

Herefordshire Business Board (HBB)

Notes / Actions from the Meeting – Tuesday 3rd May 2016

Chair: Frank Myers (FM). **Present:** Cathy Meredith (CM), David Harlow (DH), Debbie Gittoes (DG), Ian Peake (IP), Karen Usher (KU), Linda Smith (LS), Matt Hayes (MH),

In attendance: Gill Hamer (GH), Graham Powell (GP), Nick Webster (NW), Mairead Lane (ML), Richard Ball (RB).

Apologies: Clare Greener (CG), Helen Thomas (HT), John Read (JR), Mike Ashton (MA), Nick Read (NR), Rachel Jones (RJ), Stephen Eckley (SE).

1. Welcome and apologies

FM welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Minutes and actions from last meeting(s)

The minutes of the meeting of 1st March 2016 were approved and the actions were reviewed:

05/01 Action 4: Schools curriculum initiative - Interested parties to work together with the relevant organisations to develop a co-ordinated project. ALL

Project is progressing - there was a meeting at Arctic Circle on 2/3/2016

Update at 3/5/16 - Suggestion that this could be picked up by the Chamber; businesses need to engage and there is opportunity to have discussions and action through Chamber events.

Action 1: Circulate flyer. IP

05/01 Action 7: Joint Marches Business Boards meeting - Progress a joint Business Board meeting with Mandy. FM

Update at 3/5/16 – A joint business board meeting is being planned

3. Hereford Infrastructure Project

RB and ML presented information about the infrastructure projects underway and planned in Herefordshire. A copy of the slides is included with the notes.

The HBB all supported the bypass project and would like to show that support highlighting the advantages of the scheme. It was agreed by the board that there should be two letters of support written from the business board – one for the South Wye Transport Package and the other for the bid to DFT Local Majors Funding. The HBB discussed the importance of highlighting the sustainable elements and the issues such as reducing congestion, noise reduction and improved cycling which are pertinent to local people.

Action 2: Write letters of support on behalf of the business board for the two projects. FM

4. Herefordshire Plan

NW presented an update on the emerging Herefordshire Plan, focusing on the consultation events held recently and the outcomes from these. He highlighted that the majority of project ideas coming forward were either for capital, location specific regeneration or infrastructure projects or cultural or service related projects, for example additional car parking at Leominster railway station and encouraging entrepreneurship in schools. The aim of which is to create a “Pitch Book” of Herefordshire projects to sell Herefordshire as a location for investment and growth. NW highlighted that the Economic Plan is an ongoing and evolving project to which contributions and ideas could be made on a regular basis, and it is important that the Board and others help develop a pipeline of potential project ideas.

5. Herefordshire Business Board

FM presented proposals for the restructure and membership of the Business Board including terms of reference, roles, and thematic sectors. The board felt that the proposed structure will give a co-ordinated vision and would ensure work is streamlined with constituent groups understanding the remit of each group and the associated actions and outputs.

There was support for the thematic groups, checking that there is the right fit with the Marches SEP and other plans, but the detail needed to be worked out. Key to the proposal is the thematic groups who will be able to generate project ideas. The question was raised as to what groups are already in existence and what is the definition of some of the themes e.g. Agri-Tech. Some themes such as skills and infrastructure may be cross-cutting. The board gave approval to consider the next steps and identify people to sit on the thematic groups.

Action 3: Thoughts on structure by this time next week (10/05/16). Email to Rachel on refinement of structure. **ALL**

Action 4: Produce a chart of groups already in existence along with definitions of terminology. **FM/RJ**

6. Any Other Business

A Letter of congratulation to be sent to Hereford FC outlining economic benefit.

Action 5: Send letter to Hereford FC. **FM**

7. Dates of Future Meetings:

- Tuesday 21st June, 4pm – 6pm
- Tuesday 16th August, 4pm – 6pm
- Tuesday 11th October, 4pm – 6pm

Hereford Business Solutions Centre, Skylon Court, Coldnose Road, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JS

8. Close

Links to Marches strategic boards (ctrl & click to follow the links):

[Hereford Enterprise Zone / Skylon Park](#)

[Herefordshire Business Board](#)

[Marches LEP](#)

[Shropshire Business Board](#)

Telford Business Board – *to be confirmed*