



Adur and Worthing Business Partnership Partnership Meeting

Tuesday 9th May 2017 - 14:40 - 16.50

Shoreham Academy Library
Kingston Lane, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 6YT

AGENDA

Attendees: Tim Hague (TH), Martin Randall (MR), John Haffenden, Wendy Francis, Damian Pulford, Bryan Turner, Martin Sacree, Ann Felberg, Tina Tilley, Peter Webb, Brian Boggis, Andrew Swayne, Gabriella Oakley, Damian Pulford, Ann Swain, Caroline Wood (CW), Julian Cioffi (JC)

- Welcome:** Gabrielle Oakley Community Works
Apologies: Lynda Dine, Chris Coopey, Joel Hufford, Sandra Coley, Nick Juba
- Minutes & Matters Arising from the meeting held on 24th January 2017**
Minutes of the meeting had been circulated in advance and were noted as correct. CW and MR had worked on a collective response to Highways England. The new AWBP portal is under development. STEM events went very well. Some 1700+ visitors attended the Big Bang Event at Butlins in March. Consideration is now being given as to what happens next.
- Presentation by Gabrielle Oakley, Community Works**
Community Works is the voluntary service for Adur and Worthing to provide support for the community and voluntary sphere. WSCC identified some 900 voluntary sector organisations locally. Community Works mission is to help voluntary organisations be as effective as possible by asking for membership from organisations on issues such as governance, funding, HR and strategy to help provide the expert advice some of these groups need in order to operate.

A list of 10 needs from groups was requested to be provided to AWBP to enable the businesses to see where they can match expertise.
Action: GO to provide list of 10 needs from VS groups to circulate
- Presentation on Platforms for our Places (inc Major Sites update), Martin Randall, A&W Councils**
Hard copies were circulated. MR provided an update of progress made. The seafront offer and economy is growing with the Perch at Lancing, the Beach Partnership in Shoreham and

Southern Pavilion on Worthing Pier. JH pointed out the lack of office space in Shoreham and the potential to lose 25 business units through residential development. MR advised that 24,000m² of office space, on a pre-let agreement, is due to be developed on the north side of the Civic Centre site. In Worthing the EDF site is on the market for £5.5 million which is priced exceptionally high for commercial operators. It seems there is interest from developers to convert buildings and under the permitted developments rights agenda Local Authorities have no control.

5. **Better Business Event Evaluation Report, Tina Tilley, A&W Chamber**

(copy circulated prior to the meeting). In summary the event has grown year on year. The talks provided by A & W Procurement Team were well received. AWBP will continue to support this event but will be reducing the financial contribution. TT reported there is a small surplus and some purchases made are reusable next year. It was recommended that charities should be charged for stalls in future. Also more food stalls are needed as well as more sponsorship. It was suggested that A level students could attend - exhibitors were being canvassed to gauge opinion on support for this. Next year's event is booked for 1st February

Action: TT to provide outline PID for 18.7.17

6. **AWBP Project Updates:**

- **Small Business & Apprenticeship Grants, Damien Pulford**

£71k each came into Adur and Worthing to allow small businesses to improve efficiency and growth. Worthing has allocated £32k and Adur £14k. More applications need to be encouraged and businesses engaged. Suggestions of how to achieve this include sending out a press release, holding a workshop in Shoreham, circulating amongst port tenants, the sustainable business partnership and others. DP to ask Tina Barker to produce some information on what grants have been approved for circulation.

Action: TB to provide grant information

- **Business Awards, Peter Webb**

Organisation of the Event is well under way (see attached newsletter). A launch event is to be held on Thursday 7th June and invitations are due to go out shortly. Media sponsors are in place, social media promotion is underway. A new compere Martin Fanshawe from Brighton has been signed up. More information can also be found on the Business Awards Portal at <https://awbawards.com/>

- **Air Quality, John Haffenden**

JH attended a recent AQ meeting where it became clear that none of the items outlined in the 2007 AQ plan and subsequent report dated 2013 had been put in place. This meeting was the first in a year.

It was discussed that there are too many bus stops in Shoreham High Street, with the stop outside CoOp being identified as dangerous. Pedestrian crossings are phased to give traffic movement rather than people movement and are out of date.

Air Quality monitoring stations have not been working for some 8 years (located outside Threshers and on A27). Traffic counters identified have not been working since 2016. The responsibility for this lies with WSCC Highways who have said money to improve bus stops or pedestrian crossings should come from 106 funds.

Action: JH to submit FOI request for bus stop information

- **Business Breakfast, Peter Webb/Andrew Swayne**

This event was very successful with 75 people attending from 32 businesses - it was a little cramped. It was suggested that the event is repeated every 6 months -the next one to take place mid-September- early October- with a shorter agenda. If AWBP could put in a nominal amount of £250 it would be welcomed. The criteria for invitees is those employing 50+ people and the idea to also get businesses involved in A27.

Action PW to find a Worthing based venue

- **Action Plan Andrew Swayne**

MR reiterated the use of the action plan and encouraged all to read.

7. **Greater Brighton Economic Update (inc Industrial Strategy responses), Andrew Swayne/Martin Randall**

It is likely that Greater Brighton will be expanded to include Crawley and Gatwick Airports Ltd (not Gatwick Diamond). More Coast to Capital funding to be released and further information is awaited. The old Brighton City Hall has been listed and refurbished providing 2 floors for business use, inward investment and the Mayor. Ambassadors are being recruited to promote Greater Brighton

Other updates included LGF update, presentation of projects in current status and information on the Enterprise Zone at Newhaven

To counteract rather than compete with the Northern Powerhouse, the idea of a Southern Accelerator has been proposed. It would not replace Greater Brighton but help pitch to government the vision of the wider area as an economic driver of performance and efficiency and laying the foundations to provide better value, quality jobs. The Industrial Strategy Green Paper response has been submitted

8. **Any Other Business**

Brighton and Hove Albion were congratulated on their move up to the Premiership - the visitor economy is likely to grow by about 2500 - 3,000 for each home match. MR suggested an agenda item for the October meeting

CWS are to host an event at Ricardo's Centenary Innovation Centre on 15th June, invitations have been sent out and you can register via the CWS website.

Next Meeting: 18th July 2017 14:40 - 16:50

(Agenda items: Economic Profiles & Strategy; AWBP Action Plan; A27 Consultation; Business Portal; STEMFest; SW presentation)