



**PRESENT**

Ian Kelly (in the Chair)	Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce
Denise Anderton	Cityventure
Victoria Jackson	Kingston Recruitment
Jo Barnes	Hull Citybuild
Mark Jones	Hull City Council
Steve Tradewell	Tru-Budget Accomodation
Dave Green	Alan Fruitiers
Steve Allbones	Viking FM

In attendance:

Ken Baldwin	Hull City Centre BID
Sarah Jackson	Hull City Centre BID
Ian Bough	Hull City Centre BID
Jeremy Coupland	Hull College
Kevin Priestley	Hull City Council
Nick Pontone (Company Secretary)	Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce
Steve Warran	SJW / Chamber
Graham Hall	Hull City Council

**Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mike Killoran, Cllr Sloan, Amanda Austin and Steve Trynka.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2007 were agreed as a true and correct record.

**Matters arising**

Banners – Ken Baldwin asked whether progress had been made by the Council in determining the appropriate future uses of the banners in the city centre. The Board discussed the various options and felt sponsorship of banners promoting key messages probably would be appropriate, but commercial advertising would be neither appropriate or desirable. It was agreed that further consideration would be given to the best way to utilise the banners, particularly once the Wilberforce banners were replaced, and Ken Baldwin and Kevin Priestley would come back to the Board with some proposals taking into account thematic messages, sponsorship, minimum blocks etc.

Small grant scheme – Mark Jones updated the Board on the scheme the Council were developing through Hull Investment Ltd to offer grants (up to £15k) and loans (up to 30k) to support businesses investing in leisure, culture and restaurants focused on the city centre. It

was noted that the scheme would compliment other funds such as Acorn and would help to boost independent businesses with a quality offering. The Board welcomed the scheme.

Transport Commission – it was noted that the Commission's next meeting would be in November. Mark Jones indicated that officers were working up proposals for the city based on the consultation exercise that had been undertaken.

City Safe Partnership – the correspondence relating to the BIDs proposed membership of City Safe was noted. It was noted that Tracey Harsley had requested the opportunity to make a presentation to the BID Board at its next meeting. The Board also felt it was important to develop a strong relationship with the new Divisional Commander for Hull. The Board discussed in detail the way in which businesses were engaged strategically and operationally in the community safety agenda and it was agreed to hold a special briefing meeting for interested Directors and others on safety and security issues.

St Stephen's opening – Ken Baldwin reported that St Stephens had opened on time and the impacts on trade elsewhere in the city were being closely monitored. It was noted that the initial experience was that trade in places such as Savile Street and Whitefriargate had held up although some other independents had gone down. Overall however, the early indications suggested that St Stephens was bringing more people into the city centre without significantly damaging trade elsewhere. These trends would be monitored closely in the run up to Christmas trading.

Castle Street update – the article updated the Board on progress of the A63 Castle Street improvement scheme was noted. Mark Jones indicated that the Highways Agency were still looking at several options and the city was ensuring a united lobby to get a scheme which would work and could be realistically delivered for Hull. Ken Baldwin floated the possibility of reviving plans for the footbridge over Castle Street near to the Marina. It was noted that the improved pedestrian crossing scheme would be completed in December.

### **Evening Economy Issues**

Steve Tradewell reported on recent meetings with members of Clubwatch which had focused on the four issues of CCTV; poster sites; bus services; and information sharing. He indicated that a number of clubs had expressed disappointment about the response from the CCTV linked radio system. He suggested a visit to the CCTV control room and a review of the different radio systems operating. Ian Bough reported that it would be desirable to reduce the number of handset systems but there were some real practical challenges in achieving this. The Board agreed that further discussions should be held outside of the meeting to see what progress could be made.

It was noted that there was an agreement in principle with the Council regarding the location and design of poster sites.

Steve Tradewell indicated that there was support amongst the clubs for evening bus services and they may be prepared to make financial contributions if there was a clear marketing plan and budget. Ken Baldwin indicated that further discussions would be needed with EYMS but the indicative costings looked reasonable. The idea of a city centre 'shuttle' bus operating during the day as well was suggested.

In relation to information sharing, Steve Tradewell indicated that the clubs already operated a private online site to share details on 'undesirables' and Ian Bough agreed to look at this to see if there were ways this could be improved.

### **Presentation from Graham Hall, Head of Highways & Transport, Hull City Council**

Graham Hall from Hull City Council was welcomed to the meeting and he gave an update on issues such as the transport interchange and car parking.

Graham Hall reported that the interchange opened on time on 16<sup>th</sup> September and a number of snags were being resolved. The new toilets and waiting room were expected to open by the end of October and a number of larger display screens and boards would be in place shortly. The retail units on the concourse were still awaiting sign off.

Ken Baldwin commented that the lack of bins of any kind in the interchange would cause a litter problem, especially when the food and drink outlets opened. Graham Hall indicated that there was a litter picking regime in place but the status of the station meant that bins were not allowed on the site. The Board suggested erecting some signs to warn of the penalties of littering, backed up by a strong enforcement regime. Ian Bough indicated that the Ambassadors could be asked to issue tickets.

Graham Hall reported that the Council's Cabinet had agreed to trial a £1-a-day charges in Council multistories on a Sunday and Thursday evening from 29<sup>th</sup> October. Ken Baldwin asked what extra provision would be made to cover for the spaces lost as a result of the closure of Mason Street car park. Graham Hall indicated that there should be enough spare capacity in the George Street multistory and Francis Street. In terms of car parking for workers, Graham Hall reported that the Council were reducing some season ticket charges. Jeremy Coupland highlighted the problems car parking caused for major employers such as the College in the city centre in relation to staff retention. Graham Hall indicated that there were arrangements in place for bulk purchasing discounts for over 100 spaces. He also reported that progress was being made on the North and East park and ride sites with the possibility of a temporary facility for Christmas.

Ken Baldwin asked when the temporary bus gate near to Savile Street would be removed now that the bus station had moved back to Ferensway. Graham Hall indicated that a consultation would need to be undertaken. Dave Green highlighted the problems caused by the loss of the temporary bus stop outside Telephone House. In relation to a shuttle service discussed earlier in the meeting, Graham Hall indicated that a 20p flat fare would be introduced for the city centre within the next few weeks. The Board emphasised the need for this to be properly marketed and communicated if it was to prove to be effective.

### **Management Accounts**

Steve Warran reviewed the end of year management accounts for the company from 1 November 2006 when the BID started to 30 September 2007. The Board discussed a number of issues, particularly relating to the collection of the levies and were comfortable overall with the levels of payment coming in.

### **Manager's Report**

Manager's Report – tabled and noted. Ken Baldwin specifically highlighted that the new maps were out with partners for comment and the locations of dispensers was awaited. Kevin Priestley indicated that the design of the dispensers was awaited before being put to Members although the locations were broadly confirmed and included the transport interchange.

Ken Baldwin reported that the footfall counters clearly demonstrated that footfall rose when events were on in the city centre.

The Board discussed the position with regards to the Farmers Markets in response to the views of some of the stalls who had indicated that they may pull out or request a move to King Edward Street. Ken Baldwin indicated that the BID had made clear to them that they wanted the Farmers Market to succeed in its current location although there was a danger that this could precipitate some farmers pulling out. The Board agreed to support a marketing push to improve footfall for the markets and indicated that their preferred location remain Trinity Square.

### **Hull City Council City Centre Report**

Kevin Priestley updated the Board on various issues including work being undertaken in Queens Gardens and the Pride of Place scheme.

### **Press Log**

The press log was tabled, circulated and noted.

### **Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2007 at 10.00am at 34-38 Beverley Road, Hull.