

## MINUTES

**Thurrock Business Board**  
Meeting Wednesday 28th March at 14:00

**Meeting venue:**

The Old Courthouse, Grays, RM 17 5DD

**Attendees:** Perry Glading (PG)Chair, Emma McCulloch (EM), Angela O’Donoghue (AO), Steve Cox (SC), Lyn Carpenter (LC) , Louise Ince(LI), Robert Edge (RE), Cllr Brian Little , BJ Chong (BC) , Gustavo Silvo (GS), Dorian Hayes(DH) Fraser Massey (FM)Stefanie Seff (SS)Iain Banks (IB)Kristina Jackson (KJ)Stephen Taylor (ST) C Kemp(CB)

**Apologies:** Guy Pomroy, Robert Singh, Rhys McArdle, , Andrew Millard, Andrew Newcombe, Brett Smallcombe, and. Mat Kiely, Lucy Harris, Andy Vickers, Westley Pickup

| Item No. | Subject   | Action  |
|----------|---|---|
| 1.       | <b>Introductions, apologies and minutes of the last meeting</b>   |   |
|          | <p>Members of the Board were welcomed to the meeting by PG and roundtable introductions were made.</p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record. Actions were reviewed:</p> <p>PG advised that he would like the Feedback from the conference on the website with the minutes.</p> <p>PG confirmed he will invite Highways England back in 6 months to discuss the Lower Thames Crossing plans. The Lower Thames Crossing note was provided to Westley to take to the taskforce.</p> <p>One action from last meeting regarding traffic monitoring cameras was not completed and therefore will be completed after this meeting</p> <p>TBB all accepted the Logo represented the group well and was signed off.</p> <p>TBB will in the second half of the year as agreed focus on Skills and Further Education within Thurrock</p> <p>Perry mentioned that Tim Rignall is leaving Thurrock Council and would like to thank him for his work with TBB over the years.</p> | <p><b>Action:</b><br/>EM to look into updating conference feedback on main council website</p> <p><b>Action:</b><br/>EM to put minutes on website with new approved logo</p> <p><b>Action:</b><br/>PG to invite HE back in 6 months for an update</p> <p><b>Action:</b><br/>PG and SC to coordinate the letter from TBB for cameras</p> |
| 2.       | <b>South Essex Active Travel</b>  |   |
|          | IB introduced this programme that will run until March 2020, it is being funded   |   |

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|                  | <p>by Essex County Council, Southend Council and Thurrock council</p> <p>The programme helps employers encourage staff to use different modes of transport, on their way to work, college or Uni instead of using cars.</p> <p>IB wants to engage with employers by giving cycling training, walking programmes, travel plans and public transport. The service is free.</p> <p>IB would like to talk to as many businesses in Thurrock so that he can set a plan for each individual. Season tickets can be paid for 2 months to change an employee's habit and using public transport.</p> <p>Cycle parking is free with the business paying for installation costs, if the above interest you, please can you contact SEAT</p> <p>SEAT contact details: 01702 534439 Email: <a href="mailto:jainbanks@southend.gov.uk">jainbanks@southend.gov.uk</a></p> | <p><b>Action:</b><br/>Contact SEAT if you would like SEAT to attend your Business</p> <p><b>Action:</b><br/>EM to Email IB and LI for details of networking event</p> |
| <p><b>3.</b></p> | <p><b>Lower Thames Crossing</b></p> <p>WM was appointed as the TBB representative on the LTC Taskforce. The meeting was on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 - WM took forward the LTC report that came out of the last TBB meeting. This was received well.</p> <p>SC advised a new virtual video was to be presented to the taskforce; a request has been made for a more detailed video. It was also confirmed late summer will be the formal consultation for LTC</p> <p>PG would write a letter on behalf of the TBB to raise concerns about LTC proposals. The letter is to be addressed to: Jim O'Sullivan (JS) at Highways England.</p> <p>Cllr Little confirmed he attended a meeting concerning strategy for the A2802.</p>  | <p><b>Action:</b></p> <p>Letter to JS for LTC from TBB</p>  |
| <p><b>4.</b></p> | <p><b>Transport issues</b></p> <p><b>Congestion Taskforce</b></p> <p>LC suggested that traffic cameras at key junctions/roundabouts would be very useful for controlling/policing traffic when Thurrock is at a standstill.</p> <p>It was agreed - that PG will look at producing a letter from TBB requesting cameras.</p> <p><b>A13 widening</b></p> <p>Construction will start June 2018 and continue into 2019. No lane closures were expected between now and June. Pre- warning signage would be used to raise awareness of the works and traffic lights are being looked into to regulate the traffic flow.</p>  | <p><b>Action:</b></p> <p>PG to look into a letter from TBB for cameras</p>  |

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|           | LH suggested that social media would be a good way to raise awareness and also the use of posters in the borough.  |   |
| <b>5.</b> | <p><b>Procurement</b></p> <p>SS introduced Procurement within the council and how it is conducted. Courses are going to start in July 2018 on how to make a bid. Details will be sent to TBB.</p> <p>It was mentioned a case study would be good for businesses to understand process as well.</p> <p><u>Presentation attached with links to the councils website.</u></p>   | <p><b>Action:</b><br/>SS to send details of courses starting in July 2018 and to look into case studies to publish on the business page</p> |
| <b>6.</b> | <p><b>South Essex 2050/Council Update and SELEP and Opportunity South Essex Update</b></p> <p><b>South Essex 2050</b><br/>LC reported that 7 Authorities were involved in the South Essex 2050 initiative. They are looking to collaborate and work together on a proposition which would be submitted to Government by June 2018 with the hope of feeding into the autumn statement. Significant growth is expected across South Essex in the coming years and over the next 9-12 months there will be further work to determine infrastructure requirements such as transport needs, public service requirements and digital connectivity.</p> <p>The Thames Estuary Commission report would launch in Thurrock on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018, Thurrock Businesses need to tap into the launch on the 21<sup>st</sup> May and save this day in diaries.</p> <p>Businesses should be thinking about the key things we would want to change and the opportunities ahead for Thurrock, this could mean changes in legislation and decision making for 2050. For example could we use the Thames for travel? Could green space be improved? etc</p> <p>BJ asked about other business boards meetings, PG advised that he is in contact with other Business Boards and some good work is coming out of this.</p> <p><b>Council Update</b><br/>Thurrock Council are going to support Castle Point council with development of their Local Plan.<br/>A small team went to MIPIM - the property industry's largest international Event. No tax payer paid for Thurrock's presence as it was funded under commercial sponsorship. It was a very positive event and lots of contacts have been made.</p> <p><b>Local Plan</b><br/>The local plan is a 20 year plan for land and how it is used which includes infrastructure, schools, medical centres and new housing. Over the last 12- 18 months the plans had been coming together. A Your place, Your voice</p> |   |

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|           | <p>consultation has recently taken place across Thurrock and the outcomes have been feeding in to this plan. A future item will be put to the Thurrock Business Board on this plan.</p>  |  |
| <b>7.</b> | <p><b>Economic Commentary/Any other business</b></p> <p>BJ – Palmers<br/>         Volumes of business are the same<br/>         Longer turnaround times for house buying</p> <p>DH – Uni<br/>         Essex are providing intelligence and data analytics<br/>         Growing the business school<br/>         Logistics sector will have a new programme</p> <p>Kristina – CVS<br/>         Increase in demand for services with health and social care<br/>         Working in partnerships with business</p> <p>Louise – network group<br/>         Numbers are steady in the group<br/>         Business are having a few cash flow problems while waiting for payment from customers</p> <p>Frazer – Network group<br/>         Stable network group which is increasing every year</p> <p>AO – South Essex College<br/>         Apprenticeships are currently down by 60% in the UK the levy might have something to do with this. However the apprenticeships for degrees are increasing.<br/>         Essex economic commission launched and published a Document and is available</p> <p>RE – Invest Essex<br/>         EDF / nuclear power station, funding procurement exercise to encourage SMEs.<br/>         Essex companies to be involved. This is on the website<br/>         Aqua parks are interested in hiring the lake at Grange waters.</p> |  |

**Date of Next meeting:**

- 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2pm @ TBC