

Coastal West Sussex & Greater Brighton Strategic Planning Board

Minutes

Monday, 6th Feb 2017
Committee Room 2
Worthing Town Hall
Worthing

Attendees

Cllr Ricky Bower	Arun District Council	Karl Roberts	Arun District Council
Cllr Susan Taylor	Chichester DC	Mike Allgrove	CDC
Cllr Bryan Turner	Worthing Borough Council	James Appleton	A&W Councils
Mark McCloughlin	Horsham DC	Barbara Childs	Horsham DC
Cllr Andrew MacNaughton	Mid Sussex DC	Judy Holmes	Mid Sussex District Council
Cllr Gill Mitchell	Brighton & Hove City Council	Liz Hobden	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr Bob Lanzer	WSCC	Darryl Hemmings	West Sussex County Council
Cllr Tom Jones	Lewes District Council	Max Woodford	Lewes District Council
Cllr Brian Boggis	Adur DC	Caroline Wood	Coastal West Sussex Partnership
Robert Davidson		Lucy Howard	South Downs National Park Authority
Guests			
Paul McLoughlin	GL Hearn		

Apologies

Cllr Claire Vickers	Horsham DC		
Cllr Neville Harrison	SDNP		

1. Minutes and actions of the Previous Meeting

Cllr Bryan Turner shared the news that the area had secured £48M from Local Growth Funds for capital projects in the Greater Brighton area. More details can be found here - <http://coastalwestsussex.org.uk/48-73million-investment-comes-greater-brighton-city-region/>

2. Election of Chairman

Cllr Turner asked for volunteers; BC suggested that Cllr Claire Vickers from Horsham DC who, albeit in her absence, had expressed an interest in the role. Cllr RB did question if this was in anyway in conflict to the West Sussex Rural Partnership. However, as such a grouping did not exist in that area if was felt there was no conflict.

Cllr BT proposed Cllr Vickers and this was seconded by Cllr GM and agreed by all. The term of office would be from July 2017 – July 2018.

3. Defining the area – GL Hearn

Paul McLoughlin delivered a comprehensive overview of their draft report which was well received. Comments that arose included:

- Cllr RB – Could the travel to work patterns be related to the mode of transport? DH suggested that some of this work had been considered by WSCC which GL Hearn could have access to and this element would be drawn into the report
- MM from Horsham DC enquired about the map and the southern extent of the Albourne area into the analysis. MMcL explained that the analysis was at ward based level hence the area looked elongated but this was explained in the report.
- Cllr RB enquired if the report could influence investment into the Arundel Chord but it was suggested that the scheme wasn't well enough advanced for the consultants to analyse that.

The Board noted that the report recommendations that concluded that Crawley should be invited to join the Strategic Planning Board and that the name of the Board should change to the West Sussex & Gtr Brighton Strategic Planning Board.

It was recognised that the planning and economic landscape was complex although Devolution discussions across the 3 Southern Counties area was strategically paused.

Cllr BL was in support of asking Crawley to join as they were integral to West Sussex and contributed 1/3rd of all business rates. Cllr RB reminded the Board that the constraints faced in CWS challenged the opportunity to grow and this information should be shared with C2C

Cllr GM was very supportive of including Crawley as a member of the Board as the clear commuter links from B&H to Crawley demonstrated a true functional economic area and the area needed to clearly articulate the investment needs for the wider geography.

BC also supported the inclusion of Crawley as they are a critical partner in the Strategic HMA; this was supported by Horsham DC

KR reminded the Board that the work had been commissioned as joint evidence that would underpin the LSS 3. In advance of the anticipated Housing White Paper it would seem that sub regional groupings of Authorities would be welcomed. KR had been invited to showcase the collaborative work of the SPB in Oxford and therefore supported the inclusion of Crawley.

Cllr RB felt the decision shouldn't be made at the Board but that it should be taken back to each Council for further consideration however; this approach was not supported by other Members as it would cause unnecessary delay.

JA explained that the Inspector currently looking at Adur's Local Plan was very keen to see the GL Hearn report and the actions and importantly the time scales involved to address some of the major challenges in the area. West Sussex and Greater Brighton have history and a sensible boundary that is easily definable and would therefore support the inclusion of Crawley.

It was clear that the area had to demonstrate that it is working together with a mechanism, governance and appropriate timescales to demonstrate it is trying to meet its own housing and employment needs otherwise all Local Planning Authorities would be subject to early Local Plan reviews.

Cllr BT suggested that the Board take a view even if the decision had to be ratified locally. Cllr GM proposed that an invitation be extended for Crawley BC to join the SPB at the next meeting and that the name of the Board be the West Sussex and Greater Brighton Strategic Planning Board (SPB) - this was seconded by Cllr BT. All Members were then asked to vote of which there were 9 in agreement and 1 abstention.

- Action** – KR to invite Crawley BC to join the Strategic Planning Board
- Each Authority to ratify the decision

Housing White Paper

The paper had yet to be released but it was thought it would be asking how LPA's were to organise themselves. Following the last report from Catriona Riddell, the area needed a stronger and clearer vision and delivery timeframe. Governance and the Housing White Paper would need to be considered at the next meeting in May alongside any budgetary requirements for taking the collaborative work forward.

Papers would need to be circulated well in advance to allow any internal conversations to take place so that decisions could be made at the Board Meeting.

It was suggested that either an additional meeting or workshop be arranged to take this work forward which should include the LEP.

Next Meeting Dates:

Future SPB Meeting Dates		
Mon 22 May 2017	2:00pm – 4:00pm	CWS & GB Strategic Planning Board - TH- Grd Gordon Room (75)
Mon 4 Sep 2017	2:00pm – 4:00pm	CWS & GB Strategic Planning Board - TH- Grd Gordon Room (75)
Mon 4 Dec 2017	2:00pm – 4:00pm	CWS & GB Strategic Planning Board - TH- Grd Gordon Room (75)