

The Marches
Local Enterprise Partnership



Herefordshire Business Board

Actions from the Meeting – Tuesday 8th March 2010

Attendance:

Chair: Neil Kerr (NK), **Vice Chair:** Ray Stone (RS) Angela Smith (ASm), Cllr Adrian Blackshaw (AB), Andrew Sanders (ASa), Andy Edwards (AE), Cathy Meredith (CM), Helen Thomas (HT), John Jones (JJ), Jonathan Hines (JH), Nick Webster (NW), Paul Sinclair (PS), Peter Brown (PB), Phil Collins (PC), Rachel Jones (RJ), Cllr Roger Phillips (RP) and Dr Geoffrey Davies Chair LEP Board.

Apologies:

Fenella Tyler (FT), Gary Woodman (GW), Heather Gorringer (HG), Ian Hildich (IH), Natalia Silver (NS), Stephen Eckley (SE)

Introduction:

Many thanks to Angela Smith for her work as interim Chair, Neil Kerr and Ray Stone have been voted in as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Herefordshire Business Board. The positions will be held for one year with a review and elections at the end of that period.

Overall vision for the Herefordshire Business Board (HBB):

The goal for the board is to develop as we go along but aim to be focused, productive, involved and engaged and above all fun. Need to be able to discuss and evolve as we develop.

- **Action: NW/NS** to draft terms of reference for HBB
- **Action: NW/RJ** to continue to provide secretariat and co-ordination for the group

Vision:

Notes on the vision for the HBB were circulated and discussed.

- **Action: All** to review and send comments to NW and a refined draft of the vision to be presented at the next HBB

Project Groups:

The concept of project groups was discussed, to include:

- Small Business Growth / Mentoring: members tbc
- Inward investment: members PS, PC, AB, AE
- High-Tech: members RS, JH, PC
- Communications and Publicity: members HG, CM
- Resilience: members JH, CM
- **Action: NK/RS** to identify and meet with leads for each project group

Herefordshire Branding:

Herefordshire Council is currently undergoing a branding exercise to create a brand that will be used to increase tourism, business, feel-good factor and promote Herefordshire. NK and CM are part of that group.

Funding:

NW presented some background of funding in Herefordshire to date and a proposal for HBB to take responsibility for a number of small schemes with funding of around £150,000. HBB agreed to take up the offer and will progress under the remit of the Small Business Growth Team.

- **Action: NW/NK** review the current proposals and provide full details of the schemes at the next HBB

Super Fast Broadband:

An update was provided

- **Action: NW** to invite the project manager, Alan Ronald, to the next HBB

Acronyms:

- **Action: ASm** to email the group for their own acronyms and compile a list

Wider Update

- **Action: NW/GW** to provide updates on Economic Development projects to each meeting.

Chair Marches LEP Board:

Dr Geoffrey Davies provided an update as to his role on the Marches LEP Board and the vision of the Marches LEP.

Date of next meeting:

10/05/2011 3pm - hosted by Architype – address and directions to be forwarded.