

## Minutes of RGF Green Port Growth Programme Board Meeting

5.00pm, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

**Present:** Tim Rix (TR), Alan Menzies (AM), Simon Brett (SB), Bill Walker (BW), Paul Bell (PB), Mark Jones (MJ), David West (DW)

**In attendance:** Sarah Clark (SC), Kathryn Batty (KB) minutes, Eleanor Carter (EC) DCLG, Pauline Wade (PW) for item 5

1	Apologies	Action
1.1	Apologies received from Scott Yates and Katy Swaby	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising</b>	
2.1	The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Declarations of interest</b>	
3.1	Item 10 - Declaration of interest received electronically from Scott Yates. Seahorse Marine are a client of Myton Law.	
<b>4</b>	<b>Investment update – Siemens and ABP, update on other potential investments</b>	
4.1	<p>MJ gave an update on the progress of works at Alexandra Dock. Work is on schedule with the factory due to open August 2016. Factory manager and team leader roles have been appointed. MJ advised that there does not appear to have been a negative impact on the caravan industry, in terms of labour displacement, this being due to a different type of skill being required for the Siemens factory. In excess of 3,000 applications were received for the first 224 jobs.</p> <p>SB provided a further update. Clugstons are now on site clearing the ground ready to start construction January 2016. Discussions are ongoing with a number of overseas tower manufacturers which includes options for UK or continental build.</p>	
4.2	Regarding other investments, MJ advised that enabling work for the Energy Works project due to be signed subject to a number of conditions.	
4.3	SB asked whether the Board would be willing to consider an application from ABP with Siemens and P&O Ferries, for funding to assist with a cold ironing project to improve the air quality in the area, particularly on the eastern side of the city. The funding would enable ships to turn off their engines whilst at berth and instead plug in to an onshore power supply. This could be provided by a Siemens wind turbine. No other ports have this but by 2025 all ports will be obliged to provide this facility. SB advised that this is an early stage enquiry and they are looking at multiple sources of funding.	

	<p>The Board discussed the potential state aid implications and agreed that they would be happy to receive a presentation once state aid has been investigated.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> SB to present a proposal for funding to support cold ironing project at a future board in the next few months. Any potential state aid issue to be investigated and a plan in place for resolution prior to the presentation being made.</p>	<b>SB</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Overseas market update</b>	
5.1	<p>PW provided an update of recent activity and presented the recommendations as set out in the strand update report. PW advised that in the wake of the Paris atrocities, the private Green Port Hull dinner organised for the 18<sup>th</sup> November to coincide with the EWEA European Renewable Energy Exhibition held in Paris 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> November had been cancelled. PW proposed that a dinner is organised around March 2016 time before the end of the financial year. PW advised that since the signing of the SLA between Hull and Humber Chamber of Commerce and the British Danish Chamber of Commerce in August 2015 two key activities have taken place; the launch of the GPH Danish Desk and an inward mission of 16 companies to GPH at the end of November 2015 following which a number of warm leads were generated and signposted to the inward investment teams for follow up. A further inward mission is planned for early Summer 2016.</p> <p>PW suggested that an inward mission take place towards the end of November 2016.</p> <p>PW asked that the Board approve the recommendation to consider Germany as the next option for internationalising activity. PW advised that she is not proposing exhibitions but targeted events. MJ supported PWs recommendation, stating that Hamburg is of particular importance in terms of where Siemens are at the moment. PW advised that Germany tend to work in clusters as they are easier to work with. They recognise that the UK wind market is the largest in Europe.</p> <p>MJ advised that award decisions for Contract for Difference over the next 3 years will be based on UK content therefore companies are keen to set up here.</p> <p>PW reported that the strands are working together successfully and cited the recent Danish delegation where the Hull and Humber Chamber of Commerce worked closely with the Business Support strand to engage businesses.</p> <p>BW advised that there are huge opportunities for local businesses as a result of working with the GPGP.</p> <p>A discussion was held regarding potential opportunities in North America. PW advised that they are not yet developed enough for the GPGP to focus on, concentration should remain on Europe.</p>	

	<p>PW also advised that she has met with individuals from the UKTI and positive progress is being made working in collaboration.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> The Board approved the recommendations outlined in PWs internationalisation plans.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> PW to implement recommendations and to attend a future Board meeting to provide an update on the plans.</p>	<b>PW</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Sponsorship Proposal 'Engineered'</b>	
6.1	<p>SC presented the proposal for funding from Amy Johnson Festival Ltd which is seeking GPGP funding for marketing and PR expenditure and a B2B event. The Board held a discussion regarding the merits of the event and the proposal.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> The Board agreed to fund the B2B element of the proposal. The Board requested further information as to the link to GPH and a breakdown of the additional funding being requested so they could understand exactly what the GPGP would be funding.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> SC to feedback to Amy Johnson Festival Ltd and request the additional information requested by the Board.</p>	<b>SC</b>
6.2	<p>SB requested that the Board also consider assisting with funding for the Greenpower project which provides funding for schools to build kit cars. MJ explained that the project is sponsored by a number of private sector organisations, including Siemens. A number of College's have shown an interest in participating. The Board agreed to review a proposal.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> MJ to work up a proposal to support the Greenpower project.</p>	<b>MJ</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Linking Lower Level Training Packages to Advanced Apprenticeships</b>	
7.1	<p>SC presented the proposal which has been submitted by the Skills and Employment strand lead, Bob Ferraby. The proposal is for Board approval for a programme of training and support to be offered to individuals who fail to achieve the standard required of an advanced apprentice. The training would be delivered by local training providers who currently hold an SFA budget. The total cost of the project would be £646,725, with a 12 month pilot costing £215,575, and would be funded by the existing Skills and Employment apprenticeship wage subsidy allocation; therefore no additional funds are being sought for this activity.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> The Board agreed to fund an initial 12 month project with a view to a full roll out following a review.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> SC to feedback to the Skills &amp; Employment lead, Bob Ferraby and request</p>	<b>SC/BF</b>

	that a post pilot review be provided to the Board.	
<b>8</b>	<b>RDI strand year 4 delivery plan</b>	
8.1	<p>BW presented the paper on the proposed approach for the strand which sees the coming together of Project Aura, the University of Hull Open Access Innovation Centre and GPGP R,D&amp;I strand. BW explained that the paper shows that work being undertaken by the R,D&amp;I strand has grown from an initial starting point of R&amp;D related activity for the offshore market to work linked to advanced manufacturing and how this links to offshore wind and the wider renewables sector. BW stated that Alan Lowdon is delighted to be part of the new proposed approach which is also supported by Siemens and ABP.</p> <p>TR stated that he is in support of the approach but queried how the activity would be measured. BW explained that this will be accounted for in the revised delivery plan.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> The Board agreed in principle and requested that summary information be provided on headline costings and impact.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> BW to work up RDI year 4 delivery plan proposal into fully RDI year 4 delivery plan.</p>	<b>BW</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Engie €100m investment fund</b>	
9.1	<p>The Board held a discussion about the proposal for the Board to be introduced to the €100m RDI fund that ENGIE has created for investment in energy-related UK businesses, as outlined in the paper.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> The Board agreed to decline the offer as they did not feel it was an appropriate platform for a private investment fund presentation.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> SC to feedback to Alan Lowdon for onward communication to Engie.</p>	<b>SC</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Strand update report highlights and recommendations</b>	
10.1	<p>SC highlighted a number of items on the strand report, as follows;</p> <p>The Green Port Hub (formerly known as the GPH Careers &amp; Information Centre) opened for business on 16<sup>th</sup> November with an official launch event today. All staff are now in place and the assessment days leading up the Christmas holidays are fully booked.</p> <p>Following a recent Government announcement, the Growth Accelerator and MAS elements of the Business Growth Service will cease from April 2016 onwards and that this may have an impact on the GPGP Business Support strand.</p>	

10.2	<p>Progress is being made on the ‘Socio-Environmental Economic Impact Study’ being undertaken by the University of Hull. SC reaffirmed that the activity is an integral element of the R,D&amp;I strand.</p> <p>Grant application - Seahorse Marine Limited is a manufacturing operations company who are only one of six companies globally and the only company in Britain to construct commercial workboats from high density polyethylene (HDPE). It has been identified that the development of their brand, a new website and the achievement of the ISO accreditation would enable them to increase their opportunities within the renewables sector. The company are seeking £12,437.50 against an investment of £24,875.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> Approved</p> <p><b>Action:</b> SC to inform Dawn Hall of the outcome.</p> <p>Grant application – Brocklesby Ltd are a family owned company who recycle cooking oil and fatty acids for use in biofuels. The company have cultivated strong links with a large number of food manufacturing companies in the UK and Ireland and provide a bespoke supply chain management service for waste vegetable oil streams. Financial assistance is requested for the purchase of a sulphur testing kit to identify sulphur levels in waste products. The kit will allow the company to expand the amount of raw materials into the plant ultimately producing more biofuel. The company are seeking £13,325 against an investment of £26,650.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> Approved</p> <p><b>Action:</b> SC to inform Dawn Hall of the outcome.</p>	SC
11	<b>DCLG/BIS Update</b>	
	No updates	
10	<b>AOB</b>	
10.1	None	
	Meeting closed at 6.20pm	
	<b>Date and time of next meeting:</b> 5pm, Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2016, Room 1, County Hall, Beverley.	