

Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 30 January 2017

Time: 9.30 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Broadland District Council, Thorpe Lodge, 1 Yarmouth Road, Norwich, NR7 0DU

Board Members:

Broadland District Council:

Cllr Andrew Proctor, Cllr Shaun Vincent (Chairman)

Norwich City Council:

Cllr Thomas Vaughan, Cllr Alan Waters

South Norfolk Council:

Cllr Colin Foulger, Cllr John Fuller, Cllr Lee Hornby

Norfolk County Council:

Cllr Tim East, Cllr Martin Wilby

Broads Authority

Cllr Paul Rice

Officers in attendance: Amy Broadhead, Mike Burrell, Phil Courtier, James Dunne, Angela Freeman, Tim Horspole, Dave Moorcroft, Adam Nichols.

1. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman advised the meeting that through his consultancy Abzag, he was promoting, on behalf of the landowner, a site for residential development in Colney through the Greater Norwich Local Plan. When this site was under consideration he would declare a disclosable pecuniary interest and shall vacate the chair and leave the room.

In the interests of transparency, he also brought to the Board's attention, that his father, Malcolm Vincent, through his company Vincent Howes, was promoting, on behalf of the landowners, a site for residential development in Costessey/Bawburgh through the Greater Norwich Local Plan.

In this case under the provisions of the Code of Conduct, there was no interest to declare which would prevent him from participating in the debate and chairing the meeting.

He added that he would be declaring the same interests when chairing Broadland's Place Shaping Panel and when as a Member of Broadland District Council's Cabinet and Council GNLP matters were considered.

Cllr John Fuller declared a non-pecuniary interest as a director of an employment site at Seething.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllr Bert Bremner, Cllr Stuart Clancy, Sir Peter Dixon and Cllr Ian Moncur.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2017 were agreed as an accurate record.

Minute no: 3 – Minutes

The Chairman proposed that the public be allowed to submit questions to the Board in respect of the development of the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP). Questions would be required to be submitted three working days before the meeting to the Greater Norwich Planning Policy Team Manager.

AGREED

That the Greater Norwich Planning Policy Team Manager be delegated authority to make the consequential changes to the Terms of Reference of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership to allow questions to be asked at Board meetings on the Greater Norwich Local Plan.

Minute no: 4 - Greater Norwich Local Plan – Progress Report

The Board noted the Motion agreed by Norfolk County Council on 12 December 2016, which set out the following three infrastructure priorities for the coming years:

- Norwich western link
- Long Stratton by-pass
- Gt Yarmouth third river crossing

These projects would help inform the Local Plan as it was developed.

4. Communications Protocol

The Communications Manager advised the meeting that the Protocol sought to raise awareness and promote the benefits of the Local Plan, which would meet the housing needs of current and future generations as well as providing the services, facilities and infrastructure to support this growth.

Key messages that would be included in publicity material would emphasise the employment opportunities and economic prosperity that could only be achieved if supported by the delivery of new homes.

The Protocol would also highlight the importance of protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment by promoting well-designed and attractive communities that mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Social media would be used proactively and in a coordinated manner between each authority to get this message across.

In response to a query, it was confirmed that Members would be at liberty to respond to individual queries as they saw fit. However, a more corporate type of response to questions from the public could be made through the Communications Team.

A Member advised the meeting that the large number of documents that were included on the Greater Norwich website could be confusing even for someone who was familiar with them and using a search engine could lead to being directed to the wrong papers. He emphasised that the classification of the documents into a clear hierarchy was crucially important in order to promote the work being done effectively.

It was confirmed that a senior officer group had been discussing this issue and a hierarchy of documents was being looked at. In due course it would be brought to a meeting of the Board for consideration.

AGREED

That the Communications Protocol be adopted.

5. Greater Norwich Local Plan – Strapline, Vision and Objectives

The proposed Strapline for the Greater Norwich Local Plan was 'Growing Stronger Communities Together'.

The vision for Greater Norwich to 2036 was:

'To grow vibrant, healthy communities supported by a strong economy and the delivery of homes, jobs, infrastructure and an enhanced environment.'

The objectives for Greater Norwich to 2036 to promote sustainable development in a rapidly changing world were:

Economy – to support and promote the growth of an enterprising, creative, broad based economy with high productivity and a skilled workforce.

Communities – to grow vibrant, healthy communities giving people a high quality of life in well-designed developments and good access to jobs, services and facilities.

Homes – to enable delivery of high quality homes of the right size, mix and tenure to meet people's needs throughout their lives.

Infrastructure – to promote the timely delivery of infrastructure to support existing communities and growth; and to improve connectivity to allow access

to economic and social opportunities.

Delivery – to promote the delivery of housing, jobs and infrastructure supported by intervention mechanisms where the market is unable to deliver.

Environment – to protect and enhance the built and natural environment, make best use of natural resources, minimise contributors and adapt to climate change.

Each objective would be developed as the Plan progressed, so that monitoring the Plan's effectiveness could be evidenced.

Members welcomed the diagrammatic representation of the Vision and Objectives, which avoided prioritising one over another.

It was also noted that the Objectives were a work in progress and would include more commentary as the Plan developed.

At the request of a Member, the Environment Objective was amended to the following:

Environment – to protect and enhance the built and natural environment, make best use of natural resources, mitigate against, and adapt to climate change.

AGREED

That, subject to the amendment above, the draft Strapline, Vision and Objectives for the Greater Norwich Local Plan were suitable working versions to guide further plan development.

The meeting closed at 9.51am.