

19 January 2017 8.00am – 10.00am
Booth Mansion, Watergate Street, Chester

CHESTER GROWTH PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS

Guy Butler, Cllr Brian Crowe, Peter Carstensen, Liz Carnie, Claire Griffiths, Dean Paton, Sally Pilott, Andy Foster, Phil Harris, Katrina Michel

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

Chris Capes, Beth Skinner, Ruth Wojtan, Roz Munslow, Caroline Thomas

OTHER ATTENDEES

Alison Knight, Gerald Meehan, Cllr Brian Clarke, Ashley Rogers

APOLOGIES

Phil Mayall, Chris Matheson MP, Cllr Samantha Dixon, Ed Oliver, Fran Burgess, Peter Cocker, Harry Bolton

Action Points

- Need to think about where CGP sits in relation to other organisations to bring clarity to its positioning.
- Press stories for ING to be fed through, and any contacts to be invited to the MIPIM lunch event to be sent to SP/KM.
- CGP Investment Map and Prospectus to be revisited by Investment workstream and copies sent to KM.
- Board members to read through latest version of business plan and feedback any amendments/comments before it is finalised in two weeks time.
- A question was raised on the status of the vacant BHS unit on Foregate Street. Investment workstream to look into this.
- Dwell to engage with Cathedral and Racecourse to recruit members for working group.
- BS to circulate schedule of meeting dates and send out diary markers. Board Members to send through any venue suggestions.
- Working groups to consider gaps in membership for recruitment of any new workstream members.
- A discussion took place on the Lord Lieutenants work and involvement with the skills agenda, with a suggestion to invite to the next board meeting. CC to follow up contact.

1.	<p>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</p> <p>Richard Jacques, Booths of Chester welcomed the board to Booth Mansion and gave an update on the recent activity and refurbishment of the building. GB welcomed the board, thanked RJ for hosting the meeting and gave an update on the latest activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been 18 months with the new format and the business plan has been revised. Working groups doing their own thing, gaining traction in their 	GB
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	<p>fields.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC has been appointed deputy chair of CGP and has begun to take on additional chair duties from GB. 	
2.	<p>GERALD MEEHAN - CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER CHIEF EXECUTIVE Gerald Meehan, Chief Executive Cheshire West and Chester Council gave an update to the board with the following highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devolution - it has been reported informally in the press that Warrington have voted to remain with Cheshire West and Cheshire East. Cllr Clarke is the chair of the Devo Commission, with the next steps being to refresh the plan and bring it up to date, with a mayoral appointment anticipated in May 2018. • HS2 is an opportunity not to be missed as well as key connectivity discussions with North Wales. • The perception of Chester needs to change as the city is currently seen as a museum, instead of having a dynamic economy. • A mix of housing is key as there needs to be something for everyone, encouraging graduates and younger people to live in the city. 	GM
3.	<p>ASHLEY ROGERS - NORTH WALES BUSINESS COUNCIL CHAIRMAN Ashley Rogers, Chairman North Wales Business Council updated the board on the latest activity with the following highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Wales Business Council is the private sector body in Wales. North Wales Economic Ambition Board is the city region board for North Wales. Areas of work include transport, rail, road, skills, finance, northern powerhouse, supply chains and research. • Tourism figures are approx. 27m visits a year, with adventure tourism a growing area. North Wales has also recently been voted 4th in Lonely Planet's 'Best Places to Visit in the World 2017'. • Growth Track 360 - 400 organisations have now signed up to the online campaign. Short term projects have been identified totaling £130 including schemes around Chester and Wrexham Station. • A proposition for the North Wales Growth Deal was submitted in August 2016. Projects are currently being prioritised over the next 4-6 months. <p>The work of the NWBC was commended in the bringing together of the private sector, something that Chester is seen to not do as well.</p> <p>Action: Need to think about where CGP sits in relation to other organisations to bring clarity to its positioning.</p>	AR
4.	<p>MIPIM 2017 KM and SP informed of the progress for MIPIM 2017 programme with the following highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following on from last year, Chester will be represented as part of the Cheshire and Warrington sub region, focusing on three main areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cheshire Science Corridor ○ Northern Gateway Development Zone ○ City of Chester • The programme is being developed and there are currently over 20 partners 	KM/SP

	<p>in place (approx. 7 partners from Chester).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 'Guide to Investing in Cheshire and Warrington' type brochure will be produced. • Most news stories and social media activity will be targeted beforehand to gain momentum in the buildup. A press release will be issued shortly to announce the partners. • The PR agency for MIPIM, ING, have an open invitation out for press content of 300 words. • A Cheshire lunch event will be organised similar to the event that took place last year. The event is self-funded and any contacts to be invited are to be sent to SP/KM. <p>Action: Press stories for ING to be fed through, and any contacts to be invited to the MIPIM lunch event to be sent to SP/KM.</p> <p>Action: CGP Investment Map and Prospectus to be revisited by Investment workstream and copies sent to KM.</p>	
5.	<p>CGP BUSINESS PLAN 2017-2018</p> <p>The latest version of the CGP Business Plan was circulated which has been updated to cover the next two years of activity for the board and workstreams.</p> <p>A discussion took place on the Skills section of the business plan and the work already undertaken by the Investment working group. LC highlighted the group struggled to engage with employers however shortages can already be identified. A suggestion was made to discuss with Helen Nellist, Acting Principal and Chief Executive of West Cheshire College to the board.</p> <p>Action: Board members to read through latest version of business plan and feedback any amendments/comments before it is finalised.</p>	ALL
6.	<p>VISION FOR 2017</p> <p>PC gave an update on a recent meeting with the MP to discuss Chester Castle with festival/event based openings being looked into to open the area to the public. AK informed a task group is to be set up to look at the risks/health and safety issues, with CWAC looking to support some activity at the Castle. A longer term vision and strategic plan will follow in line with the Heritage, Museums and Visual Arts Strategy.</p> <p>Harry Bolton will be the new chair of the Housing workstream, with work underway to look at deliverables and identify 2/3 sites for the group to focus on, as well as looking at current funding initiatives.</p> <p>Action: A question was raised on the status of the vacant BHS unit on Foregate Street. Investment workstream to look into this.</p> <p>Dwell workstream would like to re-engage with the Cathedral, recruiting a replacement for Peter Howell-Jones, who are also currently planning Ark Modern Sculpture Exhibition, a major event in the city. Representation from Chester Racecourse is also a gap in the group, preferably a contact in the marketing team.</p>	ALL

	Action: Dwell to engage with Cathedral and Racecourse to recruit members for working group.							
7.	<p>CGP DEVELOPMENT Following on from the last meeting in November of all the Workstream Chairs, it was agreed to alternate meetings between workstream chairs and the full board, holding a meeting with all board and workstream members once a year.</p> <p>Schedule of meeting dates for 2017:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Thursday 20th April, 8am</td> <td>CGP Full Board</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday 25th May, 8am</td> <td>CGP Board and all Workstream Members</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday 7th September, 8am</td> <td>CGP Full Board</td> </tr> </table> <p>Action: BS to circulate schedule of meeting dates and send out diary markers. Board Members to send through any venue suggestions.</p> <p>Workstreams need to consider any gaps in membership to ensure that all areas are covered. E.g. Dwell - F&B is a big sector in the city, Infrastructure - Digital addition.</p> <p>Action: Working groups to consider gaps in membership for recruitment of any new workstream members.</p>	Thursday 20th April, 8am	CGP Full Board	Thursday 25th May, 8am	CGP Board and all Workstream Members	Thursday 7th September, 8am	CGP Full Board	ALL
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8.	<p>AOB RW gave an update on the latest activity of Growth Track 360. Influential have been reappointed until March 2018. Three events will be taking place: Business Round Table (end of Feb), Rail Magazine event (end of March) and a Rail Summit (end of April).</p> <p>Action: A discussion took place on the Lord Lieutenants work and involvement with the skills agenda, with a suggestion to invite to the next board meeting.</p>	ALL						
9.	<p>Date of Next Meetings Thursday 20th April 2017, 8am, CGP Board Meeting</p>	ALL						