

NORTH EAST TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

Minute of Meeting of the North East Transport Partnership

Aberdeen, 9 October, 2012

Present: Councillor Argyle (Chairperson); Councillor Milne (Deputy Chair); Eddie Anderson (Deputy Chair); and Councillors Finlayson, Grant, and McCaig (Aberdeen City Council), Councillors Clark, Evison (as substitute for Councillor Buchan) and Mollison (as substitute for Councillor Latham) (Aberdeenshire Council), David Sullivan (External Member), and Maggie Bochel (Adviser to the Board).

In attendance: Martin Allan (Aberdeen City Council), Jenny Anderson (Nestrans), Tom Buchan (Aberdeenshire Council), Rebecka Coull (Aberdeen City Council), Rab Dickson (Nestrans), Kirsty Morrison (Nestrans), Derick Murray (Nestrans), and Ewan Wallace (Aberdeenshire Council).

Apologies: Stephen Archer (Adviser to the Board), Councillor Buchan (Aberdeenshire Council), Jennifer Craw (External Member), Councillor Latham (Aberdeenshire Council), and Derek Provan (External Member).

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be located at the following link:

<http://www.nestrans.org.uk/48/board-meetings.html>

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Board had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 29 August, 2012.

The Board resolved:

to approve the minute as a correct record.

LIAISON BETWEEN REGIONAL TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIPS AND THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS

2. With reference to article 3 of the minute of its previous meeting of 29 August, 2012, the Board had before it a report by the Director which provided an update on liaison with other Regional Transport Partnerships (RTPs), the Scottish Government and others.

The meetings included –

- Regional Transport Partnership Chairs in Stranraer on 5 September, 2012
- Virgin Airways Parliamentary Reception in Edinburgh on 5 September, 2012

- Aberdeen City and Shire Economic Forum (ACSEF) in Aberdeen on 7 September, 2012
- ACSEF/ Nestrans/ Hitrans Westminster Reception on 12 September, 2012
- Transport Scotland High Speed Rail Seminar in Glasgow on 17 September, 2012
- Scottish Council for Development and Industry (SCDI) dinner with Transport Minister in Aberdeen on 19 September, 2012
- Nestrans/ Hitrans meeting with Civil Aviation Authority in London on 20 September, 2012
- ACSEF Holyrood Reception on 2 October, 2012
- Regional Transport Partnership Lead Officers' meeting in Perth on 3 October, 2012.

The Director provided a verbal update on matters including (1) the Gatwick pricing structure, (2) high speed rail links and its impact on the North East of Scotland, and (3) the third Heathrow runway and other potential options in this regard.

The Board resolved:

- (i) to note progress on liaison arrangements with other Regional Transport Partnerships, the Scottish Government, and others; and
- (ii) to note the arrangements for future meetings as detailed within the report.

STRATEGIC TRANSPORT FUND

3. With reference to article 12 of the minute of its meeting of 18 April, 2012 the Board had before it a report by the Director which updated members on the implementation of the Strategic Transport Fund since the adoption of the guidance "Delivering Identified Projects through a Strategic Transport Fund", and sought approval for the Chair and Vice Chair (Councillor Milne) to be named as Proper Officers so they could sign Section 75 agreements relating to the Strategic Transport Fund in the absence of the Director.

A supplementary paper was circulated to members which presented a draft prioritisation of culminative transport interventions for the Strategic Transport Fund, categorised into short, medium and long term projects.

The Board was advised that further legal advice had been sought prior to the meeting as to whether it was appropriate that further Proper Officers be appointed, and the advice of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Aberdeen City Council) was that the Board should authorise the Director to delegate the authority to an appropriate officer of Nestrans to sign agreements in his absence, or when required.

The report recommended –
that the Board –

- (a) notes the updates as contained within the report;
- (b) agrees the proposed timescale for prioritisation;
- (c) notes the proposed timescale for the Strategic Development Planning Authority to carry out a review and update of the supplementary guidance; and

- (d) agrees the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair (Councillor Milne) as Proper Officers, able to sign Section 75 agreements for the Strategic Transport Fund on behalf of Nestrans.

The Board resolved:

- (i) to approve recommendations (a) – (c);
- (ii) to instruct the Director to consult relevant parties on the draft prioritisation of cumulative transport interventions for the Strategic Transport Fund document; and
- (ii) to delegate power to the Director (as Proper Officer) to authorise appropriate officer of Nestrans to sign agreements in his absence, or when required.

A90 LAURENCEKIRK JUNCTION

4. The Board had before it a report by the Director which presented a draft report on work undertaken by Nestrans in relation to the Laurencekirk Junctions with the A90 trunk road.

The Board resolved:

- (i) to commend and approve the draft A90 Laurencekirk Junctions report for publication on the Nestrans website; and
- (ii) to instruct officers to submit the report to Transport Scotland and urge that further consideration be given to the construction of grade separated junctions on the A90 at Laurencekirk.

PROGRESS REPORT

5. With reference to article 5 of the minute of its previous meeting of 29 August, 2012, the Board had before it a progress chart summarising the work in the three sub strategies of the Regional Transport Strategy as at 1 October, 2012.

The Board resolved:

to note the content of the progress chart.

PUBLICATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS

6. With reference to article 6 of the minute of its previous meeting of 29 August, 2012, the Board had before it a report by the Director which summarised and advised on a number of different publications and consultations as follows and sought approval of draft responses as appropriate –

- Aviation Policy Consultation
- Aberdeen Harbour Board – “A Case for Growth”
- Drink/ Drive Limit Consultation
- National Planning Framework 3

The Board noted that the response to the Draft Aviation Policy would be completed further to a consultation meeting with the Department of Transport on 12 October, 2012, and sent to all Members.

The Board resolved:

- (i) to note the report and the documents referred to above, and to endorse the comments as Nestrans' response to the Drink/ Drive consultation and Aberdeen Harbour's "Case for Growth"; and
- (ii) to note that a joint workshop on the National Planning Framework 3 with Nestrans, the Strategic Development Planning Authority and the Scottish Government had been scheduled for 9 November, 2012.

NORTH EAST TRANSPORT CONSULTATIVE FORUM

7. The Board had before it a report by the Director which proposed a date for a future meeting of the North East Transport Consultative Forum.

The Board resolved:

- (i) to agree that the North East Transport Consultative Forum will meet on Tuesday 30 October, 2012 at 5.30pm; and
- (ii) to agree that this meeting be utilised as an opportunity to garner views on the refresh of the Regional Transport Strategy and the consultation questions and changes proposed in the main issues report.

BUDGET MATTERS

8. With reference to article 8 of the minute its previous meeting of 29 August, 2012, the Board had before it a report by the Treasurer which provided an update on spend and programming of the Partnership's 2012/13 budget and forecast outturn in this regard. The report also provided details of the recently published budget proposals of the Scottish Government.

The Board noted that income had been received towards the Strategic Transport Fund, and that the money would be retained in the Fund in the balance sheet and would not be shown as income in the accounts until work associated with the Strategic Transport Fund commenced. Mr Buchan advised the Board that he would report back to the next meeting on the most appropriate way to report this income.

The Board resolved:

- (i) to note the monitoring position and forecast; and
- (ii) to note the draft budget information from the Scottish Government.

INFORMATION BULLETIN

9. With reference to article 9 of the minute of its previous meeting of 29 August 2012, the Board had before it a report by the Director which provided information and updates for the Board on a number of matters not requiring a decision as follows –

- December, 2012 rail timetable
- A947 Parkhill – Banff route study report
- Nestrans' press releases
- European Mobility Week
- Liftshare success.

The Board noted that page 103 of the report advised that a further three northbound and three southbound services would be added to the existing Portlethen services the Monday – Saturday timetable, but on page 104 of the report, the press release stated that Portlethen would gain a total of five more calls a day. Rab Dickson undertook to clarify which of these statements was correct.

The Board resolved:

- (i) to note the information as presented ;and
- (ii) to note that officers would arrange suitable publicity for the changes at Portlethen and ask Scotrail if they would consider providing extra facilities at the station to reflect the increase in traffic.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

10. With reference to article 10 of the minute of its previous meeting of 29 August, 2012, the Board had before it a report by the Director summarising recent and forthcoming conferences of interest to the Partnership along with presentations by Nestrans and its partners.

The Board resolved:

to note the information as presented.

PENDING BUSINESS AND REPORTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

11. With reference to article 11 of the minute of its previous meeting of 29 August, 2012, the Board had before it a report by the Director detailing pending business and information on reports to be submitted to future Board meetings.

The Board resolved:

to note the information.

- **PETER ARGYLE, Chairperson.**