



WNDC Public Board Minutes

Present

John Markham (JM) (Chair)

John Weir (JW) (Vice Chair)

Cllr. Richard Church (RC)

Cllr. Chris Millar (CM)

Deirdre Newham

Tony Woods (TW)

In attendance:

Peter Mawson (PM) Chief Executive

Ann Battom (AB) - Head of Finance & Resources

Adrian Arnold (AA) - Director of Planning Services

Chris Garden (CG) – Director of Regeneration and Development

Gillian Rutherford (GR) – Head of Human Resources

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

Gail Mathers (GM) – Secretary to the Board

Paper Reference: 2011-05-03-01

Minutes from Board Meeting held at the

WNDC

Meeting Rooms 1 & 2

2.00 pm

5 July 2011

Paper reference	Minutes	Action
1. n/a	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr. Joy Capstick, Cllr. Sandra Barnes, Cllr. Jim Harker and Roger Mendonca</p>	
2. n/a	<p>Declaration of Interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JM declared a personal non-prejudicial interest as a member of the NEP Board. • CM declared a personal non-prejudicial interest as Chair of the Joint Strategy Planning Committee and RC and TW as members of the Joint Strategy Planning Committee. 	
3. Paper Ref. 2011-04-03-01	<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 17 May 2011.</p>	
4. n/a	<p>Matters arising – None.</p>	
5. Paper Ref. 2011-04-05-01	<p>Chief Executive's Report</p> <p>PM introduced the report. In discussion the following points were made:</p> <p>5.1 PM informed the Board that a paper would be tabled under Any Other Business (AOB) – Nunn Mills Road – Compulsory Purchase Order for approval.</p> <p>Business update</p> <p>5.2 Running costs have been reduced by 25% over the course of the financial year, whilst at the same time maintaining momentum on our key projects.</p> <p>5.3 PM advised that he was pleased with the proposal by Northampton Borough Council to establish an Enterprise Zone covering the waterside area of the town. This is being fully supported by partner local authorities, WNDC, and is being sponsored through SEMLEP.</p> <p>5.4 Work is progressing well on the creation of a 3D model of</p>	

	<p>Northampton and Daventry town centres. This will prove to be a very useful tool to support urban design, planning consultation and marketing the key development projects that WNDC is involved in.</p> <p>5.5 WNDC has submitted a planning application for the construction of a new road which is key to the regeneration of Northampton's waterside area. This will allow new development at the site of the former Avon cosmetics factory and transform an area of disused land into a prominent location for commercial development, resulting in new jobs and investment, as well as a significant number of new homes in close proximity to the town centre.</p> <p>5.6 Bury Mount and Water Meadows in Towcester town centre has won a major national award. The scheme won the restoration category at the Museums & Heritage Awards 2011. The scheme faced strong competition including a restoration project at Westminster Abbey.</p> <p>5.7 Last month saw the official opening of the iCon Environmental Innovation Centre. Events were organised by WNDC, University of Northampton/iCon EM, in partnership with local community groups.</p>	
<p>6. Paper Ref. 2011-04-06-01 & Paper Ref. 2011-04-06-02</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>AB introduced the report. In discussion the following points were made:</p> <p>WNDC Annual Report & Accounts</p> <p>6.1 The draft accounts were presented to the WNDC Audit & Risk Committee on the 27 June 2011. The final Report & Accounts are due to be laid before Parliament prior to parliamentary recess on the 19 July 2011.</p> <p>6.2 CM, Chairman of the Audit & Risk Committee, provided the Board with a verbal update on the sequence of events at the recent Audit & Risk meeting held on the 27 June. He thanked AB and her team together with the Chief Executive</p>	

	<p>for the part they played in again achieving “unqualified” accounts for the year ending 31 March 2011.</p> <p>Capital Programme Summary Report</p> <p>6.3 Up-to-date financial figures for the Capital Programme are reflected below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital allocation £6m • Forecast capital investment £5.83m • Approved capital investment £2.5m <p>Management Report & Accounts</p> <p>6.4 The financial statements for the period under review to 31 May 2011 were presented for information.</p> <p>S106 Report</p> <p>6.4 WNDC has received £4.193m of S106 monies to date of which it has invested a total of £2.943m as at 27 June 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. 2011-04-07-01</p>	<p>Regeneration & Development and Implementation & Delivery</p> <p>CG introduced the report. In discussion the following points were made:</p> <p>Northampton Town Centre Programme</p> <p>7.1 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>7.2 Work on the design of the proposed new Innovation Centre has progressed well and a planning application is expected</p>	

<p>Paper Ref. 2011-04-07-02</p>	<p>for submission in late summer.</p> <p>7.3 The Board is asked to authorise the Director of Regeneration and Development to submit a planning application for the proposed Innovation Centre at Green Street, Northampton.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the progress that is being made with regard to the five projects. 2. Authorise the Director of Regeneration and Development to submit a planning application for the proposed Innovation Centre at Green Street, Northampton. <p>Daventry Regeneration and Planning Overview</p> <p>7.4 This report sets out the progress being made on regeneration and planning projects in Daventry. For ease of reference a forward plan outlining the milestones was attached.</p> <p>7.5 The Board is asked to approve a commitment of £300k towards the Daventry University Technical College.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the progress that is being made on regeneration and planning projects in Daventry. 2. Approve a commitment of £300k towards the Daventry University Technical College. 	
<p>Paper Ref. 2011-04-07-03</p>	<p>Towcester Regeneration and Planning Overview</p> <p>7.6 Good progress is being made in Towcester and there is a strong partnership of public and community sector bodies driving a comprehensive programme of regeneration. A forward plan indicating the various milestones was attached for information.</p> <p>The Board noted the progress that is being made on the regeneration and planning projects in Towcester.</p>	

<p>8. Paper Ref. 2011-04-08-01</p>	<p>Operations</p> <p>PM introduced the report and the following points were made in discussion:</p> <p>Health & Safety</p> <p>8.1 There were no issues reported during June. The Health & Safety Committee meets on a regular basis and representatives from each team in WNDC attend. Subjects discussed include the office environment, business continuity, first aid and fire warden training.</p> <p>Planning Committee membership</p> <p>8.2 Following local authority elections in May, there are a number of Committee memberships which require Board approval. These are set out at Appendix A.</p> <p>Complaints, compliments and comments</p> <p>8.3 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 the effectiveness of our procedures and how well they are being implemented.</p> <p>8.4 Since the last Board update in May 2011, WNDC has received one further complaint with regard to the Belle Bauk development. The complainant has informed WNDC of his intention to escalate his complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman.</p> <p>IT HAS BEEN RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the report 2. Approve the appointments to the Planning Committees set out in Appendix A, subject to Secretary of State approval. 	
<p>9.</p>	<p>A.O.B.</p> <p>Nunn Mills Road – Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO)</p> <p>9.1 On 21 September 2010 the Board authorised the making of a CPO to acquire land in unknown ownership needed to</p>	

	<p>construct an access road to facilitate regeneration in the Nunn Mills area. The detailed design work involved in preparing the planning application has resulted in a need to amend the proposed boundary of the CPO area.</p> <p>9.2 The Board is asked to authorise the Chairman, in consultation with the Chief Executive, to make and pursue the confirmation of the CPO on the terms authorised by the Board on the 21 September 2010 in respect of the land and new rights now shown on the plan attached at Appendix A.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD:</p> <p>1. Authorise the Chairman, in consultation with the Chief Executive, to make and pursue the confirmation of the CPO on the terms authorised by the Board on the 21 September 2010 in respect of the land and new rights now shown on the plan attached at Appendix A.</p>	
10.	<p>The Chairman extended his thanks to TW for his invaluable contribution to WNDC over the past three years and wished him well for the future. TW was presented with a small gift as a token of appreciation.</p>	
11.	<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 15.15.</p> <p>Gail Mathers</p> <p>Board Secretary</p> <p>5 July 2011</p> <p>Signed by the Chairman:</p> <p>Dated:</p>	