



**CORNWALL &  
ISLES OF SCILLY**  
LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

## **CORNWALL AND ISLES OF SCILLY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership held in the Porthmellon Enterprise Centre, Porthmellon Business Park, St Marys, Isles of Scilly, TR21 0JY/Virtual Online Meeting via MS Teams on Wednesday 29 September 2021 commencing at 10.00 am.

Present:- Mark Duddridge (Chair)  
Mark Goodwin (Vice-Chair)

John Acornley, Frances Brennan, Fran Grottick, Steve Jermy, Louis Mathers, Oliver Monk CC, Poppy Naylor, Lisa Oakes, Clare Parnell, Stephen Rushworth CC, Gordon Seabright, Linda Taylor CC and David Walrond.

Also in attendance:- Glenn Caplin-Grey, Nathan Cudmore, Phil Mason, Carol Bransgrove, Geraldine Baker, Josie Gough and Emma Coad.

Apologies for absence:- Officers: John Curnow

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

(Agenda No. 1)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular, Darren Henley Chief Executive Arts Council England (ACE) and Nema Hart, SW Director Economy, Place & Partnerships.

He welcomed Paul Masters and Nicola Stinson from the Council for the Isles of Scilly and thanked them for hosting the meeting.

The Chair expressed his thanks on behalf of the LEP Board to Professor Mark Goodwin for his excellent and supportive work as Vice-Chair of the Local Enterprise Partnership. The Board noted that Professor Mark Goodwin was due to come to the end of his second 3-year term on the LEP Board on 26 October 2021.

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Apologies for absence had been received from John Curnow.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

(Agenda No. 2)

The following declaration of interest was expressed:

Item No. 4.2 – Election of Vice-Chairman – Frances Brennan had an interest in this item due to her nomination as Vice Chair of Company. In relation to the conflict relating to the Election of Vice-Chair, she advised that she would not take part in that element of the meeting.

**LEP BOARD (28 JULY 2021)**

(Agenda No. 3)

**Minutes**

(Agenda No. 3.1)

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2021 were a true and accurate record.

**Action Summary**

(Agenda No. 3.2)

Actions confirmed at the meeting held on 28 July 2021, details of which were noted together with a summary of ongoing actions.

The Board was informed that in regard to Action 1 a report on the Green Industrial Revolution would be provided at the November Board meeting. In regard to Action 2 this item was ongoing.

**STRATEGIC MATTERS**

(Agenda No. 4)

**Culture and Creative Industries**

(Agenda No. 4.1)

Cornwall 2025 UK City of Culture

The LEP CEO, proceeded to provide a presentation on the Cornwall 2025 UK City of Culture bid with particular reference to the following areas:

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1. Culture and Creative being one of ten priorities for the LEP;
2. The Strategic Fit;
3. Cornwall and Isles of Scilly's creative potential;
4. Cornwall's Creative Clusters;
5. Cultural Investments – Kresen Kernow, Kerdroya, Hall for Cornwall, Krowji, Tate St Ives, Eden, Falmouth University;
6. Summary timetable for the UK City of Culture bid;
7. Details of communications undertaken to date;
8. Support from all Cornwall MPs;
9. Connecting the Hyper local to the Global;
10. Geographical coherence;
11. Theory of Change: 'Creative Bridge';
12. Details of the Cornwall City of Culture 2025 proposal;
13. Links to Strategic Plan Shaping.

In the ensuing discussion the LEP Board Directors and Officers referred to the following areas:-

1. There was wholehearted support from the business community in South East Cornwall around the issue of 'Place';
2. The provision of a cluster bid provided the opportunity for Cornwall to be a serious contender; residents and visitors were part of a county that cherished its cultural history, the development of new ideas with creative industries forming part of the rich history and way of life;
3. Should Cornwall be short listed it would enable the creative history and journey to be shared with both the rest of the UK and world;
4. If the bid was unsuccessful efforts should continue to build on the work that had gone into the bid;
5. The bid had brought the cultural and creative industries together within the wider and public sector to discuss what investment should come next;
6. There had been a wide consultation process across the region. The bid had provided a real reflection of what was required over the next five years, and if unsuccessful a blueprint going forwards in readiness for future funding streams as they came online;
7. The bid was a great opportunity for CloS; it demonstrated the passion in CloS and would provide an opportunity to link the work of the Employment and Skills Board (ESB) and Provider Groups, enable the use of creative and cultural industries to develop the talent of the future across the county by utilising the talent in the CloS.

Isles of Scilly Culture

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Paul Masters welcomed the LEP Board to the Isles of Scilly, and introduced Nicola Stinson who proceeded to make a presentation to the Board on Isles of Scilly Heritage and Culture with reference to the following:

1. The location of the Islands in relation to the mainland, context and challenges;
2. Role of the Council;
3. Creative Islands 2017-2020;
4. Ambition – Manifesto for Culture;
5. Next Steps – Cultural Officer – Rebuilding the economy;
6. Ambition – New Museum and Cultural Centre;
7. Town Hall Testing concepts;
8. New Museum and Cultural Centre – The Delivery Challenge;
9. Next steps towards a new Museum and Cultural Centre;
10. Details of the optimum development programme;
11. How the LEP Board can help towards the delivery of a new Museum and Cultural Centre.

In the ensuing discussion the LEP Board Directors and Officers referred to the following areas:-

1. Confirmation that the old Museum was uneconomical to repair and provided the potential for development for affordable housing, unlocking potentially 12 affordable housing units;
2. Reference was made to the challenges of housing development on the Islands with material and labour costs being significantly higher than on the mainland;
3. Confirmation that a number of sites had been explored for the new Museum and Cultural Centre and that the Town Hall which was of cultural significance had been chosen for a number of reasons;
4. There was support from the Council of the Isles of Scilly, Island Partnership and Duchy of Cornwall for the re-development of the Town Hall to provide a new Museum and Cultural Centre;
5. Tenants of the six affordable housing units above the old museum had been relocated;
6. Residents living close to the new Museum and Cultural Centre could benefit from a value uplift.

ACE: Let's Create, Government and future direction (Darren Henley)

Darren Henley, Chief Executive of the Arts Council England (ACE) attended the meeting virtually, responding to some of the points raised in the previous presentations and outlining the work of the ACE with particular reference to :-

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1. ACE was not a decision maker on the UK City of Culture bid and could therefore offer its support and congratulations on the proposal for the Cornwall cluster bid;
2. He advised that if the bid was unsuccessful that you should continue as though you had been successful;
3. CloS were important to ACE with the Isles of Scilly being one of the priority places;
4. ACE had 54 priority places; Nema Hart was responsible for investment across Cornwall and Isles of Scilly;
5. A new 10 year Strategy had been launched by ACE just before the pandemic which following a delay was now coming into the first year of the delivery plan; Pride of Place was the first part of the plan;
6. ACE was also interested in museums and libraries and welcomed the news about the IoS redevelopment; He welcomed the proposal by the IoS to ask the residents what they want as well as the visitors;
7. LETS create was a 10 year Strategy for Arts and Culture across England, the key was for all to be able to participate in high quality cultural experiences;
8. IoS was a great example of rurality, it was important that the Islands were not given any less right to an arts and creative culture;
9. In regard to talent development and challenges of reaching the Island community, technology was essential to drive this forward and that solutions to the challenges would be necessary due to the geography of the Islands. Nema Hart would have a role in this area to ensure those challenges were met;
10. Investment was important in Arts and Culture to ensure you receive the best and highest quality work for everyone; recognising the opportunities to bring people to the Islands;
11. Creativity should be an opportunity for every child alongside numeracy and literature;
12. Inward investment related to what you can do, hear and see and building on the narrative;
13. ACE's aim was to create happier lives, a lot of the work was about improving people's lives;
14. ACE could be a partner, supporter, investor, convener and help and work with you on that basis.

In the ensuing discussion the LEP Board Directors and Officers referred to the following areas:-

1. The Council for the Isles of Scilly would welcome a critical friend and supporter, this was seen as an opportunity to help the Council achieve what they want for the community;

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2. The community work being undertaken on Cornwall and the Islands could provide lessons and ensure we join together what was happening on the Islands and the mainland;
3. There was scope to pool resources to use arts and creativity as a catalyst for change. ACE could look at other parts of the country and models that had worked. Social prescribing had worked successfully in other parts of the country;
4. In regard to 'convening' the Whitehall representative questioned if there was work that could be done with other government bodies to bring together a round table discussion around funding opportunities and barriers that may be faced by the IoS in drawing down funding. Darren Henley confirmed that he would engage with the Whitehall representative to look at those opportunities.

Presentation by Paul Masters, Chief Executive, Council for the Isles of Scilly

Paul Masters, Chief Executive of the Council for the Isles of Scilly provided the Board with a presentation with particular reference to :-

1. Islands Context;
2. Achievements and opportunities;
3. Smart Islands – GO-EV;
4. Housing Delivery;
5. Levelling up – the ambition;
6. Levelling up fund – Vessel bid;
7. Homes Crisis;
8. Health and Social Care Integration;
9. Visitor Economy;
10. New Museum and Cultural Centre.

Arising from the above presentation the LEP Board Directors highlighted the following areas; impact furlough had on the workforce, electric propulsion for vessels, installation of electric charging cables in the Scillies and Penzance for vessels, and reference to not just a skills shortage but a labour force shortage.

**Election of Vice Chair**  
(Agenda No. 4.2)

Frances Brennan, left the meeting for this item due to her conflict of interest.

The Board gave consideration to the Election of Vice-Chair of the LEP Board. The Board was informed that one nomination had been received, that being for Frances Brennan.

**Decision: The Board approved the Election of Frances Brennan as Vice-Chair of the LEP Board, with that appointment to take place from 26 October 2021.**

NOTED THAT at the conclusion of the above item, Frances Brennan re-joined the meeting.

**Chair Update**

(Agenda No. 4.3)

The Chair provided the Board with a verbal update with reference to the following areas:

1. The labour issue was the number one area of discussion at the moment, particularly in regard to the number of vacancies, potential redundancies, capacity operation due to labour availability, and potential increase in inflation impacting businesses. Work was ongoing with Frances Brennan and Stacey Sleeman to establish a common understanding around what was happening at the moment in readiness for the Autumn Statement;
2. He welcomed the work with the Portfolio holder for Housing which would form a discussion point at a LEP Board;
3. He referred to the opportunities off the back of G7, including Clean Energy Transition and potential investment opportunities both from private and government sectors and the potential Cornwall had around lithium and tin and the scale of investment that could be achieved, a lot work was being undertaken in this area;
4. Reference was made to the work on the Visitor Economy, UK City of Culture Bid and Cornwall's bid for additional devolution. The LEP Board supported Cornwall's bid for additional devolution and the County Deal and offered support to the Leader of Cornwall Council;
5. The Autumn Statement was due to be announced shortly which may offer more clarity on the LEP Review and funds that would unlock growth in Cornwall and the IoS;
6. He referred to the transition from ELMS and work in the food and drink sector to make it more robust, he expected to come back on the form the business support took.

The Leader of Cornwall Council thanked the LEP for its support, advising that promising discussions had been ongoing. She advised that there was a need to go back on the governance aspect, details of which were currently been

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worked on with the potential for Cornwall being part of the pilot in April, 2022.

**CEO Report**

(Agenda No. 4.4)

The Board considered a report prepared by the LEP CEO regarding overall progress on operational activity.

The LEP CEO highlighted the main points within the Governance, Finance, Risk, Policy, and Performance areas of his report.

Further to his report, the LEP CEO provided an update on the delivery of unmanned automated delivery vehicles which was currently work in progress.

Arising from the above, the Board noted the contents of the report and overall progress on operational activity.

**Enterprise Zones Board Update**

(Agenda No. 4.5)

The Board was provided with a verbal update on activity associated with Cornwall's Enterprise Zones and Board Lead highlighted the key issues to the Board.

Steve Jermy, Board Director, outlined the key points, and responded to comments from Board Directors with specific reference to the role of Wales as a partner in the delivery of floating offshore wind, the delivery of four skills events and the discussions between British and Cornish Lithium companies to identify skills requirements to establish a picture of future need.

The Board noted the update on activity associated with the Cornwall Enterprise Zones.

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

(Agenda No. 5)

The Board agreed to exclude the press and public from the meeting for items 5.1 and 5.2 due to the confidential nature of the items.

**Investment and Oversight Panel Update**

(Agenda No. 5.1)

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The Board considered an exempt report prepared by the LEP CEO which provided an update on the recent activity within the remit of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership Investment and Oversight Panel.

The LEP CEO drew attention to the main points detailed in the report.

The LEP Board noted contents of the report.

**Any other confidential business**

(Agenda No. 5.2)

LEP Review

The LEP CEO provided an update on the LEP Review with reference to the potential to co-opt persons onto the Board to ensure that all areas of activity were covered.

The meeting ended at 12.49 pm.

[The agenda and reports relating to the items referred to above are attached to the signed copy of the Minutes].