

HEY LEP Infrastructure Board

DRAFT Minutes of the Board held on Friday 12th January 2024
ERGO Business Centre, Bridgehead Business Park, Meadow Road, Hessle

PAPER A

Attendance

Board Members

Stephen Parnaby OBE (Chair)
Richard Neal
David Garness
Tony Kirby
Dominic Gibbons
Clare Hoskins
Tim Rix

Secretariat

Karen Philipson, ERYC/HEY LEP

Guests

Georgia Allenby, Allenby Commercial
Andrew Allenby, Allenby Commercial
Stephen Silvester, ERYC
Garry Taylor, HCC
Harry Baross, HEYLEP
Phil Glover HEYLEP

1. Welcome

Stephen Parnaby welcomed board members and guests to the meeting.

Apologies

Eman Allam-Forster
Mark Barrett
Andrew Horncastle
Cllr Ieronimo
Linda Martin
Alan Menzies
Teresa Chalmers

2. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Board members they should make clear any declarations of interest to the Board either at the beginning of the meeting or as discussions arose.

The following declarations were received:

David Garness – Monacle Building, Hull
Dominic Gibbons, Goole Freeport South

3. **Minutes of the meeting held Friday 1st September 2023 on & Matters Arising**

Minutes agreed as true record - and there were no matters arising not covered on this agenda.

4. **Chair's Update**

The Chair updated on the following: -

- **Devolution** - 2025 target for elected mayor for elections – the proposal is now out for public consultation and businesses are encouraged to respond: [Hull and East Yorkshire Devolution - Home \(heydevolution.com\)](https://heydevolution.com). Government are still looking at the Humber region as an economic entity and the Freeport have a great opportunity to fill that gap.
- **LEP Integration – 31st March 2024** sees the closure of the HEY LEP and integration discussions with both LAs are ongoing. Concern was raised by board members over the loss of the voice of business and how it could be included. LA's have been provided with funding for integration purposes and it was felt that board and sub boards needed to stay in place somehow, even if informally to provide smooth transition to the new arrangements.

6. **Presentation – The Monacle Building**

Andrew & Georgina Allenby presented to the Board the vision for The Monacle Building (formerly Europa House,) situated on Ferensway in Hull. This £7.2m investment has been made in partnership with HCC Levelling Up Fund, with an allocation of £750K. This should bring Grade A office space in Hull City Centre a part of the town centre regeneration plan.

Note: The presentation will be circulated separately as it is a large file.

7. **Goole Freeport South Update**

Stephen Silvester, ERYC, updated on the proposals for Goole Freeport South

Arup, on behalf of St John's College, Cambridge, as landowner, is preparing an Outline Planning Application for the development of the Goole Freeport South site, which will act as an extension to Goole 36 Enterprise Zone. The development of the site could provide a range of modern industrial uses, including advanced manufacturing, low-carbon energy production, energy storage, and modern logistics, which could support a significant number of jobs and would contribute to the local economy.

A masterplan for the site is being developed to support the planning application, which will guide growth and development over the coming years. St John's College, Cambridge would like to share the initial plans and seek your views to help shape the final plans. The site is part of the provisional Goole Freeport tax site, which comprises land to the north and south of the M62 motorway. St John's College, Cambridge own the land south of the motorway and will be seeking planning consent for the development of their site.

The Goole Freeport tax site forms part of wider Humber Freeport Zone which was announced as a successful Freeport bid by the government in March 2021.

The Public Consultation took place between 4th December 2023 – 5th January 2024.

Presentation slides are attached.

9. **Transport for the North/Humber Bridge Updates**

Tony Kirby covered the following: -

- TfN - last meeting was held on 14th December 2023 - discussions had focused on HS2 and electrification to Hull which was higher on the current agenda, and train operators- minutes **will be circulated to the Board for information.**
- TfN annual conference will place in February and TK will attend on behalf of the Board and provide feedback at the next meeting.
- Claire Hoskins informed the Board that Cllr Handley and Alan Menzies were due to meet with Patrick McLoughlin, Chair of TfN, to tour the East Riding.

- Humber Bridge Board – Capital Programme Projects are now taking place such as refurbishment of HBB offices and Tolling Booth removal.
- Daily traffic flows up 6% from 2 years prior

10. Local Authority Updates

ERYC – Claire Hoskins

- Devolution Consultation had started and in the first week had gained over 1000 positive responses
- Shadow CA could be set up for up to 12 months, LA's may wish to second staff at this time to help set up the office. Accountable body still to be agreed.
- If no shadow CA structure in place, it could be possible for LAs to host LEP Boards in the interim, if there was appetite for this. **Action – to be discussed further by HEYLEP/LAs along with other integration discussions.**
- ERYC had been talking to other authorities who have managed the devolution process.
- Flooding matters – 5 properties were sadly flooded in the ER. All lagoons were filled and, in general it is felt that the issue has been well managed in conjunction with Yorkshire Water, the Environment Agency and ERYC
- Manual release of the water from the lagoons was now taking place.

HCC – Garry Taylor

- The integration of skills activity is one focus – there has been some great work done by the HEY LEP which needs to be continued and enhanced.

11. Board Member Updates

Tim Rix presented an overview of J R Rix & Sons business activities.

- Origins dating back to 1873 as ship owners.
- 150 years in operation
- Rix Group consists of 22 companies from expense management platforms and fuel cards to leisure homes and vehicle conversions and so much more,
- **Video link will be available shortly and will be sent to Board Members.**

12. Investment Activity & Programme Update

PG presented a report provided a summary of investment related activity during the period of reporting. An increased percentage of investment enquiries are received for large scale manufacturing, this is positive and reflects the region's assets and sound manufacturing base.

- **Freeport Innovation Liaison Group (FILG)** an Innovation event was held showcasing current and future innovation projects that are linked to the Humber Freeport. This business engagement event, which was aimed at SMEs, took place on Thursday 23rd November at the ORE Catapult located on Grimsby port.
- **5G Pilot** – Following on from the update at the last Board meeting, unfortunately the bid was unsuccessful, and feedback is currently being requested from Government. It is important to stress however the work undertaken for the bid will stand the region in good stead for future deployment.
- **Space Hub Yorkshire** - Officers are working towards a potential agrifood conference/event during 2024 in association with the Space Hub.

13. Programmes Delivery Update

The report updated the Board in relation to the legacy capital programmes: Getting Building Fund (GBF), Local Growth Fund (LGF) and the Growing Places Fund (GPF). The Board noted the latest progress report, recognising no high-risk areas and good progression in terms of outputs. Some outputs

such as job creation, skills and house building are not due to be complete until 2025.

12. **North East & Yorkshire Net Zero Hub Update**

Harry Barros, Net Zero Co-ordinator presented to the Board including objectives and priorities. Presentation is attached.

13. **Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

14. **Date & Time of Next Meeting**

Friday 8th March 2024 at 10 am - venue tbc.

Signed:

Stephen Parnaby OBE
Chair