

Chester Renaissance Board - Minutes
27 June 2013 8.00am – 10.00am
Palatine Room, Chester Town Hall

Attendees

Steven Broomhead (SB)	Chair Chester Renaissance
Rita Waters (RW)	Chester Renaissance (CR)
Tim Kenney (TK)	Cheshire Business Club
Steve Robinson (SR)	Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC)
Councillor Mike Jones (MJ)	Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC)
Katrina Michel (KM)	Marketing Cheshire (MC)
Roger Croston (RC)	Croston Engineering
Nigel Davies (ND)	West Cheshire College
Gemma Davies (GE)	Chester Renaissance
Councillor Samantha Dixon (SD)	Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC)
Nigel Bruce (NB)	Chartered Surveyor
Eric Langton (EL)	Retired Editor in Chief
Peter Carstensen (PC)	
Stephen Langtree (SL)	Chester Civic Trust
Sally Williamson (SW)	Chester Renaissance (CR)

Apologies

Cliff Mallows	Cheshire West and Chester (CWAC)
Charlie Seward	Cheshire West and Chester (CWAC)

1.	<p>Welcome SB welcomed the Board and thanked everyone for attending. Apologies noted. Welcome to Stephen Langtree and Nigel Davies.</p> <p>Minutes from Board meeting 24 April 2013 recorded as accurate. RC noted item 5 he also raised the issue of Chinese tourist route through Bicester etc.</p>	SB
2.	<p>Chester Branding KM presented latest branding ideas for Chester including logo and tv ad. Board confirmed they liked the new designs very much and will promote in own networks where appropriate.</p> <p>SD commented on Chester's heritage as a precious metal maker and KM confirmed that could look to do a gold/silver version of logo in future for example. Action 1: KM to consider logo versions.</p>	KM
3.	<p>One City Plan GE gave the Board a progress update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working with LEP on emerging Growth Plan; - Working on West Cheshire Economic Growth Strategy. 	All

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CWaC Local Plan consultation starting in the Autumn. - Concentrating on completing first generation projects i.e. CBQ City Place (on site Jan 2014, complete June 2015). - Eastgate Row North improvements (interpretation panel installed next week). - Waterways Strategy (working in partnership with Canal Rivers Trust and Inland Waterways Association). - Dee House/Amphitheatre. - Planning Applications – planning template to be completed for all significant applications. - Developing closer links with housing colleagues. - Prioritise second generation projects i.e. Chester Business Quarter (inward investment key 10-year programme), Transport (will be informed by consultation, working with LEP for funding and be clear on priorities), Historic Core (Rows very important, developing Heritage Lottery Funding Strategy). - Funding resources important. - Align with strategic objectives of LEP with Spending Review. - ND commented need to add ‘skills’ to thinking including growth, jobs, housing etc. Action 2: GE to speak with ND. <p>RW provided Dee House update – complex site in exclusivity period with developer. Lots of feedback from recent drop-in. Need to look at funding gap to make happen. Action 3: representatives from Board to meet developer to see how CR / CWAC can help. PC noted Cologne Town Hall could be held up as an example.</p> <p>Theatre moving forward – revisited design and report going to Council Executive soon.</p> <p>Northgate will report to Council Executive in August.</p>	
4.	<p>Business Improvement District (BID) Update</p> <p>RW updated Board on latest with Chester BID. Very strong Board working towards BID vote in the City in February. Private sector 1% BID levy in excess of £18k rateable value agreed by Board, geographical boundaries tentatively set but need to be confirmed. Liverpool BID Chair Ed Oliver will offer help. Some resources in place but still looking for offers of support for resources. Working on communications plan, business plan, branding etc. CWaC will be the licence holder.</p> <p>SD noted it was disappointing there was only one woman on the Board.</p> <p>Board noted this was a good start and progressing well in a democratic way. BID Company and constitution to be set up. Vote date to be determined.</p>	RW
5.	<p>Capital Programme 2013/14 Allocation</p> <p>£400k Chester Capital allocation shared with Board with budgets marked against each project. SR noted that funding earmarked for Rows,</p>	RW

	Commonhall Street and other areas could be used to drive the BID. Commonhall Street will be looked at by CWAC.	
6.	<p>Board Member Items</p> <p>Chester Event – TK will be organising a promotional event in refectory – an information evening to share work on various projects with the city. Chester Business Club is happy to run and support it and this Board welcomes that offer.</p> <p>RC shared Leighton Buzzard’s ‘What’s what’ sign near their station which would be a great addition to Chester. Action 4: RW to take forward as part of BID.</p> <p>SL shared concern about emerging Local Design Review Panel (LDRP) and potential for overlap with CAAC. Action 5: CWaC to brief Board on LDRP at next Board meeting. Briefing paper to be issued in advance of Board meeting.</p> <p>SL also raised concern over licenced premises in city and tensions with residents planning vs licencing is sometimes causing.</p> <p>Board discussed City of Culture bid and impact of not gaining status.</p>	ALL
7.	<p>Chairman Report</p> <p>SB briefed Board that he will continue as Chair until October. RW’s contract runs til the end of November. There will be conversations with CWAC over the coming months as to the future and the Board will be updated as necessary.</p>	SB
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Action: Invite Racecourse to next meeting to discuss Christmas.</p> <p>Date of next meeting 18 September 2013 8am – 10am, 9 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU.</p>	All

Action	Description	Actionee
1.	Consider other colours as part of Chester branding.	KM
2.	Look at including ‘skills’ as part of the One City Plan as well as growth, housing etc.	GE
3.	Dee House – reps from Board to meet developer to see how CR/CWaC can help.	Board
4.	Look at ‘what’s what’ sign near Station as part of BID.	RW
5.	CWaC to brief Board on Local Design Review Panel at next Board meeting. Briefing paper to be issued in advance of Board meeting.	CWaC