

Hebden Bridge Partnership  
Minutes of Management Board, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015  
Held at HB Town Hall, 7:30pm

Attendees: Stephen Curry (SCur), Cllr Jonathan Timbers (JTim), Cllr Dave Young (DYou), Anthony Rae (ARae), Bob Deacon (BDea), Thom Bull (TBul), Giles Dring (GDri) (representing Business Forum), Cllr Janet Battye (JBat), Susan Quick (SQui), David Fletcher (DFle)

Apologies: Andrew Bibby (ABib), Lesley Mackay (LMac), Paul Forrest (PFor), Dave Nelson (DNel), Kate Drury (KDru)

1. No declarations of interest (other than **JTim** refusing promotion to major: see agenda paper!)
2. The minutes of the March 2nd meeting were agreed

### **3. Matters Arising from last meeting**

*3b. HRTC Youth Dialogue* – it was reported that the new mayor would be convening a meeting with town youth. **DYou** to retain ownership, **TBul** to keep a watching brief. In the interim, **JTim** has been in contact with Calder High student council and urged **TBul** to engage with it.

*4a. Station disability access* – agreed to carry forward in **LMac** absence.

#### *4b. Traffic issues*

Dressing town entrances – **ARae** proposed bringing such suggestions to bear on the 20mph limit refresh. There would be a consultation prior to any action – likely to be early 2016.

**DFle** raised the issue of the raised section of road near Bridge Mill which some pedestrians may misread as a continuation of the pedestrianised area. Could some clear marking (e.g. wide zebra crossing) be of use? Agreed to add this to the consultation mentioned above.

**ARae** presented a transport report on the potential changes to the HB station car park. The report discusses two options – an extension to the surface car park or a multi-storey car park. The present WYCA proposal is for the former option. **ARae** is working with them to provide additional survey information, especially in relation to the use of the car park by non-rail users. Proposed and agreed that the HBP (and the Town) support the current WYCA proposal, and continue lobbying for both shared use of the parking by non rail users at weekends and Bank holidays and additional parking capacity on that site into the future. Double / triple deck car parks were suggested, including subterranean decks (rendered simpler due the natural lie of the land), as were 'stackers' car parks. These ideas to be kept for future discussion.

#### *4c. Market Relocation*

There is a meeting on Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> April. Key aims are to get both market traders and local shopkeepers on board with the proposed move to Lees Yard and extension to a 4 day market. There are two outstanding issues – electrical supply

to the market stalls and the creation of a 'welfare unit' (hand washing and toilet facilities for the market traders). Cost of these estimated at £50k.

**DFle** voiced concerns over market stalls in St George's Sq blocking existing retail properties – especially if this directly competes with the shop (e.g. a meat stall near Woodhead's butchers). This should be covered by the consultation. **GDri** noted that a central island of stalls facing outwards would create less blockage of shop fronts. Hebden Bridge Business Forum to assist with consultation – **DFle** also offered assistance, particularly with the retailers around St George's Sq.

#### *4d. Business Forum*

**GDri** reported a successful HBBF Social on 25<sup>th</sup> March. Well attended. Plan to hold the next one mid-May – date to be agreed at next HBBF meeting on Weds. Major dependency is someone to give a short presentation (20 mins or so). Any topics of interest / offers of talks to be provided to **GDri**. **DFle** noted the lateness of the email invitation – **GDri** conceded that this was true, although leaflets and Social Media invitations had been sent out in advance. This feedback will be taken to the HBBF board. **SCur** noted that there had been representation from Royd Regeneration at the Social – very interested in linking up with the HBBF to build a parallel / sister organisation for Mytholmroyd.

#### *4e. Visitor Economy (See also agenda item 5)*

**SCur** noted that Nick Shields might remain involved in the Visitor Economy work, although not yet clear on his potential commitment at present.

#### *4f. 2015 Visitor Leaflet*

(see: <http://www.hebdenbridge.co.uk/tourist-info/pdf/Hebden-Bridge-Tourism-Guide-2015.pdf> )

**BDea** presented the finished leaflets – a number printed on matt stock, which looked rather dark – as a consequence 2000 were printed for free on a gloss stock. The print run was funded by three sponsors (Hebden Bridge Mill, The Book Case and the HB Picture House). These are to be invoiced soon. Flyers distributed within HB and to nearby towns.

#### *4g. (See agenda item 4)*

#### *4h. Housing*

<http://mycommunity.org.uk/programme/community-buildings-housing/?a=funding>

Little to report – propose to revisit when **ABib** has returned to health

#### *4i. Park – no representation on park – retain on agenda.*

#### *4j. Low Carbon – awaiting the results of the local election to progress*

#### *5a. T de Y*

Noted that HB has a lack of banners welcoming the TdY to town. **BDea** offered to look into Welcome to Yorkshire banners. **JTim** noted that HRTC was waiting for people to come forward with proposals – none forthcoming.

Event on 19<sup>th</sup> March was heavily promotional (perhaps would have been better much earlier in the cycle), and light on practical details. The TdY will be much smaller than the TdF – rolling roadblock, rather than road closures. There was some suggestion from **JBat** that the roads would be cleared of parked cars.

*5b. Flood Prevention works.* The concern continued regarding notification by Environment Agency of future work in Hebden Bridge.

#### 4. Valley Road

**JTim** expressed the view the appeal against the Calderdale planning decision will not consider the alternatives to the Sainsbury's scheme, as there are specific grounds for the appeal related to limitation of hours of delivery and use of on street loading bay for parking outside these hours.

**BDea** presented a letter supporting the earlier Calderdale planning decision, and it was agreed to use this as the basis of the HBP representation to the Planning Inspectorate, with minor changes – removal of '500 objectors' and 'planning case law' being two of the more significant elements. **BDea** to amend and submit.

**ARae** had held a meeting with Brian Sutcliffe, traffic officer last Thurs. Brian's major issue with the original proposal rested on number of delivery vehicles during the day. The floor square footage has increased during the course of the appeal. It was felt that the on-street delivery bay would cause congestion, as it is likely that on occasion it would be blocked somehow. Additionally, the loss of parking spaces would have either an impact on congestion, or raise a town centre viability issue if people decided against visiting the centre as a result.

**ARae** to circulate brief write-up to HBP.

It was noted that only residents / businesses with a direct impact from the scheme could make representations to be included in the site visit. Without such a visit, it would not be known when the visit was scheduled. **DFle**, given Bridge Mill overlook to the only sensible access to site for delivery vehicles, agreed to raise a request via the proper channels. **BDea** to send information on how to do this to **DFle**. **JBat** also to approach other businesses on Valley Road to do the same.

Letter from Mayor regarding Neighbourhood Plan and Project Funding

([http://mycommunity.org.uk/programme/neighbourhood-planning/?\\_a=funding](http://mycommunity.org.uk/programme/neighbourhood-planning/?_a=funding))

Was discussed under 7 below.

5. Community Economic development Grants. Visitor Economy. £5,000. Deadline May 8th.

([http://mycommunity.org.uk/programme/community-economic-development/?\\_a=funding](http://mycommunity.org.uk/programme/community-economic-development/?_a=funding))

**SCur** noted that Visitor Economy project needs to conduct further stakeholder research. This is costed at £1500. **SCur** to draft submission for the grant, and circulate to and consider with GDri, Nick S and BDea whether the application could be increased for up to 5K.

6. May 11th Public Meeting.

Twin aims: garnering new activists to support HBP priority actions and garnering additional group memberships to represent all the town. Felt that a strong participatory keynote would help galvanise the community. It was agreed that bringing forward to this meeting a discussion of the Neighbourhood and Local plans would kickoff the evening. BDea, JTim, ARae and Hannah to arrange the precise structure of the evening.

DFle offered to contact former chair of Town Manager association who is an excellent speaker. Proposed to consider this for a future public meeting.

#### 7. Relationship with HRTC after May 7<sup>th</sup>

The letter from Mayor (above) was considered and point noted that it was for HRTC to access the funds for help with Neighbourhood planning but that HBP would be involved in the consultation process. JTim also expressed reservations about the HRTC using the new Neighbourhood Development Orders for town centre planning given that the Neighbourhood plan covered all parishes. BDea expressed the view that there was a common town centre and outlying Parishes interest in town centre brown field site development for houses.

ABib has suggested that HBP communicate with HRTC via the Town Clerk, and get involved in the induction process for the new councillors to strengthen relationship between HBP and HRTC. The view was expressed that this should also include Royd Regeneration and Cragg Vale Community Association, as remit should cover all of HX7. **BDea** to pursue with ABib.

#### 8. Administration and Finance

Secretary Report – not presented

Treasurer Report – presented and accepted

#### 9. AOB. None . Meeting closed at 9.00.