



JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 22 MARCH 2013 AT COUNTY HALL, WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTINGHAM FROM 10.00 AM TO 11.35 AM

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

- ✓ Councillor Butler
- A Councillor Greaves
- ✓ Councillor Heptinstall
- ✓ Councillor Jackson

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

- ✓ Councillor Clark
- ✓ Councillor Malcolm
- A Councillor Neal
- ✓ Councillor Urquhart

- ✓ Indicates present at meeting

MINUTES

RESOLVED 2013/001

That the minutes of the last meeting on 21 September 2012 be agreed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology was received from County Councillor Kevin Greaves who was on other County Council business.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Councillor Richard Jackson declared a private interest (non-pecuniary) in agenda item 4 – Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board, as a Member of Broxtowe borough Council.

GREATER NOTTINGHAM JOINT PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE

Matt Gregory, Greater Nottingham Growth Point Planning Manager, Nottingham City Council updated the Committee on the work of the Joint Planning Advisory Board (JPAB). He underlined the Board's consideration of

the Greater Nottingham Core Strategies at its last meeting on 21 February 2013, as detailed in the Committee report.

Further to paragraphs 7-9 of the Committee report, Members suggested that the Committee respond to Broxtowe Borough Council's further consultation on the Broxtowe, Gedling and Nottingham Aligned Core Strategies in relation to the High Speed Rail 2 (HS2) proposals. Members raised concerns about the current planning application for the site adjacent to the HS2 site and the potential negative impacts of committing to developments on this land at too early a stage. Members felt that development of this site could affect the wider economic opportunities around the HS2 site; other transport connectivity to that site and the Green Belt land between Bramcote and Toton. Members recognised that the Committee would not normally respond to such consultations in this way but agreed to do so on this occasion in light of the overall concerns and the relatively short response deadline.

An amendment to the report to insert the following additional recommendation, was proposed by Councillor Jackson and seconded by Councillor Urquhart:-

"That officers prepare a response to Broxtowe Borough Council's consultation on the Aligned Core Strategies on behalf of the Committee, supporting the approach and highlighting the need to ensure an appropriate mix of development to maximise the wider economic benefit on the site adjacent to the High Speed Rail 2 site."

Following a vote, the amendment was agreed.

In response to Members' queries about the Inspector's findings on Rushcliffe's Core Strategy, Mr Gregory clarified that the Inspector had not gone as far as endorsing JPAB's methodology for calculating the level of housing need but had felt that Rushcliffe had not provided sufficient evidence to convince them about why their figures should be out of line with those in other Greater Nottingham Core Strategies.

RESOLVED 2013/002

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That officers prepare a response to Broxtowe Borough Council's consultation on the Aligned Core Strategies on behalf of the Committee, supporting the approach and highlighting the need to ensure an appropriate mix of development to maximise the wider economic benefit on the site adjacent to the High Speed Rail 2 site.

WASTE CORE STRATEGY UPDATE

Sally Gill, Group Manager, Policy, Planning and Corporate Services, Nottinghamshire County Council introduced the report and outlined the Waste Core Strategy consultation process and responses received. Mrs Gill reported

that the Waste Core Strategy Examination hearing would commence on 8 May 2013 at the National Water Sports Centre at Holme Pierrepont.

RESOLVED 2013/003

That the report be noted.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE MINERALS LOCAL PLAN AND LOCAL AGGREGATES ASSESSMENT - UPDATE

Sally Gill, Group Manager, Policy, Planning and Corporate Services, Nottinghamshire County Council, introduced the report, underlining the process for calculating and consulting upon apportionment figures for aggregate minerals as part of the new Minerals Local Plan and the timetable proposed by Nottingham City Council for preparing its Land and Planning Policies Development Plan Document.

During discussions, Members queried the date when coal-powered power stations, such as the one at Radcliffe-on-Soar, were due to be decommissioned, with reference to the demand for related materials, including limestone. Mrs Gill agreed to seek to clarify that issue for Members. She added that supply and demand issues were considered as part of the Local Aggregates Assessment.

In response to Members' queries, Ms Gill clarified:-

- the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan would make reference to shale gas, although at this stage it was not clear what form this reference would take. It was recognised that Nottinghamshire could contain shale gas although at this stage no detailed exploration had taken place. A lack of reference in the Plan could result in a presumption in favour of development;
- the Waste Local Plan promoted the reusing of aggregates wherever possible in favour of the use of landfill.

RESOLVED 2013/004

That the report be noted.

TRANSPORT ISSUES UPDATE

Chris Carter, Transport Strategy Manager, Development, Nottingham City Council introduced the report, updating the Committee on key transport issues including the ongoing work with Derby and Derbyshire to progress arrangements for a D2N2 Local Transport Board (ahead of the proposed devolution of local major transport scheme funding post 2015); the current extensive transport construction work in the Greater Nottingham area and the approach being taken to keep Nottingham 'open for business'; the main elements of the Nottingham Local Sustainable Transport Fund programme

comprising the WorkSmart programme; the expansion of the Community Smarter Travel Hubs; the Ucycle Nottingham project and the bids for funding from the Department for Transport's Cycle Safety Fund.

During discussions about the development of the D2N2 Local Transport Board, Members expressed concerns about the resources needed to establish new governance arrangements in light of the possibility of the creation of a new single combined economic regeneration fund at Local Enterprise Zone level. Mr Carter underlined that the new Board could still be required to prioritise any transport component of any combined fund but a decision would be needed at Local Enterprise Partnership level as to how much funding would be made available for transport (with both bodies therefore working in parallel from 2015). He further clarified that Bassetlaw currently falls both within the area covered by D2N2 and the Sheffield City Region. With regards to the final Local Transport Board geographies and funding allocations, the original guidance had stated that the Secretary of State would make the final decision but subsequent announcements stated that this would be a matter for local determination.

RESOLVED 2013/005

That the report be noted.

RAIL ISSUES - UPDATE

Jim Bamford, Rail Officer for the authorities, introduced the report, outlining the key enhancement schemes included in the Network Rail Strategic Business Plan (2014-19); the ongoing pursuit of a 20 minute reduction in the Nottingham-Leeds linespeed; the expected announcement about a possible new station at Ilkeston; and rolling stock issues for the East Midlands. Chris Carter underlined the progress being made with the Nottingham Station Hub scheme.

Mr Bamford gave a presentation on the High Speed 2 proposed network, highlighting the Government's plans for Phase 1 (London-Birmingham) and Phase 2 (Birmingham –East Midlands – Sheffield – Leeds and Birmingham-Manchester) of the High Speed network. Mr Bamford stated that the public consultation on the initial proposal, including the overall route and the proposed station at Toton, was due to start in Summer 2013 (likely to be July or September) and close in March 2014. The chosen route for Phase 2 was likely to be announced in late 2014. Construction was planned to commence in 2019 with Phase 1 opening in 2026 and Phase 2 opening in 2033 (although the HS2 company was being asked to see if that latter date could be brought forward). With regards to compensation, consultation on the proposed 'Exceptional hardship' scheme was due to close in April 2013, with the final version published in May / June 2013. Key issues for the East Midland Hub included the NET extension to the HS2 station, a new junction on the A52 for station access, railway connectivity and car parking (including fit with local transport policy).

During discussions, Members felt that Toton was the most appropriate location for the new station and underlined the need to promote the positive benefits of this location, mitigate negative impacts and address any concerns raised during the consultation period. For example, people had expressed concerns about the impact on the A52 junction close to the station and had queried whether a new motorway junction might be more beneficial. Concerns had also been expressed about noise pollution and the impact on local green area and overall quality of life in the area. It was reported that a recent public meeting held by Broxtowe Borough Council had been attended by a national pressure group which aimed to encourage the establishment of local groups in opposition. Members also queried whether the proposed scheme was ambitious enough, with reference to Japanese and Chinese networks where speeds currently exceeded those which the new line would deliver. Mr Bamford clarified that the trains would have a high speed of 350 kmh but as the route to London would go via Birmingham, the journey time was not optimal.

With regard to the forthcoming deadline for consultation on the compensation scheme, Members reported that compensation was only available for people living within 250m of the proposed lines but others living further way felt that they would be blighted in terms of views and noise. Mr Bamford stated that the Committee could make a representation on this scheme and added that further details could also be given to members of the public to enable them to make their own representations.

Mr Bamford agreed to clarify the overall consultation process and how the Committee could feed into that.

RESOLVED 2013/006

That the report and presentation be noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

The following proposed dates of future meetings, which would be held at Nottingham City Council's Loxley House, were highlighted:-

- Friday 21 June 2013 – 10.00am
- Friday 20 September 2013 – 10.00am
- Friday 13 December 2013 – 10.00am
- Friday 21 March 2014 – 10.00am

The meeting closed at 11.35 am.

CHAIRMAN