

World Class Stratford Strategy Group
5.00 pm Friday 26 January 2007 at Elizabeth House

Notes of Meeting

Present:

Mark Abrams	-	Advantage West Midlands (AWM)
Sushma Soni	-	Advantage West Midlands
Vikki Heywood	-	Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC)
Paul Lankester	-	Stratford on Avon District Council (SDC)
Paul J Ogden	-	Stratford on Avon District Council
Cllr Juliet Short	-	Stratford on Avon District Council
Cllr Clive Thomas	-	Stratford on Avon District Council
Cllr Les Topham (Chair)	-	Stratford on Avon District Council
Tony Brooker	-	Stratford Town Management Partnership
Cllr George Atkinson	-	Warwickshire County Council (WCC)
John Deegan	-	Warwickshire County Council
Cllr Jill Dill-Russell	-	Warwickshire County Council
Cllr Chris Saint	-	Warwickshire County Council

Apologies:

Roger Dowthwaite	-	CSWP
Trevor Askew	-	Stratford on Avon District Council
Tony Bird	-	Stratford Town Management Partnership

Also Attending:

Prof Ronnie Mulryne	-	Chair of Community Forum
Ian Prosser	-	Chair of World Class Stratford Working Group

1. Notes of Previous Meetings

- The notes of the Strategy Group held 1 December 2006 – Agreed.

- The notes of the Community Forum held 14 December 2006 agreed.

- Meeting of the Community Forum held on 24 January 2007 – RM provided an update of the meeting which had concentrated on the draft Urban Design Framework (UDF). The Community Forum had welcomed the UDF and were generally enthusiastic to see action towards delivering some of the projects e.g. transport solutions and pedestrian priority, HGV ban on Clopton Bridge, etc. These and other comments raised would be taken into account as the proposals for amendment of the draft UDF were developed by Urban Practitioners. RN indicated that the Community Forum would welcome the opportunity to review and discuss some of the bigger strategic issues relating to World Class Stratford.

- The notes of the Working Group from meetings held on 12 December 2006 and 16 January 2007 were presented by IP and noted by the Strategy Group.

ACTION

ACTION

IP indicated that the comments from the Working Group were reflected in the prioritisation table to be considered by the Strategy Group, and particularly stressed that the Strategy Group needed to be strategic as many items were indicated 'High' priority and some, such as items 33 and 35, should be deleted as they were future 'vision' items and did not need early resources to progress as part of World Class Stratford. The Strategy Group noted the comments.

2. WCS - Phase 2 Strategy and Emerging Projects

MA gave a presentation to the group, particularly stressing:

- i) The agreed vision
- ii) Successes to date e.g.
 - WCS a high priority for SDC
 - RSC projects
 - Phase 1 funding and projects
 - Draft UDF
- iii) Need to define priorities and actions to achieve the vision and enable WCS and others to deliver. WCS cannot deliver it all.
- iv) AWM role:
 - AWM is not able to fund feasibility work, and fund project managers for specific tasks
 - AWM's contribution must help delivery the Regional Economic Strategy.
 - Encourage private sector involvement.
- v) Need for specific actions;
 - a) Identify who will lead/own specific tasks e.g. transport, public realm, etc.
 - b) Communicate the vision and emerging plans
 - c) Strategic leadership for phase 2 – The Group discussed the need recognising that different skills are required, potentially requiring different roles. These included Strategic Leadership, co-ordination, and communication. JD/PL agreed to meet and develop specific proposals for the next meeting.

JD/PL

3. Scheme Prioritisation Programme

PJO introduced the table that had been circulated with the agenda as requested at the previous meeting. The table reflected the views received, including those of the Working Group.

It was pointed out that the prioritisation was to help provide strategic direction as to where time and resources should be deployed as we progress to Phase 2. Lower priority items or items removed would not be 'lost' and if approved would need to be reflected in the vision document. Specifically, items 34 and 35 (Southern extension to rail line, and North-East relief road). JD indicated that these should remain for consideration as part of the Strategic Transport Plan.

	ACTION
<p>The Group agreed that the table would be useful re-categorised against the headings suggested in MA's presentation;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Things to see (place) ▪ Things to do (events and attractions) ▪ Things to buy (retail offer) ▪ Place to enjoy (environment and food) <p>It was agreed that the list should remain a confidential document until an agreed priority was established.</p> <p>PL/JD agreed to discuss the list, which could then be considered in more detail by the Working Group before being proposed to a future Strategy Group meeting.</p>	<p>PL/JD</p>
<p>4. Urban Design Framework (UDF) Update PJO gave a brief presentation of the consultation activities and preliminary results.</p> <p>The presentation indicated good engagement with the local community with a balanced mix of ages responding.</p> <p>The Strategy Group agreed the importance of all partners accepting the UDF and 'signing up' to the final document. To ensure this could be achieved it was proposed and agreed that the ultimate adoption by SDC as a Supplementary Planning Document should be aimed for in July rather than the proposed April 2007 date.</p>	
<p>5. Warwickshire County Council update/progress reports JD/CS reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review of the Strategic Transport Plan (STP) for Stratford-upon-Avon had commenced, with an 18 month programme of work. ▪ Coach exclusion – JD agreed to report back in 6 months time. (at meeting on 10 July 2007) ▪ Delivery hours and weight restriction ideas for Clopton Bridge would need to be considered as part of the STP review. 	<p>JD</p>
<p>6. Forward Plan This was noted. Further items would be added arising from the outcomes of decisions made at the meeting.</p> <p>Dates of next meetings: All will be held in SDC Council Chamber (001), 5pm start * 26 March 2007, 1pm – Please note revised date/time 08 May 2007 10 July 2007 07 September 2007 08 November 2007</p>	<p>PJO</p>