

Meeting Report

Regarding:

London Paramount Entertainment Resort Community Liaison Group Meeting

Date:

4 October 2016

Attending:

- Noreen Salway – Southfleet Parish Council (NS)
- Sue Constant (SC)
- David Mote – Dartford Borough Council (DM)
- Bryan Parry – Swanscombe & Greenhithe Town Council (BP)
- Peter Scollard – Gravesham Borough Council (PS)
- Mike Breton – Southfleet Residents Association (MB)
- Pauline Tester – Southfleet Parish Council (PT)
- Ann Duke – Walk Tall (AD)
- Amarjit Thind – Gurdwara Community Group (AT)
- Lorna Hughes – Ebbsfleet Development Corporation (LH)
- Gary May – Northfleet Big Local (GM)
- Linda Collins – Bean Residents Association (LC)
- Ashley Johnson – Bean Residents Association (AJ)
- Rosemary Dymond – Cobham Parish Council (RD)
- Ellie Evans – Volterra (EE)
- Lucy Dean – Volterra (LD)
- Christine Clarke – London Paramount (CC)
- Andy Martin – PPS (chair) (AM)
- Laura Taylor – PPS (secretariat) (LT)

Apologies:

Penny Marsh – Churches together in Ebbsfleet

Bryan Read – Dartford Borough Council

Richard Lees – Dartford Borough Council

Mark Coxshall – Thurrock Council

Mark Templeton – Ebbsfleet Development Corporation

MATTERS ARISING		Actions
1.	<p><u>Introduction</u></p> <p>AM introduced the purpose of the meeting, explaining that it would focus, as agreed, on jobs and skills. He stated that the meeting should aim to finish by 8pm.</p> <p>Apologies were received from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Testa, LRCH• Penny Marsh, Church together in Ebbsfleet• Bryan Read, Dartford Borough Council	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Richard Lees, Dartford Borough Council• Mark Templeton – Ebbsfleet Development Corporation• Mark Coxshall – Thurrock Council <p>AM invited everyone round the table to introduce themselves and state the organisation they were representing. New member organisations of the CLG include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Southfleet Residents Association• Walk Tall <p>EE & LD introduced themselves and explained that Volterra is a socio-economic consultancy that is carrying out studies related to skills, employment and the socio-economic benefits of the Entertainment Resort.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Agree minutes of 21 July 2016 meeting</u></p> <p>AM asked to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.</p> <p>AJ asked for clarity around whether Highways England (HE) would be consulting on an option that includes London Paramount. The Residents Association met with HE on 17 August and were told they would be consulting on Bean and Ebbsfleet Junction designs without London Paramount.</p> <p>CC clarified that HE does have a “with London Paramount” scenario but in line with their procedures would only be consulting on scenarios that take into account permitted development.</p> <p>It was agreed that the minutes would be updated to reflect this.</p> <p>The minutes were agreed by the group.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Skills & Jobs presentations by Volterra</u></p> <p>EE presented on the employment opportunities that the Entertainment Resort would provide. Highlighting that during construction there will be an estimated peak on site employment of up to 6,300 jobs and over 10,000 direct jobs encompassing a broad range of job types.</p> <p>EE highlighted the commuting patterns of the local area stating that a travel plan would be provided to incentivize commuting by public transport. The prospect of reducing commuting was also mentioned with the Entertainment Resort providing jobs for people that currently travel outside of the borough.</p> <p>EE mentioned the indirect employment opportunities that the Resort would support, anticipated to be over 20,000.</p> <p>EE moved on to focus on the employment and skills strategy identifying a</p>	

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	<p>number of issues including; unemployment (particularly seldom heard groups), mismatch between skills held and skills required and poor communication of potential employment/training opportunities.</p> <p>EE stated that these identified issues have enabled the development of key objectives for the Entertainment Resort:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Actively encourage, prioritise and prepare applicants who are currently unemployed• Communicate effectively with education providers to ensure skills match requirements• Provide a range of opportunities to enable children to experience employment while they are in education• Provide a range of vocational opportunities i.e. traineeships & apprenticeships• The Resort will require highly skilled labour in the design, construction and operational phases. Opportunity to develop these competencies in the UK <p>EE explained that Volterra are in the process of reviewing lessons learnt from elsewhere, and described some examples of good outcomes achieved such as from the Bluewater model, Jaguar Land Rover work programmes and Westfield Stratford City recruitment practises. EE said that as the Employment and Skills strategy is developed, it will seek to set challenging objectives against which the Resort can be measured, with the intention of maximizing the beneficial employment and skills impacts of the scheme, with a particular emphasis on local people.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Skills & Jobs discussion</u></p> <p>DM commented that it is a good projection and an interesting presentation. Observed that it is necessary to identify the competencies associated with particular jobs and identify those young and old people who will fill those skillsets.</p> <p>EE agreed with DM that it is essential to carry out a skills audit but that it is currently too early to start that work stream. EE stated that we are currently one step behind that. DM responded that he is concerned that formal qualifications will become crucial when other qualifications and training can be more appropriate.</p> <p>AJ questioned the difference between LPER and LRCH as referred to during the presentation. CC clarified that LPER stands for London Paramount Entertainment Resort and LRCH stands for London Resort Company Holdings.</p> <p>AJ mentioned that in conjunction with the Resort construction roads will also be built. He expressed concern that these roads will have camps. EE responded that large scale construction sites often have onsite compounds that include health centres and points of contact rather than places for workers to sleep.</p>	

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	<p>SC mentioned Westfield's Kidzania where children can try out different types of jobs. Questioned whether this would be something London Paramount could offer. SC went on to comment on the inadequacy of careers officers and suggested London Paramount should send their own careers officers into schools to outline opportunities and desirable qualifications / qualities. In terms of accommodation for workers during construction SC suggested that flyers could be sent out locally.</p> <p>EE said that Hinkley Point advertised in the local area similarly to SC's suggestion. Currently the wrong time for London Paramount to be doing this, potential to do so in the future.</p> <p>CC mentioned that LRCH had participated in Land Securities day at Ebbsfleet Academy. Commented that it was interesting what the children asked including questions on what developers earn and what is involved in promoting development. AD commented that strong careers advice and quality careers advisors are essential.</p> <p>MB commented that using the construction of the Olympic Park in London as a comparison is difficult as there are huge differences between the connectivity in east London and north Kent. Suggested that providing camps on the site for construction workers could be hugely beneficial as it would alleviate pressure on the A2.</p> <p>PS commented that the biggest concern is that people won't be ready to fill the jobs, especially as there are so many large scale construction projects coming to the area at a similar time. Suggested putting on free training for people.</p> <p>CC agreed that people need to be ready to fill the job opportunities and that with Ebbsfleet Garden City, Lower Thames Crossing and London Paramount all coming forward at the same time there will be a huge pressure on skills. She went on to reiterate that it is too early to start this work now but when it does start it will be essential to educate parents as well. AM commented that from previous work parents do not view jobs in construction positively. LH stated that EDC is actively working alongside London Paramount and have held meetings to discuss skills but were in agreement that it is too early.</p> <p>RD stated that LRCH needs to get started with schools early as they will be setting their curriculums. DM commented that at Knockhall Primary School they have already carried out a project on rollercoasters indicating that teachers are looking ahead. RD went on to comment that girls locally who would like to study engineering should be directed towards companies in order to gain experience.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Next meeting</u></p> <p>It was suggested that the next meeting should take place in January (date to be agreed with members over email).</p>	<p>LT to circulate date of next meeting</p>

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	<p>It was agreed that the next meeting would focus on transport. A suggestion was put forward that a future meeting could look at healthcare.</p>	
6.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>AJ / LC raised questions around the red line boundary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the current status of the boundary around Bean and Southfleet Parishes?• Is the boundary shown in the Ebbsfleet Implementation Framework the new boundary?• When will you update the Planning Inspectorate on the submission date? <p>CC responded that the red line boundary continues to take into account the A2, Bean and Southfleet in case proposals to upgrade these junctions by Highways England are delayed.</p> <p>CC stated that there is a meeting scheduled with PINS on 7 October, where an update on the timeline for submission will be provided.</p> <p>LH mentioned that EDC are carrying out events on their implementation framework throughout October with people invited to drop-in.</p>	
7.	<p><u>END</u></p> <p>Meeting closed at 7.30pm</p>	