

Minutes of RGF Green Port Growth Programme Board Meeting

5.00pm, Wednesday 14th September, 2016

Present: Tim Rix (TR) Chair, Alan Menzies (AM), Mark Jones (MJ), David West (DW), Katy Swaby (KS), Scott Yates (SY).

In attendance: Eleanor Carter (EC) DCLG, Sarah Clark (SC), Stacey Middlewood (SM) minutes.

In attendance for agenda item 5: Finbarr Dowling of Siemens, Martin Green and Francesca Hegyi of Hull UK City of Culture 2017.

In attendance for agenda item 6: Peter Bolton and Alex Gauntt, East Coast Tidal

In attendance for agenda item 7: Dr Giles Davidson, The University of Hull

1	Apologies	Action
1.1	<p>Apologies were received from, Simon Brett (SB), Paul Bell (PB) Bill Walker (BW), and as no quorum formed any decisions made during the meeting will need sign off from at least one more board member outside of the meeting.</p> <p>Action: SC to request final sign off from SB and/or BW to approve any decisions made during the meeting.</p>	SC
2	Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising	
2.1	<p>The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. All action points had been delivered or are on the agenda for this meeting.</p> <p>TR questioned why representatives from the University of Hull who are charged with delivering the Socio-Economic Environmental Impact Study had been stood down from giving an update to the GPGP Board as agreed at the last meeting. MJ and AM attended the first meeting of the Advisory Board on the 2nd September. MJ reported that the meeting had been very positive with a convincingly strong team behind it. AM noted that Dave Richards had progressed the project much further than they had originally expected and that Dave's influence on the delivery of the project had been clearly made.</p> <p>The Board agreed that representatives delivering the project should attend the January 2017 GPGP Board meeting to provide an overview of progress of the project.</p> <p>Action: SC to arrange attendance by the Project Directors at the 11th January 2017 GPGP board meeting.</p>	SC
3	Declarations of interest	
3.1	There were no declarations of interest.	
4	Investment update – Siemens and ABP, update on other potential investments	

<p>4.1</p>	<p>TR invited Finbarr Dowling (FD) to speak to this agenda item which he accepted. FD invited the Board to hold a future meeting at the Siemens factory. There are currently in excess of 550 people employed at the new factory and approximately 35 people employed in the canteen. It is anticipated that by the mid 2017 there will be between 800 – 900 people employed on the site of which the majority will have been recruited locally. So far there have been more than 20,000 applications of which 95% have been from local residents.</p> <p>Siemens are also working with local organisations as well as Pathways Plus a NEETS programme preparing 8 young people for employment at Siemens in the first year. The first 16 apprentices from Hull and East Riding have been recruited and are due to start work mid Sept. ABP have delivered the berth to Siemens on time. The official opening of the blade factory is likely to be in December with the rest of the site being open early in 2017; currently the development of the site is three months ahead of schedule.</p>	
<p>4.2</p>	<p>The first jack up vessel sailed to Alexandra Dock in early September which brought some attention to view the size and scale of the vessel.</p>	
<p>4.3</p>	<p>FD reported that from an inward investors view point both the Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire Council's have worked seamlessly together providing a unique and positive experience not usually seen in other areas.</p>	
<p>4.4</p>	<p>The Hull delegation of trainees who ran the Danish factory based in Aalborg during their annual shut down produced 10 blades. The experience was a huge intercultural success, Aalborg being very similar in its makeup to Hull.</p>	
<p>4.5</p>	<p>FD commented that there is an American delegation coming to Hull on the 20th and 21st September, which representatives of the GPGP will be included in.</p> <p>Action: SM to arrange a future GPGP Board Meeting to be held at the new Siemens blade factory at Alexandra Dock.</p>	<p>SM</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Business Grant Proposal - East Coast Tidal</p>	
<p>6.1</p>	<p>PB and AG gave a presentation describing various stages of a long term research and development project asking for seed corn funding to carry out a feasibility study to support the first two years. The project is about preparing a site to receive and utilise the latest tidal technology (at a future point) and to enable the conversion and storage of the output as either electricity or hydrogen or both.</p> <p>Decision: The board raised a number of queries during AG and PB's attendance, the discussion continued after AG and PB had left the meeting which resulted in a number of queries being raised. DW and AG agreed to discuss the project after the meeting and the board asked SC to seek answers to the queries raised prior to making any decision around ECT applying for seed corn funding from the Business Grants strand.</p> <p>Action: SC to feedback to RL</p>	<p>SC</p>

7	Project Aura Update	
7.1	<p>Dr Giles Davidson of the University of Hull attended. Due to the previous agenda items taking considerably more time than had been expected the board requested that to give Project Aura the time and consideration that it deserved it proposed to move this item to the next GPGP board meeting in October.</p> <p>Decision: GD confirmed that he would prefer to have the time and consideration offered rather than to rush through the item in the available time left.</p> <p>Action: GD to attend the October board meeting to present an update on Project Aura.</p>	SC/GD
8	Strand update report highlights, recommendations	
8.1	<p>SC confirmed that there were no significant areas or issues of concern to raise given the shortness of time available. All members of the board had received the above strand reports.</p>	
9	DCLG/BIS Update	
9.1	<p>EC confirmed that the BIS Health Check (undertaken during April 2016) report had been written and was currently with Ministers awaiting approval in advance of feedback being given.</p>	
10	AOB	
	No items were raised.	
	Meeting closed at 6.40pm	
	<p>Date and time of next meeting: 5pm, Wednesday 12th October 2016, Room 1, County Hall, Beverley.</p>	