

## HEBDEN BRIDGE PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of management board meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 at Innovation Mill, Hebden Bridge.

- 1. Present:** Andrew Bibby (Company Secretary), Cllr Janet Battye (Minutes), Bob Deacon, Susan Quick, Stephen Curry, Dave Nelson, Marc Collett, Lesley MacKay, David Fletcher, Anthony Rae  
**Guests:** Amanda Batty and Chris Goddard (HATs), Nick Shields and Harriet Rodgers (Visitor Economy)
- 2. Apologies:** Polly Webber, Cllr Jonathan Timbers
- 3. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Janet Battye declared an interest as a member of the Shadow Board of the Combined Authority
- 4. Appointment of Chair:** Bob Deacon advised that he was prepared to chair meetings (and would like to do it) but did not feel able to be the “public face” of the Partnership. He was also currently the Treasurer.  
AGREED that Bob Deacon be appointed Chair, with support for the public element of the role, and that a new Treasurer be appointed in January after the end of the financial year.
- 5. Minutes of meeting held on Oct 21<sup>st</sup>:** AGREED
- 6. Matters arising:**

  - **Proposed Federation of Independent Businesses (AB):** Acknowledged that the old Business Association was now largely dormant and there was general support for a new organisation. AB had written to both the Town Council and the Community Association. The Town Council understood the need but would like to see it develop organically rather than taking a leading/organising role in it. The Business Support officer of the Community Association was running Business Breakfasts that seemed to be popular, supported by the Federation for Small Businesses.  
In discussion, it was agreed that a preliminary meeting should be organised, say for February.
  - **Distribution of Action Plans:** About 30 copies were left. Some were taken by members; Stephen Curry agreed to lodge the remainder in the Town Hall. AGREED to investigate having features/regular articles in Hebden Bridge Matters and Valley Life, including a summary of the Vision and the Action Plan.
  - **Tour de France:** AB had written on behalf on the Partnership to Calderdale Council’s Chief Executive suggesting that Calder Holmes Park could be used for eg for camping, but had received no reply. To follow up, possibly with Katie Kinsella attending the Partnership meeting in February. To be discussed (as a “matter arising”) at the next meeting.

- 7. Hebden Bridge Visitor Economy:** Presentation by NS and HR describing a process to establish a new strategy, with 6 key stages:
- i. Set-up: initial scoping
  - ii. Research: desk-top exercises. What are HB's assets ? what has HB got to offer ? some qualitative work through Focus groups
  - iii. Analysis: drawing interim conclusions
  - iv. Branding
  - v. Creation of strategy, and
  - vi. Delivery: plans with targets and measures, identifying funding streams, marketing and PR, evaluation criteria

There was general support for this approach. Agreed that more people now need to be drawn into this process to start to flesh it out. Key people proposed include Katie Kinsella and Mark Thompson from Calderdale Council.

- 8. Self-build housing group:** AM and CG came to report back on progress since their initial presentation in May 2011. Since then there has been some changes in membership, links established between HATS in Hebden Bridge and SLICE of Tod, and they are registered as a CIC. They were now considering having two sites each with 20 homes plus community space including workshop space, with a training plan for self-builders and students. They had had community consultation, and were working with HCA and Confederation of Co-op Housing. A key issue was finding site/s. They were talking with the Council about several possible options.

It was noted that there is a close link between this proposal and the housing proposals in the HB Action Plan. The meeting discussed in outline the possibility of a Community Land Trust for affordable housing, holding the land in perpetuity in a community-owned trust.

AB advised that he had organised a meeting about housing planned to take place shortly with Ian Gray, the Director of Economy and Environment for Calderdale Council.

It was agreed that it would also be useful to have a joint meeting with Tod Pride on this topic (JB to organise)

**9. Other Task Groups:**

- a. **Shared space:** there had been a meeting recently with Ian Gray (which needs to be written up) and the topic pursued with Mary Farrar (CMBC's Regional Policy Officer) about the notion of a "station hub" and with Phil Ratcliffe for the Local Plan. Noted that there is currently consultation on 20mph speed limit (LMcK)
- b. **Markets:** First meeting planned shortly (JB)
- c. **Calder Holmes Park:** AB reported from a recent meeting with Charlie Carr (Park Life cafe). This group continues to meet regularly but does need more help. Dave Nelson offered to be the rep/link for the Partnership.
- d. **Disability group:** this needs to be discussed in the new year.
- e. **Other task groups: Valley Road:** No recent news from developer.

- 10. Neighbourhood Plan:** Item deferred as JT not present

**11. Treasurer's report:** No movement of funds this month.

**12. Arrangements for next open meeting (Jan 13):** Theme for open meeting to be about **community engagement and investment:** Pennine Community Power; Fox and Goose co-op pub; Valley Organics; Community shares issue on housing and possibly inviting Mark Simmonds (who works in co-ops)

**13. Any Other Business:**

- **Space for community groups to meet:** Noted that there is little available that is free/nominal cost except back rooms of local pubs.
- **2014:** besides the Tour de France, this will be the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Innovation Mill.

**14. Dates for diary: Christmas carols in the Town Hall on Dec 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Piano Festival: 11 to 13 April:** tickets on sale from 25 Jan

**Dates of next meetings:** AGREED that we will keep to the same pattern: monthly meetings of the Executive/Board with a general meeting every 3 months. AB to organise the setting of the dates.

Noted that the next two will now be on Mondays Feb and March 3: 7.30pm