

GLOUCESTER HERITAGE URBAN REGENERATION COMPANY LTD

MINUTES OF GHURC BOARD MEETING

Gloucestershire College, Llanthony Road

Friday 29th January 2010, 1.30pm

Present:	(GS)	Greg Smith (Chair)	(GM)	Greg Morgan
	(IM)	Ian Mean	(MTW)	Michael Tallett-Williams
	(DB)	David Bush	(AS)	Antonia Shield
	(PJ)	Paul James	(SP)	Sally Pearson
	(CH)	Chris Hallam	(JG)	Julie Girling
	(MW)	Mark Hawthorne	(CF)	Chris Foley
	(SPi)	Sally Pickering	(MB)	Maggie Bolt
	(PF)	Peter Foyle	(AG)	Andrew Gravells
	(MP)	Michael Perham	(PD)	Parmjit Dhanda
Observers:				
	(CFO)	Chris Oldershaw	(MT)	Mike Tilt
	(RO)	Richard Owen	(PC)	Philip Cooke
	(PS)	Philip Staddon	(SH)	Sam Hoad
	(SE)	Simon Excel	(MW)	Martin Wallace
Minutes:				
	(JM)	Jo May		

368/10	Apologies	Action								
	<p><u>Board Members:</u> David Warburton, Ian Jarvis, Ian Knight, Franco Muccini, David Owen, Martin Seccombe, Mark Owen</p> <p><u>Observers:</u> Stuart Tarr, Nigel Riglar, Mick Thorpe, Andrew Vines, Julian Wain, John Seddon, Duncan Jordan, Nicky Godding</p>									
369/10	Declarations of Interest									
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Peter Foyle</td> <td>Ecclesiastical</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Antonia Shield</td> <td>Allstones, Railway Triangle</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sally Pearson</td> <td>Railway Triangle/NHS Trust</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greg Smith</td> <td>Gloucestershire College</td> </tr> </table>	Peter Foyle	Ecclesiastical	Antonia Shield	Allstones, Railway Triangle	Sally Pearson	Railway Triangle/NHS Trust	Greg Smith	Gloucestershire College	
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370/10	Minutes of the previous Board Meeting on 27th November 2009									
	The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.									
371/10	Matters Arising									
361/09	<p>CFO confirmed that a letter of thanks had been sent to Ian Wright MP for his support with the Blackfriars LIC application.</p> <p><i>Gloucester Works:</i> A detailed report will be issued at a future Board meeting.</p>	CFO								

363/09	Simon Excel advised Board Members that the consultation period for the LTP 3 had been extended to 12.02.10 due to the adverse weather conditions. A draft report will be available end of February/early March.	
372/10	Greater Blackfriars – Update & Presentation on the proposed Language Immersion Centre (LIC)	
	<p>CFO advised that a further £1.5m had been secured from SWRDA last week for property acquisitions for British Legion, BT and Kimbond. An expression of interest has been received for the Fleece Hotel from the developers who are also interested in the 4* hotel on the Barbican Site. They would be interested in turning the Fleece into a ‘boutique’ hotel. Further information should be available early February.</p> <p>A presentation was given on the LIC by Sue Turner (Chosen Hill School) Geoff Rich (Fielden Clegg Bradley) and Fran Mahon (Gloucestershire County Council). Chris Smith, Territory Director for English Heritage, was also in attendance. (See Intranet for full presentation). Chris Smith indicated that he has always been involved in Gloucester, and has been waiting for years for a scheme that would make Blackfriars into what it should be and feels that ‘this is it’. CS also advised that the Executive Board of English Heritage have approved the investment in the complex, and that CS would continue to work with GHURC, SWRDA and the County Council to oversee the project.</p> <p>IM asked how sustainable the LIC was. Sue Turner (ST) advised that there is an excellent business plan in place and along with the flexibility of the building for alternative purposes was confident that the LIC would be sustainable.</p> <p>AG asked what investment was required from the schools and how many had signed up to the LIC. ST stated that the first 3 years of the project are the most vulnerable, but feels confident that the schools will be fully supportive, (approximate contribution per school was £7,000 per annum). The G15 schools and secondary school heads (40) have confirmed their interest in the LIC with 6/7 heads already fully committed. Final funding figures would be known within the next two weeks.</p> <p>DB asked what materials the building would be made from. Geoff Rich (GR) responding by advising that they were not at that stage of the design process but that it would certainly be a high quality building.</p> <p>MH advised that he had asked officers to look into the timescales of the project with the aim of achieving start on site late June/early July to ensure that the project is completed within the very tight timescale.</p> <p>MTW on behalf of the Business Forum was pleased to see positive progress from where the project was a few months ago. He was also pleased with the possible benefits to the night time economy which may come from the LIC.</p> <p>CH, considered the LIC a great acquisition for Gloucester, but expressed</p>	

	<p>concern over the risks facing completion of the project in the time frame allowed. GR feels that it is a very demanding programme, but is achievable and all the parties involved are working very hard to ensure its success.</p> <p>GS feels there is little risk to the completion of the building, the greatest risk is with sustaining the centre, but is pleased to hear that there is flexibility of use for the building.</p> <p>Recommendation: The report was noted and a further report will be submitted on how the Blackfriars development could provide the catalyst to expand the City's cultural offer at the next Main Board meeting.</p>	
373/10	Programme Performance Update	
	<p>CFO highlighted the addition of Outputs on the Programme Performance Update and briefly outlined the report. CFO emphasised the importance of the Railway Triangle to meeting the housing targets due to the current economic climate having such a dramatic effect on the other Magnificent Seven projects.</p> <p>The output information was well received by the Board and SP found the information very useful.</p>	
374/10	Marketing Gloucester – update and presentation from Graham Walker	
	<p>Graham Walker thanked the URC Board for their support and assistance to Marketing Gloucester; it is both a privilege and a pleasure to work with the URC. He then set out the company's priorities for the year ahead, particularly in relation to events, city centre management and the recently launched Business Champions initiative. The presentation is available to view on the GHURC Intranet.</p> <p>DB feels that the people of Gloucester do still not understand what is happening within the city. Where are the signs/hoardings at each site to advise what is happening?</p> <p>SPi felt that we need to sell other parts of Gloucester, not just the Quays and the Cathedral, there is a Ski Centre and the UK's Leading Climbing wall – this must feature in any branding campaign for Gloucester.</p> <p>MB asked GW what other cities has he 'marketed' Gloucester to.</p> <p>CFO advised that the hoardings are the responsibility of the URC; there are hoardings at the Quays, Docks and St Ann Way Bridge. Blackfriars and the Economic Linkages hoardings will be erected shortly.</p> <p>GW advised that Marketing Gloucester has been working closely with the Three Choirs Festival over the last 6 months.</p> <p>MH emphasised that there is a huge expectation for Marketing Gloucester to perform, but nobody could foresee the current economic situation so feels that it is a 'good start' but there is a lot more to be done.</p>	

	<p>GW briefly explained that the 'Business Champions' programme gives local business the opportunity to promote the changes taking place in the city. (Raising the profile and awareness of Gloucester, influencing decisions that have a direct impact on business within the city and active participation in a lead organisation to make Gloucester a better place to live, work and visit).</p> <p>GW confirmed that a number of organisations have advised that they wish to become 'Business Champions'. It is hoped the programme will bring in approximately £200,000 over the next 12-24 months.</p> <p>MB stressed the need for Marketing Gloucester to develop branding to emphasis the heritage and the new areas of development in Gloucester.</p> <p>The report and presentation from marketing Gloucester was received by the Board and it was agreed that a breakdown of the URC's contribution in 2010/11 would be provided to the March Board meeting.</p>	
375/10	<p>Review of Company Operations – December 2009 – Feedback from Company Directors</p>	
	<p>CFO summarised the feedback he had received from Company Directors on the operation of the Board and Executive Team.</p> <p>It was agreed that this was a very positive and useful exercise. Decisions were needed on two issues:</p> <p>Frequency of Main Board Meetings and the number of observers/advisors attending the meetings.</p> <p>Recommendations: All recommendations as shown in Annexe 1 were agreed, with Main Board meetings remaining at 6 per year and no change to the number of observers/advisors in attendance. CFO to implement all other recommendations as soon as possible.</p>	CFO
376/10	<p>Greater Railway Triangle – Update</p>	
	<p>CFO advised that a meeting has been arranged with Simon Ford of Allstones and his Planning Advisor along with GS, Julian Wain and Paul James for Monday 1st February.</p> <p>There are also Board Member site visits to the Railway Triangle scheduled for the 1st and 11th February.</p> <p>DB asked for clarification on the residential element of the scheme if Allstones are agreeable to being moved onto the northern part of the triangle. CFO advised that the balance of land on the Triangle would be retained for employment/business development, with the existing Allstones site developed for new housing. He also emphasised that potential conflict between these uses would be 'managed' by extensive landscaping which will play an important part in the development as a whole.</p>	

	<p>Recommendation: The report was noted.</p>	
377/10	<p>Community Regeneration Protocol</p>	
	<p>CFO outlined the report and advised that this was an interim report showing the 'people side' of the programme.</p> <p>PD had been to a Job Centre Plus employment fare earlier in the day and asked all Board members to consider the possibility of apprenticeship/volunteers appointments.</p> <p>GS felt that the report had the potential to be very interesting, but there was more work required.</p> <p>SPi advised that the Residents & Community Forum felt it was what the URC was all about and found the report very helpful.</p> <p>Recommendation: The report was noted and partners and stakeholders are encouraged to further align their activities to that of the regeneration programme in order to provide holistic regeneration in the city.</p>	
378/10	<p>Marketing Update</p>	
	<p>IM advised that the last Marketing Meeting had been quite challenging with regards to the Marketing Gloucester funding allocation in 2010/11. The overall feeling is that the URC need to redirect its £25,000 contribution towards inward investment activities and raising awareness in the business community of the regeneration programme. More generally he felt that the URC should effectively re-launch its programme in 2010/11 – setting out its major investment planned for the final five years of the programme.</p> <p>CF agrees that the national situation on urban regeneration is unclear but he nevertheless considered the re-launch of the URC to be a good idea, but we need to understand where our Founder Partner Agencies stand on future priorities.</p> <p>MB would like to see more emphasis on the cultural offer in Gloucester. IM agreed with this.</p> <p>CFO advised that he had been approached by Southampton City Council for information on how to set up a URC in this historic quarter.</p> <p>Recommendation: The report was noted, and it was also agreed that the Marcomms Panel priorities would be outlined at the next Main Board meeting in March.</p>	

379/10	Executive Team Budget – Position Statement	
	The report was noted.	
380/10	Any Other Business	
	<p>MTW advised that the Business Forum had raised the concern of the businesses in the Canal Corridor area. Their 3 year leases will shortly be up for renewal and a coherent strategy is required to ensure that the businesses are fully aware of what is happening in the area or we could be at risk of losing the business community in the Canal Corridor. CFO indicated that the City Council are leading on the Canal Corridor and it was agreed that Mick Thorpe and Philip Staddon would provide an up date at the next Main Board meeting.</p>	PS/MT
	Future Meeting Dates:	
	<p>Friday 26th March 2010, 1pm (lunch), Gloucestershire College Friday 28th May 2010, 1pm (lunch), Gloucestershire College</p> <p>Due to the meetings being held at Gloucestershire College during 2010 please advise of your attendance at each meeting.</p>	