

**Notes of a meeting of the  
Ashford Strategic Delivery Board  
Friday 27 January 2017 at 10.00am**

**Present:**

**Board Members**

Cllr Gerry Clarkson (Chairman) – Leader, ABC  
Rt Hon Damian Green MP  
Cllr Graham Galpin – Portfolio Holder for Town Centres Focus & Business Dynamics, ABC  
Cllr Mike Bennett – Portfolio Holder for Planning, Development & Enforcement, ABC  
Mr Mark Dance, KCC Cabinet Member for Economic Development  
Tracey Kerly, ABC  
Paul Harwood – Highways Agency  
Chris Moore, Development Director, HCA  
Barbara Cooper, KCC  
Mark Lumsdon-Taylor – Hadlow Group

**Non Board Members**

Simon Cole, ABC  
Paul McKenner, ABC  
Andrew Osborne, ABC  
Kirsty Hogarth, ABC  
Roland Mills, ABC  
Kate North, ABC  
Patrick Brown, ABC  
Stephen Gasche, KCC  
David Smith, KCC  
Matt Hogben, KCC  
Joanne Davies, KCC  
Keith Fearon, ABC

**Apologies**

Mr Matthew Balfour, KCC Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment,  
Richard Alderton, ABC, Lois Jarrett, ABC, Christina Fuller, ABC

<b>Item</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Action</b>
1.	<b>Welcome</b>  The Chairman welcomed all those present at the meeting.	

2.	<p><b>Ashford Station/Spurs</b></p> <p>Stephen Gasche (SG) gave a presentation on the current status of the project. He explained that he was confident that the funding of £10.5m would be in place following the announcement of LGF Round 3 in the near future, and took the Board through the project timeline which had been agreed with Network Rail and which anticipated completion by Spring 2018. SG also advised of a future meeting with Eurostar to continue to develop the positive relationship, and the importance of Ashford International Station.</p> <p>Andrew Osborne (AO) also advised that a communications group had been set up with representatives of all partners to develop a communications plan for this project, and to promote the International services from Ashford International Station.</p>	<p><b>KCC/ABC/ Network Rail</b></p>
3.	<p><b>S278 Works: Co-ordination of Works.</b></p> <p>Matt Hogben (MH) circulated a report which set out details of the various highway works which were proposed arising from the various development sites coming forward, together with the likely timetable of the construction works.</p> <p>In terms of the roadworks for the Designer Outlet Extension, it was noted that Lois Jarrett would be talking to the centre on the timing of works.</p> <p>The Chairman said that he was pleased to note the proposed works at the 'pinch point' on the Willesborough Road. He also asked about whether there had been any progress on consideration of box markings at the J9 Drovers Roundabout. MH agreed to look at this issue.</p> <p>In terms of the dualling of the A28 at Chilmington, it was requested that KCC should liaise with the Corporate Property and Projects Team.</p>	<p><b>KCC</b></p>
4.  (a)	<p><b>Project Updates</b></p> <p><u>Ashford College</u></p> <p>Andrew Osborne (AO) displayed a photograph of the Phase 1 College building which had been taken that morning. Mark Lumsdon-Taylor (MLT) said that he believed that the new college building clearly demonstrated the progress Ashford was making and he stressed the importance of having a vibrant town to attract and retain students. MLT also said that Phase 1 would be fully constructed by the end of April</p>	<p><b>ABC/ Hadlow</b></p>

	<p>and would open in September this year. The construction and engineering related courses would remain at the Jemmett Road site for the time being, and would relocate to Elwick Road with the completion of the Phase 1a building.</p>	
(b)	<p><u>Junction 10A</u></p> <p>Simon Cole (SC) said that the forward funding agreement would be considered by the Cabinet on 9 February 2017. The Public Examination was currently underway and hopefully the outcome would be known by the end of the year. Paul Harwood (PH) also advised that following a meeting with residents and businesses the Highways Agency was looking at options to help improve the situation at Barrey Road.</p> <p>Chris Moore said that he was very grateful for all of the work undertaken by partners in progressing this scheme.</p>	<p><b>ABC/ KCC/HA</b></p>
(c)	<p><u>Elwick Place</u></p> <p>Paul McKenner (PMcK) advised that the agreement with Stanhope had now been signed and he hoped that construction on site would start in March 2017 with a view to completion in November 2018. A Visualisation model was being produced which would enable viewers to 'walk through' the development.</p>	<p><b>ABC/KCC</b></p>
(d)	<p><u>Commercial Quarter</u></p> <p>PMcK advised that work had commenced on site and was due for completion in May 2018. Work was also to be undertaken in terms of enhancing the public realm around this site and to the front of the station.</p>	<p><b>ABC/KCC</b></p>
(e)	<p><u>Designer Outlet Extension</u></p> <p>Roland Mills (RM) advised that BA McArthur Glen wished to make minor changes to the approved scheme and an application was expected in early to mid-February.</p> <p>RM agreed to obtain a build programme to inform the highway works.</p>	<p><b>ABC/KCC</b></p>

<p>(f)</p>	<p><u>Chilmington Green</u></p> <p>SC reported that the S106 agreement had been signed and the planning permission issued. The developers were keen to submit reserved matters applications to the Council.</p> <p>Barbara Cooper (BC) said that the unlocking of this scheme was largely due to the HCA, ABC and KCC working together and taking elements of the risk. The Board considered that this successful way of working was something that should be highlighted to the government and that consideration should be given perhaps extending an invitation to the relevant Minister to visit Ashford and to see the progress on the Big 8.</p>	<p><b>ABC/KCC</b></p>
<p>(g)</p>	<p><u>Jasmin Vardimon</u></p> <p>David Smith (DS) advised on the work KCC was undertaking with Jasmin Vardimon in terms of a KCC owned site on Henwood Industrial estate.</p>	<p><b>KCC/ABC</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Friday 28 April 2017</p> <p><b>Future Board Meetings</b></p> <p>Friday 28 July 2017</p> <p>Friday 27 October 2017</p> <p>Friday 26 January 2018</p>	

Queries concerning these minutes? Please contact Keith Fearon: Telephone: 01233 330564 Email: [keith.fearon@ashford.gov.uk](mailto:keith.fearon@ashford.gov.uk). Agendas, Reports and Minutes are available on: [www.ashford.gov.uk/committees](http://www.ashford.gov.uk/committees)