

MINUTES OF THE ASHFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP

HELD ON THURSDAY 14 July 2016

AT ASHFORD BUSINESS POINT

Present: Richard Lavender (Chair), Andrew Osborne, Graham Galpin, Bryan Hall, Hugh Summerfield, Annette Bunn, Mandy Bearne, Heather Grigson, Peter Corr, Malcolm Vint, Matthew Brown

Apologies Richard Stafford, Joanne Fowler, Paul Nixon.

	Actions
<p>1. Minutes of the Last Meeting These were agreed as being a true record and signed by RL</p>	
<p>1.1 Actions from Minutes RS to arrange date for EPC presentation AO To speak with South East Rail > Satisfactory conclusion</p>	RL
<p>2. Chairman's Report RL reported that the BCC had a successful AGM yesterday with three KICC representatives attending. Voting papers for the next Director General will be distributed shortly. The result is expected by mid September and until then Dr Adam Marshall will remain as Interim Director General. RL chaired a meeting this morning organised by the BCC and sponsored by KICC with Heathrow Airport. Attendees included SELEP, FSB, IOD, Finance, Real Estate and Social Media. The outcome was in favour of the Davies Report which recommended Heathrow Airport for expansion. European Hub Airports are pleased with the UK's delay as it allows them to expand and take future Hub traffic. The Environment issues that were said to be an issue have all been satisfied by Heathrow to the Government.</p>	
<p>3. Presentation Before the presentation Hugh Summerfield declared himself as an Interested Party, this is now duly recorded. Dan Carter from Ashford Borough Council Planning Department presented the Ashford Draft Plan and Community Infrastructure Levy. The presentation was very informative and well presented. There is no need to expand further except to say that all members have received a hard copy of the presentation and LH will forward an electronic copy to all group members. BH asked if the current bottleneck from the Premier Foods entrance to WHH round-about has been included in any future developments DC said that yes this would be included in the Conningbrook Development Planning Application. HS asked if the Environment and plant life was being fully taken into account. A positive response was made and RL added that he is still trying to recruit a group member to take over the Environment Portfolio which would cover this area at future meetings.</p>	

A vote of thanks was given to Dan Carter by the entire group for an excellent presentation.

RL said that providing there were no major objections submitted to him by the end of the month he would be forwarding a formal letter to Ashford Borough Council Planning Department supporting the Ashford Draft Plan

HS requested that a letter of recommendation be forwarded from the Group to the Leader of the Council thanking both Dan Carter and Andrew Osborne for an excellent delivery.

RL

Meeting closed at 17:35

Next Meeting - Wednesday 14 September at 4pm. (No meeting in August).