



WNDC Public Board Minutes

Present

John Markham (JM) (Chair)

John Weir (JW) (Vice Chair)

Cllr. Sandra Barnes (SB)

Mary Burrows (MB)

Cllr. Joy Capstick (JC)

Cllr. Richard Church (RC)

Cllr. Chris Millar (CM)

Cllr. Tony Woods (TW)

In attendance:

Peter Mawson (PM) Chief Executive

Roger Mendonca (RM) Chief Operating Officer & Deputy Chief Executive

Ann Batom (AB) - Head of Finance & Resources

Adrian Arnold (AA) - Director of Planning Services

Chris Garden (CG) – Director of Regeneration and Development

Gail Mathers (GM) – Secretary to the Board

Rhea Keehn (RK) – Governance, Policy and Communications Officer

Paper Reference: 2011-03-03-01

Minutes from Board Meeting held at the

WNDC

Meeting Rooms 1 & 2

2.00 pm

14 March 2011

Paper reference	Minutes	Action
1. n/a	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from Nick Thompson, Tim Coburn, Charles Amies and Hilary Chipping.</p>	
2. n/a	<p>Declaration of Interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JM and JH declared a personal non-prejudicial interest as members of the NEL Board. • JH declared a personal non-prejudicial interest as Leader of Northamptonshire County Council. • CM declared a personal non-prejudicial interest as Chair of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) and RC, TW, JC as members of the JCS committee. 	
3. Paper Ref. 2011-01-03-01	<p>Minutes</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED THAT:</p> <p>The minutes are approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 1 February 2011.</p>	
4. n/a	<p>Matters arising – None.</p>	
5. Paper Ref. 2011-02-05-01	<p>Chief Executive's Report</p> <p>PM introduced the report. In discussion the following points were made:</p> <p>5.1 An order has been laid before Parliament to enact the transfer of non-strategic planning powers back to local authorities on the 1 April. The order is laid for 40 days but despite this the order will come into effect as from the 1 April.</p> <p>5.2 Progress continues to be made on our portfolio of town centre regeneration projects.</p> <p>5.3 The iCon Environmental Innovation centre will reach practical completion this month and be open for business in April.</p>	

	<p>5.4 The final phase of the Becket's Park Marina development is progressing well, with the facilities building underway.</p> <p>5.5 Work has commenced on the London Road/Ransome Road junction, improving capacity and safety at the junction, which forms an integral part of wider plans for the waterside area of Northampton.</p> <p>5.6 WNDC will shortly receive confirmation of the capital investment budget from central government. The settlement will span 3 years, an indication of the government's belief in the opportunity this area represents.</p> <p>5.7 WNDC has secured over £50m through S106 agreements and already received in the region of £4m which will be put into local infrastructure.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the progress WNDC has made regarding the growth and regeneration of Northampton, Daventry and Towcester. 	
<p>6. Paper Ref. 2011-01-06-01 & Paper Ref. 2011-01-06-02</p>	<p>Finance AB introduced the report. In discussion the following points were made:</p> <p>Growth Fund</p> <p>6.1 Eleven projects across Northamptonshire have benefited from an allocation of Growth Funding in 2010/11.</p> <p>6.2 Capital investment totalling £6.831m has been made to 31 January 2011.</p> <p>WNDC Management Report & Accounts</p> <p>6.3 The financial statements for the period under review to 31 January 2011 were presented.</p> <p>S106 Report</p> <p>6.4 A summary shows that WNDC has secured approximately £50m of S106 monies to date. It also indicates that of the £3.680m of S106 monies received by WNDC, a total of £2.789 has been invested locally as at 28 February 2011.</p>	

	<p>6.5 WNDC has a standard protocol which governs the transfer of monies to third parties where those organisations have the responsibility for specific S106 obligations.</p> <p>Corporate Seal</p> <p>6.6 A record showing the use of the Corporate Seal since the last meeting was presented.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the report. 2. Note the use of the Corporate Seal. 	
<p>7. Paper Ref. 2011-02-07-01</p>	<p>Regeneration & Development and Implementation & Delivery</p> <p>CG reported that WNDC continues to make progress across all regeneration projects and the report sets the background of the progress in relation to each project.</p> <p>The Board noted the report.</p>	
<p>8. Paper Ref. 2011-02-08-01</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>AA introduced the report. In discussion the following points were made:</p> <p>Highlights</p> <p>8.1 Overall performance is considered acceptable.</p> <p>8.2 Phase 1 of the transitional arrangements on certain types of planning applications are, as from the 1 April 2011, being returned to the relevant local planning authorities.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the planning performance and workload information. 2. Note the position regarding the return of planning applications back to the relevant local planning authorities as part of the transitional arrangements. 	

<p>Paper Ref. 2011-02-08-02</p> <p>Paper Ref. 2011-02-08-03</p>	<p>Planning Scheme of Delegation</p> <p>8.3 A request was put to the Board for the approval of the revised Scheme of Delegation.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD:</p> <p>1. Approve the revised Scheme of Delegation.</p> <p>Consultation on the pre-submission draft of the Joint Core Strategy</p> <p>8.4 The consultation has commenced on the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy.</p> <p>8.5 This report outlines the strategy and the progress going forward.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD:</p> <p>1. Confirm WNDC's support for the pre-submission joint core strategy.</p>	
<p>9. Paper Ref. 2011-02-09-01</p>	<p>Operations</p> <p>RM introduced the report and the following points were made in discussion:</p> <p>Health & Safety</p> <p>9.1 There were no accidents or near misses to report.</p> <p>Business Continuity</p> <p>9.2 The first test of the Corporation's Business Continuity plan was held on the 24 February. A further exercise will be conducted later in March.</p> <p>Corporate Plan</p> <p>9.3 Finalisation of the Corporate Plan is delayed pending confirmation of WNDC's financial settlement and from Government.</p> <p>Transparency / Freedom of Information (FOI)</p> <p>9.4 There have been no Freedom of Information requests throughout January or February.</p> <p>9.5 Information on WNDC's spend on items over £500 is uploaded on to the WNDC website on a regular basis. This</p>	

	<p>enables members of the public to view where we allocate resources.</p> <p>Complaints, compliments and comments</p> <p>9.6 Feedback from members of the public whether it be a complaint or compliment is key to the continuous improvement within the Corporation. This allows us to measure our effectiveness of our procedures and how well they are being implemented.</p> <p>The Board noted the report.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>As this was the last Board meeting Mary Burrows and Nick Thompson would be attending as Directors of WNDC Board, JM expressed his thanks for their considerable contribution to the activities of WNDC over the past 6 years.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 14:50.</p> <p>Gail Mathers</p> <p>Board Secretary</p> <p>14 March 2011</p> <p>Signed by the Chairman:</p> <p>Dated:</p>	