



Minutes CWLEP Board Meeting 9 October 2017

Attendance:

Jonathan Browning: Chair
Nick Abell: Vice-Chair
Sean Farnell
John Latham
Stuart Croft
Cllr Chris Saint
Paul Kehoe
Mike Crone
Sarah Windrum
Cllr Peter Butlin
Cllr Andrew Mobbs
Cllr David Humphreys
Cllr Chris Cade
Marion Plant

Wright Hassall
C&W Chamber of Commerce/FSB
Coventry University
University of Warwick
Stratford District Council

Jaguar Land Rover
Emerald Group
Warwickshire County Council
Warwick District Council
North Warwickshire BC
Rugby BC
Nominated representative for the FE Principals

Executives in Attendance:

Martin Yardley
Paula Deas
Roger Dowthwaite
Craig Humphrey
Monica Fogarty
Kate Hughes
Andy Williams
Steve Maxey
Bill Blincoe
Nicola Cox

CWLEP
CWLEP
CWLEP
CW Growth Hub
Warwickshire County Council
University of Warwick
CWLEP
North Warwickshire BC
CW Growth Hub
CWLEP

Director's Apologies:

Karl Eddy
Catherine Mallyon
Cllr Dennis Harvey
Cllr Mike Hall
Cllr Jim O'Boyle

Grant Thornton
Royal Shakespeare Company
Nuneaton & Bedworth BC
Hinckley & Bosworth BC
Coventry City Council

In Attendance:

Adam Dent
Cllr Ian Ward
Stella Manzie
Neil Rami
Richard Hutchins

Advent Communications
Leader Birmingham City Council
Acting Chief Executive Birmingham City Council
Chief Executive
Chief Operating Officer, West Midlands Growth Co

Apologies:

Linsey Luke
Louise Bennett
Alicia Law

FSB
C&W Chamber of Commerce
BEIS and C&LoG Team

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<p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>	<p><u>Welcome & Apologies</u> Apologies were received from Karl Eddy, Catherine Mallyon, Mike Hall, Dennis Harvey and Jim O’Boyle.</p> <p><u>Call for Declarations of Interest</u> Stuart Croft, John Latham and Paul Kehoe all declared an interest in agenda item 6b, the West Midlands Growth Company. Directors asked to note any further declarations that emerge during the meeting</p> <p><u>Items of Any Other Business</u> Marion Plant and Chris Cade asked for one item each to be raised.</p> <p><u>Approval of Minutes and actions from previous meeting</u> The minutes from the previous meeting on 24 July 2017 were approved as a true record. Actions arising from the last board meeting have been completed save for a director to be identified to champion the retail sector</p> <p><u>Board Matters & Chairman’s Briefing</u> The board director vacancy has been advertised with a healthy response. A shortlist of 3 potential candidates will be interviewed w/c 16 October 2017. Volatility remains in the political and business climate. The £80m Faraday bid continues to progress although there is at least one other serious bid still in the running from Sheffield. We are confident that our bid is in a very strong position and securing the National Battery Manufacturing Development Centre at Whitley would be a powerful addition to the aspiration of Coventry & Warwickshire to be recognised as the heart of future Electric Vehicles and connected transport technology. The final decision is due to be announced in the Budget in November. LEP’s continue to be important to Government to deliver growth targets and to help to shape the Industrial Strategy. The Annual Conversation with Government is being arranged for the end of the year and both the Chair and Vice-Chair will take part. Views of any directors would be welcome to feed into this session and the agenda will be shared in advance. The Annual Conversation is an important mechanism governance wise to test our transparency in terms of processes and the overall Assurance Framework. Meetings with MP’s Matt Western, Marcus Jones and Mark Pawsey, newly appointed to the BEIS Select Committee, have taken place since the last board meeting. With Mark Pawsey there was a visit to Rugby College to review the plans for the Construction Technology and Innovation Centre and some of our other Growth Deal projects are also getting underway, showcasing the areas innovation strength across a wide range of industrial sectors, including the Very Light Rail project that could see a globally competitive solution to some of the transport issues that the world faces. The new STEM centre at Royal Leamington Spa College, which is designed to be used by pupils from local primary and secondary schools, as well as students at WCG was also opened and attended by Sarah Windrum. There was a very successful Coventry City of Culture House of Commons event in the week that preceded the City of Culture bids final submission and the Chair will be part of the judging panel line up on the 19th October. The Champions network goes from strength to strength, the latest showcasing the University of Warwick’s latest addition to their conferencing offer at the Slate and featuring FANUC. WMCA is going through a transition with the arrival of the new Chief Executive and new management team. Many of the board have agreed to participate in several sessions with the OECD Project, sponsored by BEIS, where CWLEP has been selected as the only LEP to take part.</p> <p><u>Coventry & Warwickshire Business Festival</u> The board received a presentation from Craig Humphrey on the festival which will take place between Mon 20th Nov and 1st Dec 2017. Recent developments include Coventry Telegraph being announced as a media partner and the appointment of most of the sector leads. The first event will be at the new CCC offices at One Friargate.</p>	<p>Retail Sector board champion to be identified - PD with SF</p>
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<p>6.</p> <p>7.</p> <p>8.</p> <p>9.</p>	<p>a. <u>West Midlands Combined Authority</u> A presentation was given by Paula Deas on the WMCA that covered new staff appointments, Housing Infrastructure Fund – Forward Funding, the establishment of a WMCA Digital Board, the WMCA support for City of Culture and the potential Devolution Deal 2. The importance of providing sufficient grid and power capacity across Coventry & Warwickshire and the region to meet growth aspirations was made and is a key feature of C&W’s role in Devo 2.</p> <p>b. <u>West Midlands Growth Company</u> The board received a presentation from Neil Rami and Richard Hutchins on the company and its emerging strategy and 3-year business plan.</p> <p><u>Programme Delivery Report</u> Nick Abell set the Growth Deal programme context for the board. He noted that red and amber schemes should be viewed in terms of the overall position that 33 projects were rated green or had been delivered, 3 were amber and 3 were red. NA emphasised to Board members the need to understand the severity of recommendations (in bold) in the report that they were being asked to endorse because they include withdrawal and reallocation of funds. Subject to the funding available, the next meeting of the board would receive proposals to have a further open call for projects to utilise this newly available money. No concerns were expressed against the specific recommendations. The Board agreed the following recommendations: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A5 Corridor Project That the Programme Delivery Board should write to Highways England and WCC to confirm that the funding for the project is at risk and will be withdrawn unless satisfactory progress is made in delivering this project, in line with requirements within the CWLEP’s Assurance Framework. (The Programme Management Team are working to resolve these issues by 31st October). ● Coton Arches and A46 Stanks Conditional approval to slip £2.08m out of its £4.1m allocation into 18/19, with a projected start date on site of Q4 17/18 on the provision that the remaining issues are resolved by 31st October 2017. (The Programme Team will report back to the Programme Delivery Board accordingly). ● Unlocking Development Sites Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bridge to Living That the £350,000 funding be withdrawn and returned to the central Growth Deal Programme pot for reallocation on the basis that the approved project is no long viable and the agreed outcomes undeliverable. ○ Priory Square Studley That the £200,000 funding be withdrawn and returned to the central Growth Deal Programme pot for reallocation on the basis that the approved project is no long viable and the agreed outcomes undeliverable. <p><u>Finance & Governance Report</u> Nick Abell informed the board that the 2016/17 statutory accounts for the CWLEP Group of Companies will be brought to the next meeting on 27 November 2017 for approval and that Terms of Reference for both the F&G Board and Programme Delivery Board will also be brought for endorsement and adoption.</p> <p><u>AoB</u> The National Skills Show will take place between 16 – 18 November at the NEC The issue of cybersecurity was raised and a meeting between the Growth Hub/FSB/Chamber proposed to ensure awareness amongst SME business community</p> <p>The Board formally closed, and entered into a private discussion regarding Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games bid.</p> <p>Date of next meeting; 27 November 2017 Venue; C&W Growth Hub</p>	<p>Update at next meeting - CH</p>
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