

HERTFORDSHIRE INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
Thursday 24 March 2016

MINUTES

Present:

Cllr. M. Perkins	Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council (Chair)
Cllr. D. Ashley	Hertfordshire County Council (Vice Chair)
Cllr J. Metcalf	Broxbourne Borough Council
Cllr. L. Haysey	East Herts District Council
Cllr. D. Andrews	Hertfordshire County Council
Cllr. J. Daly	St Albans City & District Council
Cllr J. Gardner	Stevenage Borough Council
Cllr I. Sharpe	Watford Borough Council

Officers in Attendance

T. Harvey	St Albans City & District Council (Chair HPG)
D. Cooper	Broxbourne Borough Council
K. Steptoe	East Herts District Council
J. Tiley	Hertfordshire County Council
R. Thacker	Hertfordshire County Council
S. Jackson	Hertfordshire County Council
A. Wood	Hertfordshire LEP
Z. Al-Jawad	Stevenage Borough Council
M. Wells	Three Rivers District Council
J. Custance	Watford Borough Council
S. Tiley	Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
D. Welton	Hertfordshire Planning Co-ordinator (Minutes)

Guests

Simon Willison	AECOM
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1. APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were noted from Cllr. G. Sutton (Dacorum), Cllr. G. Jones (East Herts) and Cllr. D. Levett (North Herts).

The Chair advised that this was Cllr Metcalf's last meeting. The meeting recorded a vote of thanks to Cllr Metcalf for his service, support, help and constructive comments and wished him well for the future.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2016 were agreed as a true record. The 26 January meeting had not been quorate and Members confirmed the provisional recommendations made.

Cllr Perkins commented that with HIPP now submitting responses to Government consultations it was important that Members forward any comments on draft submissions to the Coordinator.

Jon Tiley updated Members on the CIL Viability work stating he was about to commission the consultants. An interim report would be presented in approximately two months time and a final report in four months. JT added that not all HIPP Members had yet agreed to support the work.

With regard to Planning Recruitment Tracy Harvey advised that the University of Hertfordshire had now been allocated a dialogue member by the RTPI who would work with them through the accreditation process. TH also referred to discussions with Oakland College regarding apprenticeship training. The Chair also agreed to provide the Co-ordinator with an update on the EELGA Employer's Panel project for circulation to Members.

Agreed:

That Jon Tiley prepare an email for the Chair to go to Members who had not yet responded to the proposed joint CIL Viability work.

3. COMET TRANSPORT MODEL UPDATE AND GROWTH & TRANSPORT PLANS

Sue Jackson gave a presentation providing an update on the development of the county wide COMET transport model. This was a highways model covering A, B and C roads and it was complemented by a separate public transport model. SJ confirmed that the model extended beyond the Hertfordshire boundary. A lot of data had been collected to support the development of the model, including mobile phone records. Over the next few years it was proposed to further enhance the model.

The model assumed growth of 77,836 new dwellings between 2014 and 2031 and job growth of 70,000 over the same period. SJ illustrated some of the initial findings of the model including details of junction delays and hot spots. The model could run various scenarios and options to test the impact of developments.

In discussion Cllr Metcalf stressed the importance of the County Council liaising with District Officers when they were developing their Local Plans. SJ confirmed that the initial results would be discussed with the HPG Development Plans Group on 22 April. Cllr Perkins also suggested a less detailed presentation to Cabinet colleagues.

Cllr Haysey expressed concern that the model could predict a situation that was not accurate due to a range of other factors. SJ stated that there would be a twice yearly update of the forecast model. She also added that it could be used to test a series of interventions and Districts could directly commission work to support their own Local Plan development.

Simon Willison of AECOM gave a presentation on Growth & Transport Plans. He outlined the previous approach to urban transport planning and stated that the new system better reflected the growth agenda and was not constrained to urban areas. He added that the new plans would be evidence led, based on broad travel patterns and would seek to maximise funding opportunities.

SW referred to the programme of developing the plans and the aim was to produce the first one, for the M1/M25/A41, during the next financial year. There would be a partnership approach and a Member Steering Group would be established for each plan and would include Parish, Town Council, District and County Council Members.

In discussion Cllr Daly expressed the importance of engaging with the LEP. Cllr Daly asked how schemes would be funded and SW stated that each scheme would be matched to a particular funding route and should also be included within individual district Infrastructure Delivery Plans.

Agreed:

That SW provides a copy of his presentation to DW for circulation to HIPP Members.

4. TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Jon Tiley referred to the report to the county's Environment, Planning and Transport Cabinet Panel that had been circulated with the agenda. The report confirmed progress to date and details of the next stage of work. A new draft summary LTP would be published for consultation over the summer. JT added that the COMET model may identify further projects that can be added to the major scheme long list

The report was noted.

5. TRANSPORT, INCLUDING AN UPDATE ON THE LOCAL TRANSPORT BODY

There was nothing to report. The next LTB meeting is scheduled for April.

6. LONDON PLAN/WIDER SOUTH EAST ENGAGEMENT

Cllr Haysey advised that the first meeting of the Wider South East Political Steering Group had been held on 10 March. Among the items discussed was strategic infrastructure but this was not comprehensive and did not, for example, cover sewerage. The need to provide an adequate level of local employment was also highlighted. Progress has also been made on communications and a website and newsletter is to be produced. The next meeting is to be after May with the new Mayor of London.

Cllr. Haysey added that Members did not think that the December Summit was a good model and that in future it would operate as a forum and so provide more ability to enable discussion with officers.

Cllr Daly referred to the Outer London Commission report that had been highlighted to Members. He added that it was important that HIPP identifies what Hertfordshire needs as a result of these developments and that the situation is continually monitored.

It was agreed:

That under this standing item a series of bullet points be listed to ensure that HIPP monitors the key issues.

7. STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Cllr Perkins reported that David Scholes had confirmed that he would be in contact with HIPP Members in respect of the devolution discussions and to ensure appropriate feedback. In view of this it was not felt appropriate to discuss the papers that had been circulated.

Cllr Haysey added that the LGA had been invited to discuss with East Herts what constituted devolution and she would discuss the outcomes of this with Cllr Perkins.

8. POPULATION & HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS

The report that had been circulated was noted.

9. HERTFORDSHIRE LEP UPDATE

Adam Wood introduced the report that had been circulated and added that in future he would cover all 25 or so LEP projects.

Members agreed that it was a very useful report. Cllr Daly added that it was noticeable that there was no mention of the A414 and A1(M) and this was likely to be because the LEP was mainly driven by economic goals. Cllr Daly added that it was important that the various mechanisms were joined up. In response AW added that when the Transport Vision work is more progressed there will be an opportunity to get these issues on the LEP agenda.

10. TECHNICAL CONSULTATION ON IMPLEMENTING PLANNING CHANGES

Des Welton summarised DCLG's technical consultation on implementing planning changes. The consultation closes on 15 April and seeks views on the proposed approach to the implementation of measures in the Housing & Planning Bill, and some other measures. DW added that previously announcements had indicated that the Government could intervene where Local Plans were not in place by early 2017 but the consultation document suggested that this could also relate to other circumstances such as where local plan policies are not up to date and there is under delivery of housing in areas of high housing pressure.

It was agreed:

That the Coordinator, in consultation with officers, prepares a joint strategic level response to the consultation that is then forwarded to HIPP for any final Member comments before submission.

11. HIPP FORWARD PROGRAMME

Members noted the following forward programme:

HIPP – June 2016

- Appointment of Chair & Vice Chair
- HIPP Terms of Reference – to review
- HIPP Annual Review 2015/16
- London Plan/Wider South East Engagement
- Strategic Planning Framework
- Transport – including LTB Update
- LEP Update
- Water Study Update – Rob Shipway

Info items

- HIPP Work Programme
- LTB Minutes

HIPP – July 2016

- Network Rail Presentation on Property Disposal
- London Plan/Wider South East Engagement
- Strategic Planning Framework
- Transport – including LTB Update
- LEP Update

Meeting Date to be determined

- Planning & Health
- Promoting Good Design & Role of HIPP (after the Building Futures Tour of examples of good design)
- Affordable Housing/Starter Homes and the Housing & Planning Bill
- Post 2031 Housing Delivery Options
- High Density/High Rise Development

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items were raised.

13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Provisional dates for 2016/17 are as follows. These will remain provisional and may change following the publication of council diaries.

Tuesday 7 June 2016
Tuesday 26 July 2016
Thursday 29 September 2016
Thursday 17 November 2016
Tuesday 24 January 2017
Wednesday 15 March 2017

HIPP meetings are 6.00pm (for 6.30pm) usually at County Hall but if an authority wishes to host one please contact the Co-ordinator at:

des.welton@ntlworld.com