



PRESENT

Mike Killoran (in the Chair)
Denise Anderton
Victoria Jackson
Cllr Andy Sloan
Mark Jones
Ian Kelly
Dave Green
Steve Trnyka
Steve Allbones
Amanda Austin

Princes Quay
Cityventure
Kingston Recruitment
Hull City Council
Hull City Council
Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce
Alan Fruitiers
Rollits
Viking FM
Prospect Centre

In attendance:

Ken Baldwin
Sarah Jackson
Ian Bough
Insp Andy Foster
Kevin Priestley
Nick Pontone (Company Secretary)

Hull City Centre BID
Hull City Centre BID
Hull City Centre BID
Humberside Police
Hull City Council
Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce

Apologies

Apologies were received from Jo Barnes, Steve Tradewell, John Marshall and Jeremy Coupland.

Board membership

The Chair welcomed new Board members Denise Anderton, Steve Allbones, Steve Trnyka and Dave Green to their first meeting of the Board. He also noted that Jeremy Coupland of Hull College had been invited to join the Board in an observer capacity although he was not able to attend the meeting.

The Chair reported that Rob Nicklas and Steve Marsay had tendered their resignations from the Board. Rob Nicklas had indicated that he wished to pursue other interests and Steve Marsay had now moved to Debenhams at the White Rose Centre in Leeds on a permanent basis. The Chair stated that he had written to thank Rob Nicklas and Steve Marsay for the contribution to the BID and the Board wished them well for the future.

Hull Citysafe

Tracey Harsley, Head of Hull Citysafe had been due to make a presentation although she was not able to attend the meeting due to illness. The item was therefore postponed.

The Board noted that Peter Shipp of EYMS Group had resigned from the Citysafe Board. The Chair indicated that he was another private sector member on the partnership representing the Chamber of Trade (which had now been wound up and replaced by the BID Retail Committee). Peter Shipp had been formally representing the Chamber of Commerce so a decision on a replacement was probably for them. The role of Citysafe, chaired by Chief Supt Sean White was discussed and the Board considered whether involvement at the strategic city-wide level in the partnership would be an appropriate use of BID resources. It was agreed that Ken Baldwin would replace Mike Killoran (who would deputise if appropriate) for the BID Retail Committee on the Citysafe Board and the Chamber of Commerce would be asked to consider whether it wished to nominate a member to succeed Peter Shipp.

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 8th May 2007 were agreed as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising

Power points – the Chair asked if the powerpoints had been installed in Trinity Square. Kevin Priestley indicated that they hadn't yet due to delays from the manufacturers and the fact that the Council's engineering had subsequently been focused on flood relief efforts. Contingency arrangements for power were being put into place.

Museum opening hours – it was noted that the meeting with Cllr Neil to discuss the potential for Sunday and Bank Holiday opening of museums had been postponed due to the flood response and it would take place shortly. Ken Baldwin also indicated that discussions would involve Citybuild and the DMO to explore how the BID could link into other events and promotions such as the Clipper. Cllr Sloan gave his view that footfall in the city centre on a Sunday did not justify museums opening and that whilst ideally they would open on Bank Holidays there was a cost attached to this and Council revenue budgets were tight. He suggested that a partnership approach to fund opening could be explored.

Transport Commission for Hull

Cllr Sloan stated that strategic transport was part of his portfolio and he had taken the Chair of the Transport Commission from Cllr Collinson. He indicated that he had posed a series of questions at the last meeting to stimulate debate and discussion in the city. These questions covered issues such as the short term 'tactical' priority measures and well as the longer term vision and priorities over and above the A63 Castle Street.

Cllr Sloan also explained the Council's current thinking with regards to city centre car parking. He indicated that the extension of on-street charges around St Stephens was logical and the priority was to increase use of multi-storey car parks and develop park and ride services. He indicated that it was likely the Council would announce a £1 per day charge on Sundays and for late night Thursday in the run up to Christmas in the multi-storey car parks. The Council were also looking at the possibility of extending the multi-storey opening hours into the evenings but there were costs attached to this. The Board welcomed these proposals.

Ken Baldwin highlighted the need to ensure adequate car parking facilities for city centre workers to ensure it remained an attractive place for businesses. He also queried the progress of the A63 Castle Street scheme and Cllr Sloan, Mark Jones and Ian Kelly provided an update. The Chair asked when the new pedestrian crossing on Castle Street would be delivered (creating one more pedestrian friendly crossing instead of the current two near the Marina). Mark Jones indicated that it was a Highways Agency scheme and was likely to happen later in the year. Cllr Sloan also highlighted the investment the Council had agreed for the Mytongate roundabout, which was essential in progressing some of the development schemes on the A63 such as Quay West, Humber Quays and The Boom given the concerns of the Highways Agency over the traffic implications. This investment was welcomed by the Board and they expressed an interest in making further inputs to the Transport Commission.

Wardens in Hull City Centre

Ken Baldwin queried whether the increasing city centre resident population would justify some Warden resources given the fact that the Ambassadors were 'business focused'. Cllr Sloan indicated that the Wardens were a different type of service to the Ambassadors and they were finite resources so any extension of Wardens into the city centre was unlikely.

Away Day Feedback

The report for the BID Away Day was noted.

In relation to issues discussed on the day, Kevin Priestley reported that the Town Docks Museum, Ferens Art Gallery and City Hall would be lit up from October 2008. Insp Foster asked if the BID could get a quality and managed programme of buskers up and running in appropriate locations. Ken Baldwin indicated that the BID was looking at creating 2 or 3 'entertainment spots' to create atmosphere and vibrancy in key locations.

Dave Green tabled a proposal for an event in Queen Victoria Square for the city's children affected by the flooding. The Board felt that this was a good idea, which should be progressed. Ken Baldwin indicated that there was a national 'play day' in the city centre, which could possibly be linked up to such an event.

Board Report

A detailed Board Directors report was tabled and noted which provided updates on key activities and other information.

The Board asked about the new high quality city centre maps. Ken Baldwin indicated that the locations of the map dispensers had not been confirmed and Mark Jones indicated that he would pick up this issue.

The Board noted that the work planned on the Queens Gardens streetscene had been delayed as the Cityworks team had been deployed on flood recovery efforts elsewhere in the city. The Board were disappointed at the delay but recognised the priority was with the flood recovery and it was not thought to be cost effective to bring in other contractors to carry out the work.

Ken Baldwin was in discussions with the Council about the next promotions on the city centre banners. Decisions still needed to be taken about the appropriate use of the banners and Cllr Sloan indicated that he would clarify this by the end of the week.

Cllr Sloan indicated that the Council may be in a position to offer some small capital grants or loans to the restaurant trade to help stimulate this development in parts of the city centre.

Ken Baldwin indicated that plans for a 45-metre observation wheel were still being considered, although its weight limited the possible sites.

It was noted that the BID Retail Forum last met on 12th June and the next meeting was 14th August. It was noted that attendance at the last meeting was disappointing.

The Board discussed markets in light of the consultations that had been held with levy payers. Ken Baldwin reported that it was a difficult balance to strike in terms of the type, quality, location and scale of the markets. It was noted that the Farmers Markets had been very well received. There were options for a Christmas market but no decisions had been taken. The general view of the Board was that a focus on developing markets in Trinity Square was important, although this did not preclude activities elsewhere on a case by case basis.

The Christmas lights would be switched on after shops closed on Sunday 18th November. The switch on time had yet to be confirmed and the Board felt that this should be as close as possible to the end of trading hours to ensure people did not leave the city centre. Some

activities throughout the day would help to attract shoppers and visitors. The Council noted that this switch to Sunday was a trial and would be reviewed.

The Board noted the draft Terms & Conditions of Engagement for projects which had been circulated. The documentation fitted into the British BIDs accreditation system.

Hull City Council City Centre Report

Kevin Priestley reported that the Council were currently investing £130,000 in various capital projects although some works had been delayed by the floods. It was noted that the King Edward Street improvements would begin shortly with the removal of bollards and then the old bandstand.

It was also noted that various pieces of activity would take place to improve the streetscene on Ferensway ahead of the St Stephens opening.

Management Accounts

The management accounts were noted. A significant surplus was recorded at present, although this was largely due to the timings of major activities. Ian Bough indicated that finances were being carefully managed to ensure there were no impacts on operational activities of the BID.

The Board discussed the payment procedures for match funding projects with Citybuild and Kevin Priestley indicated that the BID needed to pay contractors and invoice Hull City Council for appropriate costs.

Hull City Council noted that the Council will pay all collected levy's to the BID although it was noted that there was a 2% - 5% average delinquency rate in other BID areas and the Board recognised that careful budgeting and cashflow forecasts would need to be made for year 2. It was also noted that levy's from St Stephens and Humber Quays would start to come through in year 2. It was also noted that in kind and match funding for various activities was an important part of the British BIDs accreditation criteria and good progress had been made on this in the first year with circa £474k being levered in since November 2006 in addition to the BID levys.

Press Log

The press log was tabled and noted.

Any Other Business

Flooding – Mark Jones updated the Board on some of the issues arising from the serious flooding in parts of Hull at the end of June. He reported that some support was being made available to businesses by Yorkshire Forward, who were also keen to work with the city to promote an 'open for business' message to visitors and investors. Mark Jones commented that the Council had had meetings with the ABI on behalf of insurers and discussions included ways to ensure the local supply chain implications were properly considered. This included construction projects and homes and other buildings were repaired, but also included the impacts on the retail trade in terms of the insurers supply chain for carpets and white goods etc. The longer term impacts on spending patterns were also a concern and the Council had asked Yorkshire Forward to do some work on analysing these impacts.

Operation Aviemore – Ian Bough provided an update on the successful Operation Aviemore in the city centre.

Best Bar None – Ken Baldwin reported that the BID had supported the Best Bar None awards which had taken place in July.

Evening economy transport issues – the BID had held discussions with EYMS Group about the possibility of some shuttle bus services to the city centre in the evenings. Some proposals were tabled and it was agreed to discuss these more fully at the next meeting.

Cllr Sloan – the Board gave their best wishes to Cllr Sloan who would be getting married later in the month.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 16th October 2007 at 10.00am at 34-38 Beverley Road, Hull.

Mike Killoran indicated that he would be away and asked Ian Kelly to chair the meeting in his absence. This was agreed.