

# **GREENWICH PARTNERSHIP**

## **BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2007 at 6.00 P.M. at The Heritage Centre, The Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, SE18**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Present:**

Councillor Chris Roberts, Greenwich Council  
Councillor Peter Brooks, Greenwich Council  
Christopher Jarratt, Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police Service  
Brian Cherek, Metropolitan Police Service  
Reverend Martyn Coe, Greenwich Community Network  
Rosa Goncalves, Greenwich Community Networks  
Steve Nelson, Chamber of Commerce  
Jonathan Louth, SE London Chamber of Commerce  
Mark Maddison, JobCentre Plus  
Michael Chuter, Greenwich PCT  
Adrian Tallett, ChangeUp Greenwich  
Malcolm Rodrigues, Learning Skills Council London East

#### **Observers:**

Mary Ney, Greenwich Council  
David McCollum, Greenwich Council  
Harcourt Alleyne, Acting Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Partnerships)  
Jill Crumpton, Co-ordinator Greenwich Partnership  
Graham Verge, Greenwich Council  
Alex Glyde, Greenwich Partnership  
Ian Thomas, AMEC  
Sean Hill, AMEC

#### **Advisors:**

Wendy Dibdin MBE , GAD

#### **I. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from William Ekinu, GCRE

### Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board of the Greenwich Partnership held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2007 be agreed as a true and accurate record.

### Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

## 2. Main items

### 2.1 Woolwich Modernisation (David McCollum)

David McCollum talked the board through the current and future developments in Woolwich. Everything is steadily coming together and there are a range of key milestone dates for work being carried out and future work so we have a clear plan for the future. This will all take time but Woolwich will be an exciting town to be working in.

Love Lane site – Council has been granted planning permission to demolish a number of buildings on the site and they have entered into an agreement with Tesco's and James' to develop additional office space and accommodation on the site.

Demolition will start on Wellington Street in the next few months as all buildings have now been emptied. Job Centre Plus have moved from Crown Buildings into Nelson House and the new opening for this is 18<sup>th</sup> July 07.

The Council have also improved Riverside East's old service centre and this will be opening at the end of June 07. Both of these new services will raise the bar on services provided in Greenwich.

Work will be starting before March 08 on the beginning of Greenwich Waterfront Trams.

General Gordon Square and Beresford Square – Work starting September 2008. Big improvements being made in this area and other developments such as the DLR.

Berkley Homes – Moved onto the Royal Arsenal. Demolition of buildings around Warren Lane to begin shortly, expected to start September 2007 and be completed 2008

Crossrail – Council has been active on trying to secure a station at Woolwich and support was recently shown in Parliament for this. Woolwich station will be included in the Bill and the Act once it has gone through Parliament. Autumn 2007 the Bill will go to the House of Lords. The Council and its partners have set about finding a financial model that involves Berkley Homes building an underground station in the Royal Arsenal ?????

The Council will be opening new offices in Wellington Street late 2009, early 2010 and Crossrail expected to open in 2016 providing linkages with East London .

The Chair invited questions from the table.

SN raised the issue of small businesses. He said that we should be mindful that small companies of maybe 2 or 3 people will need somewhere to work from and what is going to be put in place to deal with this issue?

DMc stated that the Council has brought forward proposals and fought very strongly against having only posh flats on the riverfront and insisted on office buildings and work space being included.

SN stated that there is a necessity for very small and cheap sites being available for very small companies who will not be able to afford the high rent other big businesses will.

PB added that the Council recognises that things have changed and moved on in terms of work and business environments and they have been looking at the options for the 2 or 3 person businesses.

**Resolved** – Work will continue in Woolwich

## 2.2 DLR Update

Sean Hill (AMEC) and Ian Thomas (AMEC) gave a presentation to the Board on the current situation and development of the DLR in Woolwich.

So far there have been ;

- £180M in construction costs
- Work started 31<sup>st</sup> May 2007
- Completion date of 2009

Photos were shown to the board of all the work currently in progress on the DLR station and how it is progressing. SH stated that it is still on schedule for opening early 2009.

Questions were invited.

DMc asked what the frequency of services are expected to be?

SH stated that they would be every 5 minutes but passenger flow would also be monitored and timings would be altered in peak times to cope with the amount of passengers. SH said it would take approx 3-4 minutes to get to the other side of the river.

PB pointed out that this brings transport into Woolwich that we have never had before. Transit not due to be completed until 2011. He also stated that AMEC have done a very good job of working with people in the area and thanked AMEC for all their hard work.

?? asked what sort of work had been carried out with schools?

IT said that they had engaged through the Council with local schools and they had a poster competition for local school children and the winners of the competition got a trip into the tunnel.

WD raised the issue of disability and what consultation had taken place with disabled people when designing the station?

SH said that this was all considered and there is a permanent slope and lifts throughout the station.

WD asked if there had been an official consultation with disabled people to take into account the vision impaired etc as her organisation had not been consulted on this.

IT stated that they were not sure and would find out if this was the case.

## 2.3 Crossrail Update

No one present from Crossrail but a briefing note was left explaining the current progress, already outlined by DMc.

The likely date for Royal Assent, after the Bill has returned to the Commons is now June 2008.

The construction programme covers a period of 6 years, which if it follows closely after Royal Assent could achieve substantial completion by 2015 and the first full operational year as 2016. As there is a full year for advance works the dates for financial closure and commencement of the main contracts are not yet clearly defined.

Also as the Woolwich part of the project is not on the critical path works might start there later than elsewhere, but are still assumed to be on going during the Olympics.

## 2.4 Greenwich Strategy

Jill Crumpton, Partnership Coordinator updated the Board on the changes to the Greenwich Strategy.

The Draft has been through Council and there was a 3 month consultation period in line with Compact guidelines. Comments were received back from various organisations and members of the public on possible changes that could be made.

A report was handed out to the Board on the main changes that are to be made and the changes take into account comments received back.

**Resolved** – The Chair asked for the strategy with all the relevant changes made to be sent round at the next Board meeting in September for a final sign off and look at an Autumn launch for the strategy.

## 2.5 Feedback from LAA Board ( Graham Verge)

GV reported on the LAA Board and informed the Board that they are forming a sub board intending to improve the way partners work together.

The LAA board meets quarterly at the same time as the Partnership Board, directly before, and they are currently looking at ongoing programmes such as reducing crime, reducing teenage pregnancies. It also looks at the changing nature of relationship between local and central government.

The Chair invited questions. There were none.

## 3. AOB

SN asked for clarification on what was happening about the spaces for the business reps on the Partnership Board.

The Chair said he would speak to him after the meeting regarding this.

There was no other business to discuss. The date of the next meeting is **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September**. The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 7:35pm.