



Chamber Construction Forum Meeting Minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2019 at



The Carlton Park Hotel, Rotherham

Present:

Stephen Blunsten (Chair) - Mobile Plant Rooms	Charlie Grayson - Fortem
Andrew Denniff - Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce	James Wood - Arcus Technology
Mark Smith - Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce	Joe Jones - Barnsley College
Neil Robertson - Engie	Kes Bhatti – Barnsley College
Mark Goldsworthy - VHE Construction	Charlie Grayson – Fortem
Simon Dennis - Palmer Construction	Graham Bailes – Enzygo
Adeana Raper - Henry Boot	Matt Travis – Enzygo
Hadria Tate - Fortem	Lisa Pogson – Airmaster

1) Welcome & introductions

Stephen Blunsten (SB) welcomed everyone to the meeting which is aimed at people and businesses working within the construction industry.

2) Apologies

None

3) Notes of the last meeting held on 6th November 2018 were agreed as an accurate record.

4) Updates on local constructions

- Adeana gave an update on Barnsley. Removal of MDG temp market – work to remove the structure is ongoing and will be complete by the end of February.
- Demo of MSC - just a few seconds for the MSCP to be blown down after months of prep. Henry Boot is currently crushing the concrete after the metal is removed – for use on Phase 2 – awaiting the award of the contract although preparatory work continues
- The new façade to The Glass Works (New Street side) is due to be completed by the end May. The remaining façade works to MDG will be complete by the end of March. Many people have asked why the basement servicing area was not completed prior to traders moving into TGW. As the area falls within the footprint of what is to become the Phase 2 construction site, this is not possible. When Network Rail close the level crossing and the temporary bridge is in place, there will be no access to the basement for vehicles until the scheme completes.
- The initial Public Realm works on May Day Green (outside Greggs & Carphone Warehouse) were completed before Christmas, two weeks ahead of programme. The next phase of Public Realm works to the front of the library has now started and is due for completion end April. Henry Boot are prioritising the lower section on May Day Green, so that the area between the market entrance doors and Lounges (next to the new Library) should be completed by the end of March. The Public Realm works will then be phased for Queen Street and Peel Square
- Kendray Street/Eldon Street (Eldon Triangle) - these works to lay the ducting for the electric supply to the new Library are being undertaken on behalf of Northern Power Grid and should be completed by the end of w/c 18 Feb 2019.

- Library @ The Lightbox – construction on this fantastic new amenity will be complete end April – then fit out - Open Summer 19. It will be well worth a visit once opened – kids and adults, with event space on the terrace overlooking the public square (when completed)
- Lounges – construction complete end March – Public Realm in progress, which will then enable fit out Open Summer 19
- Bridge over the railway line – a temporary bridge is planned initially whilst the modern new bridge is being manufactured and the area is prepped. Network Rail are in discussions with BMBC – possible that they need to close the crossing in March as their funding needs to be drawn before the end of the financial year.
- Neil reported there were two large bids for the Rotherham MBC and Barnsley MBC planned and response maintenance contracts for Council owned housing stock. These new contracts both provide 5 year framework extensions to the existing contracts which are currently being carried out by Fortem and Mears in Rotherham and Kier in Barnsley. The tender process is for both Local Authority housing stock i.e. 21k homes in Rotherham and 19k homes in Barnsley (although not all houses require work). Should know decision by Easter.
- Andrew reported that Tan Khan LEP Board member and Dan Watson the new Investment & Economic Initiatives Manager at RMBC will be speaking about Forge Island development at an event on 27th February at Mercure Hotel of the Parkway. Please let Andrew know if you would like to attend this free event.

5) Meet the Buyer event

Planning to run the event on Thurs 1st May 2019 at The New York Stadium in Rotherham is going well:

- 12 out of 32 stands have been booked
- 54 delegates have already booked
- Barnsley College have agreed to be an associate sponsor

Action – please contact Mark S if you would like to book an exhibition stand or interested in sponsorship opportunities. Please send suggestions of contacts for either of these to Mark S and Steve.

Matt – sent contact to Steve about 360 Surveys who might be interested. **Action – Steve**

6) Forward planning

Steve suggested a future event could focus on an update about Forge Island, Better Barnsley and Meadowhall. After brief discussion it was suggested a date early in October may be best (avoiding school holidays, Chamber Means Business event on 5th Sept and Chamber Awards on 18th October). **Action - Steve**

7) A.O.B.

- Mark G shared that VHE is celebrating their 40th anniversary in business this year.
- Simon shared that Palmer is celebrating their 25th anniversary in business this year.

5) Date of next meeting/s

- June 5th June 12:30pm in Barnsley hosted by James Wood and Arcus Technology