

12 July 2018

ECONOMIC GROWTH SCRUTINY AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Economic Growth Scrutiny and Improvement Committee was held on 12 July 2018 at Redcar & Cleveland Leisure and Community Heart.

PRESENT Councillor Davies (Chair),
Councillors Baldwin (substituting for Councillor Holyoake), Dick, Foley-McCormack, Mrs Higgins, Mason, Teasdale, Thrower, Williams and Wright.

OFFICIALS D Boville, A Brockbank, A Miller, I Nicholls and A Pearson.

IN ATTENDANCE Councillors S Jeffrey, Norton and Quartermain.

K Carruthers – Destination Business
Improvement District Project Manager (Mosaic)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Ayre, Holyoake, Smith and Stainthorpe.

8. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Economic Growth Scrutiny and Improvement Committee held on 7 June 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Teasdale declared a non pecuniary interest as a member of Friends of Chaloner Street Market and a member of the Guisborough business community.

Councillor Thrower declared an interest in all matters as a member of Guisborough Town Council, Guisborough Town Hall Gateway Project and Friends of Guisborough Cemetery.

10. YORKSHIRE COAST DESTINATION BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

The Destination Business Improvement District (DBID) Project Manager gave a presentation on the progress made in developing a DBID for the Yorkshire Coast, from Redcar to Spurn Point.

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As part of the ensuing discussion, the following points were made:

- Guisborough had been defined as a rural area in the Council's Local Plan, not coastal.
- Council's would collect the levy and hold it in a separate account. The Task Group would manage the funds and ensure it was allocated correctly.
- The Business Plan for the DBID had not yet been finalised. Once it had been, there would be an intense period of consultation with local businesses leading up to the ballot.
- The Business Plan would have to show clear benefits and cost savings for local businesses in order for the ballot to be successful.
- DBIDs in other areas had been led by local, independent businesses, not by large national chains.
- Redcar & Cleveland was a key element of the DBID due to the diversity of the environment and it acting as a gateway to the National Park.
- The DBID would not go ahead if only one of the areas wanted it.
- The levy would be compulsory for all businesses in the designated areas with a rateable value of over £12,000 in the retail, leisure and accommodation sectors. It carried the same enforcement rights as business rates collection.
- Villages throughout Redcar & Cleveland were already promoting themselves successfully, such as the Chaloner Street Market in Guisborough.
- The DBID was working closely with other local organisations to ensure that no work was being duplicated. The DBID was aiming to complement the work of those organisations.
- For the DBID to be successful it was important to understand the different villages within the designated area.
- The DBID board would be voluntary, running costs were estimated to be around £120,000 for office setup at staffing. Most DBIDs looked to offset this cost with external funding.
- The Task Group would have a Member representative from each Council area.
- There was concern that businesses not within the DBID area would find it more difficult to compete.
- It was reassuring that this was a business led process and effectively this was local businesses investing in themselves.
- There was the potential for smaller villages to bid for pots of DBID funding.
- The Council had yet to make a decision as to whether to support the DBID. The key issue would be whether local businesses wanted it.
- It needed to be made clear who was on the Board, how they were appointed and how they would be held accountable for the

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administration of the funds.

- The Council would need to develop a position on the DBID in order to decide whether to support it.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the following actions were agreed:

1. The Economic Growth Scrutiny & Improvement Committee be kept up to date with the progress of the DBID and the development of the Business Case. A Special Meeting to be called if necessary.
2. The Economic Growth Scrutiny & Improvement Committee Members to be added to the DBID newsletter distribution list.
3. Examples of how DBIDs were working in practice, particularly the effect on local businesses and the local economy and the positive and negative impacts on the surrounding areas be circulated to Members:-**NOTED**

11. **ICL UK LTD (BOULBY) RESTRUCTURING UPDATE**

The Head of Planning and Development provided an update on the restructuring announced by ICL UK Ltd (Boulby) in January 2018.

The Leader of the Council advised that the work undertaken on this issue had been extraordinary and had been based on the work started with the SSI Taskforce. There had been bi-weekly meetings with Rt Hon Simon Clarke MP and the Council and its partner organisations had worked really well and provided a real service to those affected. The Leader added that everyone involved in that Taskforce should be thanked.:**NOTED**

12. **ADULT LEARNING SERVICE OFSTED INSPECTION**

The Head of Planning and Development presented a report advising that the Adult Learning Service had been rated 'good' in its recent Ofsted inspection, which was due to be considered by Cabinet on 17 July 2018: **NOTED**

13. **SOUTH TEES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION UPDATE**

The Head of Planning and Development advised that the Assistant Director Regeneration of the South Tees Development Corporation (STDC) would be attending the next meeting of the Economic Growth Scrutiny & Improvement Committee.

The Leader advised that the Supplementary Planning Document had been agreed by the Council and work was progressing on the Compulsory Purchase Order: **NOTED**

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14. **EVENTS UPDATE**

The Head of Place Development and Investment presented a list of events that were scheduled to take place within the Borough.

A Member advised that TunedIn! had an excellent schedule of events and the Events Team should liaise with TunedIn! to aid with promotion:-
NOTED

15. **TOWNSCAPE GRANTS UPDATE**

The Head of Place Development and Investment presented feedback from the Heritage Lottery Fund on the Loftus Townscape Heritage bid.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the following actions were agreed:

1. Area Growth Plans be placed on the Economic Growth Scrutiny & Improvement Committee Agenda as a standing item:-**NOTED**

16. **SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS UPDATE**

The Head of Planning and Development presented an update on Section 106 Agreements which were currently under negotiation:-**NOTED**

17. **EXTERNAL FUNDING UPDATE**

The Head of Place Development and Investment presented a report which provided Members with an update on External Funding for Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council:-**NOTED**

18. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Committee thanked the former Director of Economic Growth for his hard work and dedication to the Council.

The Chair advised that a copy of the Grimsey review would be placed in the Members' Library:-**NOTED**