

**Minutes of Board Meeting : summary of business****15 May 2014****at Dartington Trust**

**Attendees:** Adam Chambers, Alan Denby, Alan Robinson (Head of Paid Services & Executive Director Communities, East Devon District Council in place of Mark Williams), Chris Garcia, David Hall, Doug Bamsey, Frances Brennan, Janet Powell (mins), John Tucker (Leader of South Hams District Council in place of Paul Diviani), Keri Denton (in place of Heather Barnes & Andrew Leadbetter), Mark Goodwin (Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Exeter in place of Steve Smith), Nick Ames, Nick Engert, Paul Hickson (in place of Paula Hewitt, Somerset County Council), Sally Edgington, Simon Barker, Stephen Bird, Stephen Criddle (Principal & CEO of South Devon College in place of Rachel Davies), Steve Hindley (Chair), Steve Parrock, Tim Jones, Tracey Lee, Vinita Nawathe

**Apologies:** Andrew Leadbetter, Barbara Shaw, Duncan McGinty, Gordon Oliver, Heather Barnes, Julian Beer, Julia Sweeney, Mark Williams, Paula Hewitt, Paul Diviani, Rachel Davies, Steve Smith, Tudor Evans, Vaughan Lindsay, Wendy Purcell

<b>Agenda item</b>
<b>1. Welcome and Apologies</b>
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b> AC: Delivery partner for the RGN Pilot & Plymouth City Deal, Peninsula Enterprise is also a supplier for Connecting Devon & Somerset, plus Serco is operating the WFD ESF Programme on behalf of SFA in Devon & Somerset. FB: Working Links are bidding into Plymouth City Deal for work progression and Bid to deliver the UK Gov'ts Transforming Rehabilitation Programme. SC: declared interest in Growth Deal. SP: Director for Torbay Development Agency (TDA).
<b>3. Draft Minutes of last meeting 19 March and matters arising</b> Draft Minutes agreed as accurate and final. <b>Outstanding Action:</b> SE: Michael Fallon will be the lead coordinator for the Hinkley Programme, taking a close interest.
<b>4. CEX Report</b> Taken as read, following additional points and queries raised:- ➤ CG thanked Keri and her team for an excellent result from BIS on the Assisted Areas Consultation. The Board were asked to consider the original principles with regard to GPF. ➤ Negotiation of Growth Deal It is anticipated that feedback from Gov't will occur between now and the next board meeting and within this period board director's views will need to be sought with the

probability of different scenario's to consider. It remains a balancing act, with over 600 "asks" over 39 LEP's. It is envisaged that the Gov't will come back and say that broadly speaking this is "in frame" and then that will be what is up for negotiation.

It was agreed to continue to seek views from the existing sub group.

**Action: Final sign of Growth Deal by all Board Directors required.**

- The timescales for the HotSW Inward Investment Manager were explained. If recruitment was unsuccessful, the TDA could possibly resource this requirement.

**The following order of Agenda item was changed slightly.**

#### **6. Growth Deal verbal update – Vinita Nawathe**

- Important to make those linkages with the cross cutting work across aerospace/airbus with Bath, Bristol and Cardiff into the Farnborough Air Show stand.
- Has there been any analysis of the "asks" from other LEP's? Yes there has been collaboration with other LEP's on Transport, Agri- Tech with Cornwall, Aerospace with WoE, Marine and the Solent, Nuclear with Gloucestershire, WoE through the work with the Hinkley Strategic Development Forum (HSDF), but to remind everyone it is a competitiveness process.

**Action: To table an agenda item for the next Board meeting on "Cross LEP Collaboration" and what this means?**

**Action: To consider the strengths and weaknesses the sub group team when negotiating the Growth Deal.**

FB: noted the need to become more familiar with the assisted areas status and how the points articulated for this consultation, could similarly be used to help the ESF funding and provide leverage with DWP & Ministry of Justice to ensure the funding aligns with employer needs. This merited a separate discussion which she would take off line with SC.

#### **7. Verbal Update on Rural Issues Group – Tim Jones**

- Group is almost set up and will also include representation from the Tourism sector (as this sector tends to be missed out) and will link into the LAG's and the work of the various Destination Management Organisations (DMO's) plus Ellen Vernon's work for the LEP on the impact of flooding on Tourism.

**Action: to ensure the Rural Issues Group is involved with work on EADRF.**

#### **5. CIC Governance & Director Responsibilities – Presentation by Al Goodwin & Anna Roderick of Foot Anstey**

**Action: Renew Declarations of Interest for all Board Directors and compile a**

**Declarations Register.****Action: Develop a Declarations of Interest Policy.**

**Action: Affected private sector board members to state in writing their intention to continue YES or NO to the CEO within the next couple of weeks.**

**Action: Process to manage renewed terms to be considered.**

**8. Papers for noting**➤ **Chairman's Activity**

SH – a strategic connectivity review is being headed up by Jim French in conjunction with the CBI, assisted by the University of Exeter and with input from the 5 SW LEPs to consider what the priority infrastructure projects are in order to effectively lobby government.

CG - Some projects already have joint consensus i.e. A303. This is seen as particularly urgent, in order to build on existing SEPs and provide an integrated "infrastructure ask", with a common business case which will justifiably have more credibility with Gov't.

FB: CBI at SW Councils meeting in the next couple of weeks – would be good to have a briefing sheet on Infrastructure and LEP Sharing for this meeting.

**Action: To produce briefing sheet for SW Councils meeting that members can take away.**

**9. AOB**

AC: will be attending SW Engagement Forum (Steve Woollett) meetings and will report back.

NE: Any more news on the Flood Action Plan from Gov't? CG responded that this will form part of on-going conversations as to whether there will be any Growth Deal monies.

**Action: To provide an update on Flood Action Plan and funding.**

**Next meeting – 22 July at Somerset College from 15.00 – 18.00**