

Thames Gateway Kent Partnership Board

Approved Minutes of the 17th Thames Gateway Kent Partnership Annual General Meeting held in Darwin Room, Innovation Centre Medway, on 14 December 2017.

Present:

Board members and observers

Rob Bennett, BBP Regeneration (Chair)
Cllr Rodney Chambers, Medway Council
Cllr Mark Dance, Kent County Council
Robert Goodman, Land Securities/Bluewater
Ann Komzolik, North Kent College
Kamal Aggarwal, Thomson, Snell and Passmore
Mark Heeley, Workman LLP
Cllr David Turner, Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Mike Cosgrove, Swale Borough Council
(deputising for Cllr Bowles)

Also present:

Neil Davies, Medway Council
Graham Harris, Dartford Borough Council
David Hughes, Gravesham Borough Council
Richard Longman, TGKP
Matthew Norwell, TGKP
Sarah Nurden, Kent County Council (deputising for David Smith)
Linda Searle, TGKP
Emma Wiggins, Swale Borough Council

Apologies:

Cllr Jeremy Kite, Dartford Borough Council
Cllr Andrew Bowles, Swale Borough Council
Paul Jackson, Dovetail Games
Ian Piper, Ebbsfleet Development Corporation
Professor Alan Reed, University of Greenwich
Rehman Chishti, Member of Parliament
Julie Foley, Environment Agency
Paul Kitson, Homes and Communities Agency
Iain McNab, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
David Smith, Kent County Council
Adam Bryan, South East Local Enterprise Partnership

Item 1. Welcome, Introductions and Matters arising from the Minutes of the 16th Annual General Meeting held on 6th December 2016

- 1.1. The Chairman welcome those present and noted apologies as shown above.
- 1.2. The Minutes of the last AGM were approved by the Board at its meeting on 21 February 2017.

Item 2. Chairman's Report 2017 – paper TGKP(17)12

- 2.1. The Chairman highlighted some of the key events and activities of TGKP during 2017. He noted with sadness the passing of Cllr John Cubitt, and the retirement of David Liston-Jones as TGKP's Chief Executive and the arrival of his replacement, Matthew Norwell. Dr Alan Reed was also retiring from University of Greenwich and a letter of thanks would be sent for his contribution to the Board and partnership working in North Kent more generally.
- 2.2. The Partnership was getting to grips with new priorities and associated work programme. He was appreciative of the input from Private Sector Board Members through the separate round of meetings that had been instituted. Medway Council and Swale Borough Council were thanked for their continued support as lead bodies for financial, legal and HR matters. The forward work programme would see strong emphasis on

- outcomes from the Thames Estuary 2050 Growth Commission, engagement on Lower Thames Crossing solutions, the creative industries production corridor, the London Resort and raising TGKP's profile in advocacy and influencing work on key priorities.
- 2.3. Anticipating the business of the main Board Meeting, the Chairman reported that Maidstone Borough Council's Policy & Resources Committee had voted decisively for Maidstone to accept the invitation to join TGKP. This would bring a new dynamic to the Partnership in the year ahead.
 - 2.4. The Chairman also took the opportunity to thank the TGKP team – Matthew, Richard and Linda – for their hard work and support during the past year.

Item 3. TGKP Budget – paper TGKP(17)6

- 3.1. Matthew Norwell introduced his paper. The budget position was slightly more favourable than originally forecast, but would nonetheless result in an expected call of just under £12,000 from reserves. There had been exceptional items (notably CEO recruitment) which would not be repeated in the next financial year; and with Maidstone BC joining as a full member it should be possible to deliver a balanced budget in future years.
- 3.2. Sarah Nurden asked for it to be recorded that KCC commits to its £90,000 contribution, but intends to draw this from its share of the business rates pool.

Item 4. Board Elections – paper TGKP(17)14

- 4.1. Chairman. Cllr Chambers paid tribute to Rob Bennett's contribution as TGKP Chairman and proposed his re-election to that role. This was seconded by Cllr Dance and approved by the Board.
- 4.2. Vice-Chairman. Cllr Cosgrove reported that Cllr Bowles had indicated his willingness to continue as Vice-Chairman. Following nomination by Cllr Dance, this was approved by the Board.
- 4.3. Lead Bodies. Following confirmation that they were content to continue in these roles,
 - 4.3.1. Medway Council was re-appointed as Accountable Body for the Partnership and Lead Body for Financial Services and Legal Services;
 - 4.3.2. Swale Borough Council was re-appointed as Lead body for Human Resources (Employment of staff).
- 4.4. The Chairman reminded Board Members of the vacant Private Sector member seat, and welcomed any suggestions of potential candidates. A new representative for the Higher Education sector would be required and the Board deputed the Officers' Group to follow this up and bring back proposals.

Item 5. Dates of Board Meetings in 2018

- 5.1. These were confirmed as **20 February, 24 May, 13 September and 13 December**, all to be held in the Innovation Centre Medway from 4.30-6.30pm.

Item 6. AOB

- 6.1. There being no other business, the AGM concluded at 4.50pm.