

Minutes

Economic Development Committee Wednesday, 2nd December, 2015

Attendance

Cllr Parker (Chair)	Cllr Mynott
Cllr Ms Rowlands (Vice-Chair)	Cllr Newberry
Cllr Cloke	Cllr Tee
Cllr Kendall	Cllr Murphy

Apologies

Cllr Mrs Slade
Cllr Ms Sanders

Substitute Present

Cllr Wiles (substituting for Cllr Mrs Slade)
Cllr Mrs Murphy (substituting for Cllr Ms Sanders)

Also Present

Cllr Mrs Hones	
Clive Othen	Chair – Brentwood Renaissance Group
Tiffany Bright	Thurrock Council

Officers Present

Gordon Glenday	Head of Planning & Development
Anne Knight	Economic Development Manager
Elaine Richardson	Town Centre Development Co-ordinator
Claire Hayden	Governance and Member Support Officer
Karen O'Shea	Governance and Member Support Officer

245. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Slade, Cllr Wiles and was substituting, Cllr Ms Sanders and Cllr Mrs Murphy was substituting.

246. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Economic Development meeting held on 2nd September 2015 were agreed as a true record, subject to the amendment made to Option 1 - Partners by Design 4.2

The Partners by design proposal was presented to the 16 December 2014 Business and Town Centre's Committee.

Whilst the concept and design were well received, the overall cost of the website of £9,840 only included editorial and maintenance support for one year, with less functionality than the recommended option.

Councillor Kendall asked that it was noted that he agree the alterations.

247. Opportunity Brentwood (presentation/video)

The report provided updates on the proposal for 'Opportunity Brentwood'

A suggestion was put forward from Councillor Kendall to give consideration for maximum publicity to be given to this in order to raise its profile by way of media coverage.

A motion was **MOVED** by Councillor Parker and **SECONDED** by Councillor Cloke to agree the recommendations in the report.

A vote was taken by a show of hands and it was **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**:

1. To support Option D and the request from Beckett Keys School and the Endeavour School to take part in "Opportunity Brentwood" in October 2016 in partnership with Thurrock Council/"Opportunity Thurrock".
2. That the implementation and resourcing of this project (£500 per school) be undertaken within the delegated authority of the Head of Service (Planning and Development) and Chair of the ED Committee utilising the 2016/7 Economic Development Budget.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

To progress the project proposal for "Opportunity Brentwood" for 2016/7 in order to support the skills and employability priority of the Brentwood Economic Development Strategy.

248. Essex Rivers Local Action Group - LEADER programme

The report outlined the Essex Rivers Rural LEADER funding programme and the actions proposed to promote this to businesses and parishes within the Brentwood Borough.

Councillor Tee suggested that CVS could be used when looking at eligibility.

A request was made by Councillor Murphy for consideration to be given to rural areas and villages at some point in the future, to see what they have to offer.

A motion was **MOVED** by Councillor Parker and **SECONDED** by Councillor Cloke to agree the recommendation in the report.

A vote was taken by a show of hands and it was **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**:

1. That the Essex Rivers Rural LEADER funding programme be promoted to businesses and parishes within the LEADER area of the Borough using option 2 to encourage grant applications that support the rural economy and services

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

To promote the Essex Rivers LAG Rural LEADER programme to the businesses and communities in the LAG area of the borough, to encourage grant applications to be submitted and projects to be implemented to support the Rural Economy and Business Development priorities of the ED Strategy. Option 2 is the preferred option as it provides a variety of approaches to support this agenda to a wider range number of target beneficiaries and works with a range of partners.

249. Brentwood Borough Renaissance Working Group 2015-16

The report provided an update on the Brentwood Borough Renaissance Group 2015/16 Workplan Budget and progress on projects and initiatives.

On the 4th March 2015 Council approved the budget for 2015/16.

A motion was **MOVED** by Councillor Parker and **SECONDED** by Councillor Tee to agree the recommendation in the report.

A vote was taken by a show of hands and it was **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**:

1. To note the updated Brentwood Borough Renaissance Group 2015/16 Workplan Budget (Appendix 1) and progress made on projects and initiatives.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

For the Committee to agree the 2015/6 BB Renaissance Group Workplan Budget.

250. Termination of Meeting

In accordance with Rule 28 of the Council's Procedure Rules, the business of the meeting not having been concluded by two hours after its start, the Committee voted to continue with the meeting for 30 minutes.

251. Crossrail Launch

Brentwood is set to be the start of the line for the most significant new rail service in the UK in a generation.

Crossrail services are scheduled to begin in Brentwood in May 2017. The Shenfield to Liverpool Street station service will be Stage 1 of this multi-million pound, state of the art rail service.

The introduction of Crossrail will attract national and international news attention and so Brentwood Borough needs to be in a position to maximise the benefits this can bring to local residents and businesses.

Although no firm plans have been prepared by Crossrail yet relating to the grand opening ceremony, it is important that Brentwood Council positions itself in such a way that it is able to be a key partner to benefit from this project and influence how such celebration events will take shape in our Borough.

The Council also needed to ensure that the anticipated media attention is focused on what is good about Brentwood, its residents and its businesses.

A motion was **MOVED** by Councillor Parker and **SECONDED** by Councillor Cloke to agree the recommendations in the report.

A vote was taken by a show of hands and it was **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**.

1. Agree to engage proactively with Crossrail and its partners to ensure that Brentwood residents and businesses maximise the benefits from the opening of the Crossrail services in 2017/18 at both Shenfield and Brentwood stations.
2. Agree to promote Brentwood Council as a key partner at the launch celebrations in May 2017 and delegate authority to the Head of Planning and Development and Chair of Economic Development to Committee to secure this.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To engage proactively with Crossrail and its partners to ensure that Brentwood residents and businesses maximise the benefits from the opening of the Crossrail services in 2017/18 at both Shenfield and Brentwood stations.

To promote Brentwood Council as a key partner at the launch celebrations in May 2017 and delegate authority to the Head of Planning and Development and Chair of Economic Development to Committee to secure this.

252. Urgent Business

There was no urgent business however, Councillor Mynott did refer to an article that appeared in the Gazette concerning comments made about the Town Centre by Councillor Parker.

Councillor Parker advised, that the article was incorrect. Councillor Parker also confirmed, that he had made a comment about William Hunter and the printed comments were incorrect. Councillor Parker will be writing to the Gazette.

Councillor Parker also added that he would have liked to have made a statement about William Hunter Way and the Town Hall at last Council however, he was not in a position to do so at the time but that it was still with the LDP.

The meeting concluded at 9.00pm.