</p> <p>A discussion followed regarding collection of data. It was noted that analysis of petitions, duplicates and household would be useful. The more data analysed would present a better view of the response.</p> <p>RD proposed in view of the incomplete response information the meeting of 18th September should be cancelled. Giving the JTU more time to deliver more substantive information.</p> <p>Action: Letter needed regarding deferral of from agenda for meeting on 18th. This should be distributed to North Herts, Aylesbury and partners.</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>LR/DA</p> <p>RD/LR</p>
<p>3. <u>Confirmation of the local development scheme</u></p> <p>DA reports that the LDS was submitted in April, it was confirmed as fine. A discussion followed.</p> <p>It was agreed by all to defer report to 23rd October meeting</p> <p>Action: It was suggested that Joint parallel examinations may not be possible to be held with North Herts, and Stevenage critical framework</p> <p>JI to meet with LR with regard to the above</p>	<p>LR/JI</p>
<p>4. <u>Urban Design Report Guide</u></p> <p>TN raised the issue regarding the need for innovative and creative housing design. A discussion followed.</p> <p>MS explained that the purpose of the document was to request the members' endorsement for public consultation.</p>	

<p>It was noted that there was some concern with regard to the powers of the Members Steering group.</p> <p>Following further discussion. RD commented that the MSG do not approve documents, as this is not within the groups remit, however it was felt that this document might be of value to LB and Central Bedfordshire area. All were in agreement for the Urban design guide to be endorsed by MSG for consultation and the next Joint Planning Committee meeting.</p> <p>RD proposed that he would like a common design guide for both Luton and Central Bedfordshire.</p> <p>Action: LR to continue to liaise with Central Bedfordshire on the process and production of the Guide.</p>	<p>LR</p>
<p>5. <u>Update on progress of evidence preparation</u></p> <p>LR reported:</p> <p>Employment Land Study (Jan 2008) Good progress has been made.</p> <p>Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (April 2009) Some progress has been made. However proficiency is slower in terms of finance, staffing and dealing with consultations.</p> <p>Transport Modelling Analysis Making good progress plan is to be rolled out. It was noted that CP has invited all senior transport people to discuss this. John Brown has agreed to chair a workstream for strategic modelling. The next meeting 10th September at 09:30</p> <p>In addition the NVA is to look at issues raised by the Highways Agency.</p> <p>Infrastructure Study into the requirements Luton Gateway has commissioned a consultant to take further. Good progress has been made.</p>	

Infrastructure Schedule – schedule of infrastructure requirements

Currently producing ‘shopping list’ seeking information from infrastructure study as these two areas may be linked together.

Specific Information on the type of employment land

Meeting with both consortia. Have made better progress than expected.

Resource Efficiency Study

Consultants have been appointed – Good progress has been made.

Strategic Flood Risk Level II

Still looking at what is to be tendered for.

Water Cycle Study Level II

First draft is complete.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment – to provide a more detailed assessment of the urban potential post 2021

This is a little behind due to the consultation responses. Once that project is complete this area will then make progress.

Strategic Site Specific Allocations (SSSA) Evidence

Meetings held with both consortia. Made better progress than expected.

Regeneration Plans to collate the information on regeneration schemes in Luton and Central Bedfordshire

North Luton – Progress slow

Houghton Regis – Very pro active in terms of urban extensions. Have applied a lot of resources right across the board.

Linslade – A bit tentative during early stages. Had an excellent meeting have agreed to work closely with us. Overall better progress than expected.

<p>TN asked if there were tentative plans for keeping the integrity of East Luton villages.</p> <p>A discussion followed.</p> <p>LR comment Kings Walden estates have asked that we consider their land for development. We may be able to overcome objections.</p> <p>The information that is being gathered is being used to determine whether these projects are reasonable in principle.</p> <p>A discussion followed.</p> <p>RD added this is not within the remit of this Group however we do have the right to express opinions.</p>	
<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Transport Report KD reported the key issues are Junctions 11 and 12 – a response is needed for the Highway Agency’s consultants.</p> <p>A discussion followed</p> <p>Action: KD has prepared a response to be circulated to the members. KD commented that to date the only change there has been on this issue is that more information has been received with regard to Junction 11.</p> <p>GAF 3 Funding RD announced GAF3 funding has been reduced we will seek to minimise its impact on us.</p> <p>East of England RD announced East of England launched a series of meetings</p> <p>The public meeting is taking place at 7 on 22nd September</p>	<p>KD</p>

Growth Area Joint committee – 5 Year Financial Programme

Budget tabled by LR

LR reported that the budget is generally healthy. There is a lot of additional spending in the area of consultants; this will take the budget close the line.

A discussion followed.

TN asked if there was any risk of a surplus and will it be refunded to us?

A discussion followed

RD proposed that the approach is to accept this as not a generous amount given future costs. This was accepted by all present.

Meeting ends.