

Oxford Strategic Partnership Steering Group

Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd December 2009, 10.00am at Oxford Town Hall, St Aldate's, Oxford

Steering Group Attendees:

Jackie Wilderspin, NHS Oxfordshire (Chair)
Joe Barclay, University of Oxford
Mel Barrett, Oxford City Council
Alison Baxter, Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action
Debbie Dance, Oxford Preservation Trust
David Doughty, Oxfordshire Economic Partnership
Robert Kirtland, Critchleys
Craig Klaffer, Oxford Brookes University
Cllr Keith Mitchell, Oxfordshire County Council
Andrew Murray, Thames Valley Police
Cllr Bob Price, Oxford City Council

Additional Attendees:

Joanne Clegg, Oxfordshire County Council (for item 8 only)
John Disley, Oxfordshire County Council (for item 8 only)
Rachel Greenham, Oxford City Council (observing)
Mark Jaggard, Oxford City Council
Sebastian Johnson, Oxford City Council
Val Johnson, Oxford City Council
Hamera Plume, Oxford City Council (for item 6 only)

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Sally Dickets, Oxford and Cherwell Valley College
Chris Farthing, Government Office for the South East
Sarah Maxfield, Oxford Inspires
Jan Paine, Oxfordshire County Council
Warren Ralls, South East England Development Agency

It was noted that this was the third consecutive meeting with no representation from SEEDA, but also noted that there are some significant changes taking place within the organisation. It was agreed that Jackie would contact Warren Ralls to confirm future engagement and attendance.

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 15th October 2009

The following changes were agreed:

Under 3.3 – Regeneration Framework Update

The first sentence of the second paragraph will be amended to read:

Mel Barrett reported that the Housing and Communities Agency has chosen the county as one of three pilot areas for the “Single Conversation” and that Cllr Barry Norton and Mark Jaggard will provide the member and officer lead on the project on behalf of the local authorities in the county through the Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Partnership (SPIP).

changes and notes were

Other than the change above, the minutes were agreed as correct.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Destination Management Organisation (DMO)

Mark Jaggard reported that a draft Business Plan Prospectus is being circulated to Oxfordshire businesses and that the current DMO supporters have agreed to be champions and to personally promote the DMO to other business contacts to secure written pledges by mid January when the Task Group meets again.

OSP members restated their support for the DMO.

3.2 Core Strategy

Mark Jaggard reported that an exploratory meeting is taking place with the Planning Inspector in January 2010 to review and resolve the delays in agreeing the Core Strategy. The OSP will be kept informed of developments.

3.3 Children and Young People Plan

An update will be taken at a future OSP meeting.

4. Economy

David Doughty presented and reported on the current economic trends in Oxfordshire and the region including the current position with people not in employment, education or training (NEETs) in the County.

A discussion took place. It was agreed that the economy should continue to be a standing item on the agenda. Sebastian will circulate David’s presentation with minutes from the meeting.

Jackie Wilderspin thanked David for his presentation.

5. Regeneration Framework

Mel Barrett reported that the Regeneration Framework was agreed and adopted by the City Council in November 2009. A short discussion took place. Keith Mitchell noted that data about educational attainment had remained unchanged despite points that had been raised about the presentation and age of data during the consultation period.

Keith stated that the County Council supports all aspects of the Framework other than the action relating to development south of Grenoble Road (page 42). Debbie Dance reported that the Oxford Preservation Trust agreed with the County Council's view on the action relating to development south of Grenoble Road.

The Partnership adopted the Regeneration Framework as an addendum to the Sustainable Community Strategy with an acknowledgment that the County Council and Oxford Preservation Trust do not support the action relating to development south of Grenoble Road.

Mel thanked the Partnership and partner organisations for their support and input into the Framework and reported that the Framework will be reviewed annually.

Jackie Wilderspin thanked all involved and reminded the Partnership that the Oxford City Regeneration Steering Group has now replaced the Health and Social Inclusion Sub Group and that Jackie will continue as OSP Champion on the this issue.

6. Safer, Stronger and More Cohesive City

Andrew Murray presented his paper on the work of the Oxford City Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (Oxford Safer Communities Partnership). Andrew outlined the priorities of the Partnership and how the work of the Partnership was cross cutting with the other flagship issues in the Oxford City Sustainable Community Strategy.

Andrew highlighted that the next year is a potential exit year for key community safety posts in the City due to the end of a funding stream. He also reported that there is likely to be a radical restructure of Thames Valley Police in face of projected budget shortfall.

Hamera Plume (Consultation Officer, Oxford City Council) was welcomed to the meeting. Hamera presented the paper on the Place Survey and the results for Oxford City.

Hamera reported that on the whole the results were positive especially in light of research by MORI that had identified Oxford as the most challenged District/Borough Authority in the Country due to the city having a combination of background characteristics that make it hard to score highly on perception measures.

7. Future Plan and Flagship Issues and Action Planning Updates

Sebastian Johnson presented the future plan. Sebastian reported that the climate change visioning workshops are taking place on the 14th and 26th of January and that Martin Chilcott will be attending the OSP meeting on 21st January to update the Partnership and seek views on outputs from the first workshop.

Sebastian also reported that the Affordable Housing Select Committee is being reconvened in the new year to review actions and updates against recommendations. Elizabeth Paris will continue to chair the Select Committee and a developer and a representative from the University of Oxford will be invited to join the panel.

8. Local Transport Plan 3

Jackie Wilderspin welcomed Joanne Clegg and John Disley (Oxfordshire County Council) to the meeting. John presented the paper that had been distributed and outlined the process for the development of the Local Transport Plan.

Business engagement during the consultation period was discussed and it was suggested that businesses with over 50 employees be proactively contacted for their views. David Doughty offered to assist using the Economic Partnership's database of such businesses.

It was agreed that responses during the consultation period will be made individually at this stage.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Sebastian Johnson reported that the Oxford City Council Annual Report 2008/9 has been published and whilst an electronic version had been circulated to partners, hard copies were available to take away from the meeting.

9.2 Sebastian reported that the Oxfordshire Partnership is hosting a lunchtime networking event on 14th December at County Hall for members of local strategic partnerships and thematic partnerships.

- 9.3 Mel Barrett reported that Oxford City Council has won The Carbon Trust Innovation Award 2009 for its innovative use of low carbon technology in the public sector category. The award was won for the development and implementation of the City Council's carbon management programme - Getting Our House in Order

10. Future Meeting Dates

The following dates have been set through until December 2010.

- Thursday 21st January 2010, 10.00 – 12.00
- Thursday 4th March 2010, 10.00 – 12.00
- Thursday 22nd April 2010, 10.00 – 12.00
- Thursday 3rd June 2010, 10.00 – 12.00
- Thursday 22nd July 2010, 10.00 – 12.00
- Thursday 2nd September 2010, 10.00 – 12.00
- Thursday 21st October 2010, 10.00 – 12.00
- Thursday 2nd December 2010, 10.00 – 12.00

The meeting finished at 12.05pm.