

**Notes of a meeting of the
Ashford Strategic Delivery Board
Friday 27 April 2018 at 10.00am**

Present:

Board Members

Cllr Gerry Clarkson (Chairman) – Leader, ABC
Rt Hon Damian Green MP
Cllr Paul Clokie – Portfolio Holder for Planning, ABC
Cllr Graham Galpin – Portfolio Holder for Corporate Property, ABC
Cllr Mike Whiting - KCC, Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment
Cllr Mark Dance - KCC, Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Barbara Cooper – KCC, Director – Growth, Environment and Transport
Chris Moore – Homes England
Paul Harwood - Highways England
Mark Lumsdon-Taylor – Hadlow Group

Non Board Members

Cllr Aileen Hicks, ABC
Cllr Neil Shorter, ABC
Paul Kent, Southern Water
Simon Sharp, Southern Water
Vicky Thistlewaite, KCC
Richard Alderton, ABC
Andrew Osborne, ABC
Stewart Smith, ABC
Dean Spurrell, ABC
Keith Fearon, ABC

Apologies

Tracey Kerly, ABC

Item	Notes	Action
1.	Welcome The Chairman welcomed all those present.	
2.	Provision of Waste Water Infrastructure – Planning for Ashford Borough’s Housing Growth Paul Kent, of Southern Water, gave an update on progress since the last meeting on 26 January 2018. He advised that the estimated date for the completion of their programme was now March 2020 and the key to meeting this date would be the work on the Environmental Impact Assessment which	

	<p>was likely to be submitted to KCC in the July/August 2018 period.</p> <p>Paul Kent also outlined the options being considered for the waste water connections to serve the Chilmington development. Cllr. Neil Shorter also reported upon the work undertaken by the Infrastructure Delivery Task Group, which had examined the demands emerging from planned development in the borough and the local plan allocated sites.</p>	
3.	<p>Ambitions for Ashford Town Centre</p> <p>The Chairman advised that in view of the changes that had occurred in the town centre since 2008 and the adoption at that time of the Town Centre Action Plan, he intended to establish the Ashford Town Centre Place Making Board. This Board would oversee the delivery of the town centre place making project.</p> <p>Richard Alderton (RA) gave a presentation and outlined the major projects currently being undertaken in the town centre which included the college; over 500 new dwellings; the cinema; the brewery; the Designer Outlet site and two new hotels.</p> <p>RA explained that a Critical Friends Workshop session had taken place which had examined the different parts of the town centre and he took the Board through possible development opportunities which could come forward for those particular sites.</p>	
4.	<p>Commercial Quarter</p> <p>Stewart Smith (SS) explained that following a design competition, Carl Turner Architects had been appointed to bring forward proposals for the Island Site located in the Commercial Quarter. SS gave details of schemes previously undertaken by them at Peckham Levels, Shoreditch and Brixton and suggested that some of the ideas adopted at those sites could be applied in relation to the development of buildings within the Commercial Quarter.</p>	
5.	<p>Elwick Place</p> <p>Stewart Smith advised that this was progressing in accordance with the programme and would be completed by December 2018.</p>	

6.	Newtown Works Stewart Smith advised that negotiations were still taking place with the owners of the site and as the Council's bid for Housing Infrastructure Funds had not been successful different ways of developing the site were being considered. Barbara Cooper advised of potential funding options which might be available for the site.	
7.	Designer Outlet Expansion The Chairman referred to the closure of Newtown Road and advised that he had asked KCC to examine whether the duration of the road closure could be reduced by increasing the hours of working. Barbara Cooper said that she was actively looking at this and would get back to ABC in due course.	KCC
8.	Ashford College Mark Lumsdon-Taylor gave a presentation on the progress of the development of the different phases of the college expansion. In terms of Phase 1, he advised that the college was full and for next year it was oversubscribed by 30%. He then ran through the proposals forming Phase 1A which he said was due to be completed by December 2019, and in terms of Phase 2, explained that it was planned to open this for students in 2021. He also outlined the potential funding options available to the college to fund the development works.	
9.	Station Spurs Andrew Osborne explained that the signalling and platform works had been completed on time and within budget. He also gave details of the problems currently being experienced by trains using the platforms and outlined the options being considered to resolve the situation.	
10.	Junction 10A Paul Harwood advised that the contractors were on site and it was likely that the traffic management measures on the M20 would be introduced in July.	
11.	Chilmington Green – (a) Strategic Issues and (b) Chilmington Community Trust Chris Moore advised of discussions taking place between	

	the Developer and the Chief Executive of ABC regarding funding of the highway infrastructure work on the A28.	
12.	Jasmin Vardimon – Javelin Way Development Barbara Cooper advised that good progress was being made on this project.	
13.	Conningbrook Masterplan The Chairman explained that he had recently met with the Leader of KCC to discuss this site and advised that he would write to him regarding the acquisition of a piece of land ABC wished to purchase.	ABC
14.	Victoria Park The Chairman advised that ABC were still waiting for the outcome of a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund to take this project forward.	
15.	Forthcoming Events The Chairman reported on forthcoming events ABC were involved with over the next few months, which included the lighting of a Beacon to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War; Fields of Battle –Lands of Peace Photography Exhibition; The Civic Awards; and the auction of the Snowdogs.	
16.	Dates of Next Meetings Friday 27 July 2018 Friday 26 October 2018	

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