

**MINUTES: Steering Group**  
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010**  
**34/38 Beverley Road, Hull**



## **PRESENT**

Tony Cosgrove (Chair)  
Barry Schofield  
John Sharp  
Carole Goodaire  
Paul Burnley  
Ian Kelly  
Antony Towle  
Hannah Crookes

### **Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

971. Apologies for absence were noted from John Britton, Linda Ellis, Gordon Shields, and Francesca Devine

### **Agenda Item 2: Minutes**

972. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2010 were agreed as a true and correct record.

### **Agenda Item 3: Matters Arising**

973. Local Economic Partnership (LEP) – There was an in-depth discussion relating to the LEP. It had been reported in the press that Ministers may visit the region in December to discuss the situation revolving around the boundaries of the Partnership. The Chairman noted that he was personally in favour of a Pan Humber LEP; this was agreed as the business view around the table.

974. Ian Kelly noted that the Hull and Humber Chamber of Commerce's clear view was also in favour of a Pan Humber LEP.

975. However, it was agreed that the Business Forum should not seek to take a lead take part in the LEP debate as Hull City Council clearly wanted a North bank LEP.

976. It was felt that the secretariat should facilitate a meeting between the Chairman and our representative on the Earning Partnership, Richard Tuplin, noting this position.

#### **Agenda Item 4: 29<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Forum**

977. Hannah Crookes reported that the 29<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Forum would be held at the Octagon on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011. Cllr Carl Minns would be giving his annual 'State of the City' address. The Forum would also feature John Sandford, a Senior Trading Standards Officer, speaking regarding the impact of selling illegal tobacco and other products on local businesses. It was noted Young Enterprise would feature at the Quarterly Forum.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Business Forum issues**

978. Role of ONE HULL Business Forum – the Chair noted that the Business Forum's role was to act as an influencer on behalf of the business community; it was not a political forum.
979. Steering Group elections – It agreed that the election process for the vacancies on the Steering Group would commence with initially advertising positions which would start shortly. It was noted there were 7 vacancies available and new Steering Group members could be elected formally at the January Forum.
980. Business Advisory Group – It was noted that attendance at Business Advisory Group meetings continued to decrease with only 7 out of 29 members attending more than 50% of meetings in the last 2 years. The group agreed the BAG required more direction and that future meetings required subjects which would attract, and allow the business community to have a direct input on areas which affect them.
981. The group recognised that issues were still ongoing concerning communication between the Earning Partnership and the Business Advisory Group. The primary aim of BAG was to undertake work from the Earning Partnership regarding issues surrounding the local business community. It was agreed Richard Tuplin, Chair of Earning, would be contacted to discuss this matter as well with the Chairman.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Forward Work Plan**

982. It was agreed the Forums Forward Work Plan should include the following:
- To engage more with CSR issues
  - Future Quarterly Forums to include Centre for Cities, Nicola Yates, Department for Business Development at Hull City Council, and Portfolio Holder for Finance.
983. The Business Forum Steering Group needed to ensure the Earning Partnership fully reflected business opinion in its deliberations and cross referenced its activities fully .

#### **Agenda Item 7: Managers Report**

984. The Chair stated the Managers Report was straight forward with nothing to report.
985. Learning Lunch – It was agreed the Learning Lunches were beneficial and should continue. HC reported a meeting with Lesley Collinson at Hull CC would take place in January 2011 to discuss the future programme. It was recommended Martin Budd from Hull CC should be invited to present about climate change.

986. Communications – It was agreed the Forum’s website should include more links to sites that would be of value to local businesses. Advice for business start ups would also prove to be beneficial, as well as legislation updates.

987. It was noted that the Forum would now feature a social media sites Twitter and LinkedIn.

**Agenda Item 8: Any other business**

988. There was no other business.

**Agenda Item 9: Date of future meetings**

989. Steering Group: Tuesday 11th January 2011 – 12.00noon  
29<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Forum: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at 4.30pm