Partnership Board Members

Chair: Cllr Maureen Rigg (SBC)

Members: Geoff Turner (PC), Cllr Alan Lewis (SBC), David Scott (PC), John Rosser (PC), Tony Hampton (PC), Nora Rosser (VS),

Jennie Beaumont (SBC)

Advisers/Observers

Philip Addison (Friends of Tees Heritage Park), Tracy Roberts (SRCGA), Maurice Snowden (Over 50's Assembly), Rob Farnham (SBC)

Apologies

Alice Newsham Diane Simms

CS = Community Sector YA = Youth Assembly

PCT/PUB = Primary Care Trust/Public Sector RC = Rural Community Sector

PS = Private Sector BS = Business Sector Stockton Police/Public Sector PC = Parish Council

SBC/PUB = Stockton Borough Council/Public Sector

VS = Voluntary Sector JS+/PUB = Job Centre Plus

CPF = Community Partnership Forum

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1. Welcome and Introductions						
Members of the WAPB were welcomed to the meeting.		Noted	No	No	No	Zoe Rutter SBC 01642 526025
2. Apologies						
Apologies noted.		Noted	No	No	No	Zoe Rutter SBC 01642 526025
3. Minutes of Last Meetings 20-02-08						Zoe Rutter
Minutes of the meeting held on the 20 th February 08 were agreed as a true and accurate record.		Noted	No	No	No	SBC 01642 526025
4. Matters Arising						
Chair informed the Board that she has received a		Noted	No	No	No	

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reply from the Post Office thanking the Board for						
their letter of objection and that is has been noted.						
5. Major Bus Scheme Update – Rob Farnham						
Rob referred to the briefing note that was circulated to the Board prior to the meeting. Rob gave a brief overview of the background to the scheme and went on to inform the Board of the scope of the project. The scheme was focused on "core" bus routes within each of the five Tees Valley Authority areas, and has the support of the two principal bus operators (Arriva and Stagecoach). The proposals offer significant potential benefits to users, non-users and transport providers. The total cost of the scheme been estimated at £61.2 million. £40 million has been allocated to the proposals through the Regional Funding Allocation (RFA) process, with this funding supplemented by local contributions from the five Local Authorities, the bus		Noted	No	No		Rob Farnham, SBC 526729
operators and private developers.		Noted	No	No		
An outline Major Scheme Business Case was submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in						
October 2006. A steering group, comprising						

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representatives from the five Local Authorities, the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit and the bus operators was established in December 2006 and an external Project Director was appointed in May 2007. The Local Authorities, the Joint Strategy Unit and the bus operators have since worked in partnership to prepare a revised Major Scheme Business Case, incorporating additional information requested by the DfT. The revised business case was submitted to the DfT in February 2008 and a decision is expected by the end of August 2008. The project will be delivered through one or more Statutory Quality Partnership schemes, in line with the draft Local Transport Bill published in May 2007. The preferred delivery timescale assumes a project start in 2008/09 and completion during 2011/12. The detailed implementation programme is currently being developed in partnership with the bus operators.						
The next steps in the process are: • Carrying out detailed design and consultation for "Year 1" schemes (i.e. those schemes programmed for implementation during 2008/09); and		Noted	No	No		

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Reviewing and developing governance proposals further as the project moves towards the delivery phase Rob circulated a table summarising the key milestones for the project, together with the provisional timescale associated with each task. Rob informed the Board that he would be happy to come back later in the year give a more detailed update if members would find that useful, Members		Noted	No	No		
agreed that this was a good suggestion. Chair asked if a planning application was submitted for residential development, would the bus operators have to provide a service to it and also would this put pressure on developers to provide a financial contribution to the bus service? Rob advised that accessibility by public transport was one of the factors that the Council took into account when considering whether to grant planning approval for any new development. If appropriate, the Council could secure a financial contribution from the developer towards the provision of a new or enhanced bus service as a condition of planning approval. DS asked if following the signing of the Statutory		Noted	No	No		

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Quality Partnership, a bus route was not found to be well used could a bus operator remove it? Rob advised that a financial penalty would be imposed on the operators if a service was either removed or reduced in frequency in contravention of the legal agreement. By the same token, penalties would also be imposed on a Local Authority if it did not comply with its obligations under the Statutory Quality Partnership, for example maintenance of passenger waiting facilities at bus stops. 6. Thematic Updates						
a. Children's Trust Board (CTB)						
NR gave an update to the Board on the CTB and she informed the Board that a Youth Café is due to open in Ingleby Barwick.		Noted	No	No		Nora Rosser Long
NR informed the Board that Stockton Library Service are working very closely with children and young people. They are empowering them to make decisions, how to use the Library, buying books etc. NR has copies of the Children's Plan and the Parenting Strategy if anybody would like to see them.		Noted	No	No		Newton Wilson Centre

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b. Housing & Neighbourhood Partnership (H+NP)						
JR informed the Board that he attended the last H+NP and the main agenda item was a presentation made by Sharon Thomas on the Major Housing Schemes which are underway in Stockton. c. Over 50's Assembly		Noted	No	No		John Rosser Long Newton Parish Council
MS informed the Board that Caroline Gibby from Help the Aged attended the last meeting and gave a presentation on how to make a will. d. Safer Stockton Partnership (SSP)		Noted	No	No		Maurice Snowden Over 50's Assembly
GT informed the Board that he attended the last SSP and informed the Board that crime in the Western Area is very low. Neighbourhood Policing was also discussed and it was noted that the phone number for this service is not readily available. The Board thought it would be useful for a leaflet to be devised with all useful/emergency numbers on.		ZR & MR to look into this.	No	No		Geoff Turner Egglescliffe & Eaglescliffe Parish Council

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e. Economic Regeneration & Transport Partnership (ERTP)						
PA gave an update to the board on the last ERTP, the main item on the agenda was a presentation by Chris Livingstone on Regional Employability Framework. An update on the Local Area Agreement was provided too.		Noted	No	No		Philip Addison FTHP
f. Environment Partnership						
MR informed the Board that she was unable to attend the last meeting but the main item on the agenda was the Waste Management Strategy. A lengthy debate around Waste Management took place.		Noted	No	No		Maureen Rigg SBC
7. Any Other Business a. SBC Consultation Plan						
ZR informed the Board that the consultation plan was circulated for information only and an updated copy would be circulated every quarter.		Noted	No	No		Zoe Rutter SBC

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b. Friends of Tees Heritage Park (FTHP)						
PA informed the Board that the FTHP AGM is taking place on Saturday 19 th April, 10.30am at Preston Park.		Noted	No	No		Philip Addison FTHP
c. Elections – Community Empowerment Network						
TR informed the Board that Doug Nicholson, Nora Rosser and Jenny Pinkney have been elected to represent the voluntary and community sector in the Western Area. David Thornton was also elected but has passed away since being elected.		Noted	No	No		Tracy Roberts SRCGA
d. Unlocking the Talent of our Communities – Tracy Roberts						
TR circulated a copy of the above white paper, for information, for members to read.		Noted	No	No		

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11. Date & Time of Next Meeting Monday 28 th April 2008, 6pm at Elementis Chromium, Urlay Nook.		Noted				