

Hertfordshire Local Transport Body Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday 25 January 2018

10am, Committee Room A, County Hall, Hertford

Those Attending:

Attendee	Organisation
Cllr Derrick Ashley (DA)	Hertfordshire County Council (Chair)
Cllr Mandy Perkins (MP)	Hertfordshire Infrastructure Planning Partnership / WHBC
Tina Barnard (TB)	Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Cllr Andrew Stevenson (AS)	Hertfordshire County Council
Cllr Ralph Sangster (RS)	Hertfordshire County Council
Trevor Mason (TM)	Hertfordshire County Council
Ashley Stower (ASt)	Network Rail
Carew Satchwell (CS)	Network Rail
Jon Tiley (JT)	Hertfordshire County Council
David Burt (DB)	Hertfordshire County Council
Rupert Thacker (RT)	Hertfordshire County Council
Tina Gigg (TG)	Hertfordshire County Council (<i>Minute Secretary</i>)

Minutes:

Serial	Agenda Item	Actions
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies for Absence	
1.1	Apologies for Absence were received from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adam Wood (Hertfordshire LEP)• Penny Mould (Highways England)• Stephen Hall (Highways England)• Richard Boutal (HCC)	
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
2.1	An action from the June 2017 meeting was to agree substitutes for the 3 core members of LTB, the agreed substitutes are: Cllr Derrick Ashley – Substitute: Cllr Andrew Stevenson Cllr Mandy Perkins – Substitute: Cllr Linda Haysey (EHC) Tina Barnard – Substitute: Giles Ellerton (Herts LEP Vice Chair) The minutes of the 25 January 2018 Hertfordshire Local Transport Body meeting were agreed to be an accurate record, and as such, were signed by the Chair.	

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3.	Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	
3.1	No conflicts of interest were declared.	
4.	Major Projects Update	
4.1	DB gave an update on the various major projects.	
4.2	<p><u>A602 Improvements</u></p> <p>The works are ongoing with some parts expected to be completed in April 2018. The Development Control Committee have recommended further sections for delivery (A602/A119 jnc and the offline section). Reference will need to be made to the Secretary of State for Green Belt issues.</p> <p>Lessons have been learnt with this scheme with regards traffic management, as it has been more disruptive than initially thought.</p> <p>DA made the group aware of his disappointment with the public information signs that were used, and that more good news and at least an apology for the disruption should have been on the signs. DB agreed that the signs would be reviewed for the next stages.</p> <p>DA asked if the A602 scheme plans had been reconsidered in light of the draft LTP4? DB replied no, that planning had been given during the previous LTP3 period, but will take this message back to the Major Projects team.</p>	<p>DB/RB</p> <p>DB</p>

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4.3	<p data-bbox="331 232 619 264"><u>A120 Little Hadham</u></p> <p data-bbox="331 304 1251 483">There has been a slip in the programme for the gateways, to incorporate a possible public inquiry for the side road orders and compulsory orders. The Secretary of State has given July as a date for the public inquiry, with Spring 2019 as a possible start date for the scheme.</p> <p data-bbox="331 524 1216 591">Again DA highlighted the need for good public signage for this scheme.</p> <p data-bbox="331 631 1184 698">It was confirmed that the £30million construction costs does include the flood mitigation works.</p> <p data-bbox="331 739 1257 994">TB noted that in relation to the consideration of an additional funding provision to the scheme by the LEP (see para 3.17 of the Major Projects report) this was discussed at the LEP SIB and whilst it was felt that it was a good scheme, the LEP cannot at this stage give a letter of support regarding the additional funding provision as there needs to be more decision making at the LEP.</p>	DB/RB
4.4	<p data-bbox="331 1039 730 1070"><u>Metropolitan Line Extension</u></p> <p data-bbox="331 1077 1241 1218">JT informed that a letter had been received from Government Ministers to the County Council's leader, to inform Hertfordshire that TfL cannot meet/underwrite the financial risks, therefore there is no way for the scheme to proceed.</p> <p data-bbox="331 1258 1149 1326">As a result the SW Herts Growth & Transport Plan will be delayed for consultation, as it will need to be revised.</p> <p data-bbox="331 1366 1235 1473">It was noted that the money set aside for this rail project should be available for the whole county now, and not just Watford Projects.</p>	
4.5	<p data-bbox="331 1520 788 1552"><u>New River Bridge (Essex Road)</u></p> <p data-bbox="331 1592 1216 1659">Currently there is only a single point of access to the business park for HGVs.</p> <p data-bbox="331 1700 1251 1841">A decision will be made by the HCC Highways Panel on 31 January 2018, on whether or not to progress the planning application, if this is approved an application would be submitted Spring/early Summer, with delivery in early 2020.</p>	

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5.	Government Funding	
5.1	<u>SEP Update</u> TB gave a brief update. The LEP will be developing a new Local Industrial Strategy for Hertfordshire, which will be very similar to the current SEP but will replace it. The LEP will be undertaking consultation on this new Strategy.	
6.	Strategic Rail	
6.1	There was no paper to discuss at the meeting but TM agreed to circulate a rail update paper that was going to the February Environment, Planning & Transport Panel.	TM
6.2	<u>Cross Rail 2</u> The DfT is undertaking an independent review of funding and financing, and to ensure value for money for this scheme, therefore consultation will now not be until 2019.	
6.3	<u>Thameslink Timetable</u> The 2018 timetable will start in May, and will now be phased in between May and December, with the bus substitution starting between Stevenage and Watton-at-Stone in December. The formal timetable will be published in February 2018. TM stated his disappointment that GTR hadn't consulted HCC enough.	
6.4	<u>East Midlands Franchise</u> The new franchise is due to start in August 2019, the County Council are opposed to the proposed reduction in stops at Bedford and Luton as this would reduce access to Intercity services for Hertfordshire residents. Further lobbying will be required.	
6.5	<u>West Coast Partnership</u> The West Coast Partnership will take over the existing Intercity West Coast franchise from April 2019, but the freed up capacity (generated by HS2) could be good or bad news for Hertfordshire. The County Council are currently meeting with the three bidders to identify aspirations and opportunities for Hertfordshire. DA suggested that HCC lobby the 3 bidders now, but more effort be put into lobbying the successful bidder.	

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	<p><u>Other Rail Issues:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DA asked Network Rail what was happening with the funding for the new platform at Stevenage, Network Rail agreed to find out and let HCC know. - The East-West Rail project is pushing ahead, the potential completion date of the central section (Bedford to Cambridge) has been brought forward to the late 2020's. HCC needs to review its position and how we can get involved. - passenger use at Hertfordshire stations has grown by 1.5% over the year 2015/16 to 2016/17. - The County Council's Rail Strategy is currently being updated to take into account recent developments in the rail industry. - The draft Network Rail East Coast Route Study is open for consultation until 16 March, the key Herts issues are: Stevenage 5th platform, Moorgate capacity, digital signaling for viaduct in Welwyn, but it doesn't cover station upgrades. Network Rail agreed to come and speak to TM to go through the detail. <p><i>East Coast Route Study – Railway Investment Choices – Network Rail (December 2017), available at:</i> https://www.networkrail.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/East-Coast-Main-Line-Route-Study.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Network Rail will be developing Modular Route Studies going forwards, with West Coast Mainline South to be the first one. RT requested that Network Rail supply HCC with a list of the new managers across the new routes. - DA reminded Network Rail that HCC had been unsuccessful in meeting with the Property Development Team to discuss selling redundant land, AS agreed to look into this. DA would like all railway assets considered and that a separate meeting should be arranged to discuss. 	<p style="text-align: center;">AS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TM/AS</p>
7.	Strategy Update	
7.1	<p><u>LTP4 Strategy Update</u></p> <p>The LTP4 consultation closed on 23 January, and nearly 700 responses were received. Comments are still expected from a number of the district/boroughs. These comments will need analysing, but comments have been mainly positive from the key stakeholders and mixed views from the public. The key theme so far is that LTP4 lacks detail for rural areas of the county.</p>	

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7.2	<p><u>Highways England Update</u> RT gave a brief update in the absence of any HE officers. The SRN initial report fails to relate to other strategic transport networks (i.e. it doesn't refer to the MRN consultation).</p> <p>The Major Route Network consultation is on trunk roads, motorways and major roads that have been detrunked, there is an interactive map available online, but this has a few oddities in it i.e. in Hatfield the SRN shows the A1 below the tunnel, but the MRN includes the A1000 above the tunnel. HCC will be providing a response to this consultation</p>	
7.3	<p><u>Growth & Transport Plans</u> The draft SW Herts G&TP will now be subject to changes, North Central and South Central G&TPs are being developed and are due for consultation at the end of the Summer. The 2 eastern area G&TPs will be developed towards the end of the year. It was requested that the SW Herts G&TP be extended to cover the whole of St Albans.</p>	RT
8.	Local Plans Update	
8.1	<p>JT updated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 districts have plans at examination (EH, Wel/Hat, NH). - St Albans have been told by the Secretary of State that their plan will be taken over if they do not show a commitment to progress. - The SW local authorities are working together to produce a joint strategic document. - Stevenage is still on hold awaiting a decision from the Secretary of State. 	
9.	Any Other Business	
9.1	None.	
10.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>TG to book quarterly meetings for 2018 (April, July, October), any special additional meetings will be booked if required.</p>	
	Date	Time
	Friday 20 April 2018	2pm – 4pm
	Location	
	Committee Room C, County Hall	

Signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting

Cllr Derrick Ashley
(Chair of the Hertfordshire Local Transport Body)

20 April 2018