

Hebden Bridge Partnership  
Minutes of Management Board, March 2 2015  
Held at HB Town Hall, 7.30pm

Present: Bob Deacon, Andrew Bibby, Lesley Mackay, Cllr Dave Young, Paul Forrest, Stephen Curry, Susan Quick, Thom Bull, Anthony Rae; Giles Dring (representing Business Forum). Apologies: David Fletcher, Dave Nelson, Cllr Jonathan Timbers, Kate Drury; apologies also received from Cllr Janet Battye

1. No declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of Jan 5. Noted that David Fletcher had given apologies. With this amendment, the minutes were passed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising.

a. Anthony Rae, together with Janet Battye, had met the GP practice manager., in relation to the Valley Rd developments. Because confidentiality had been promised, Anthony was unable to brief other board members in detail on the outcome. An extension of the surgery did not appear a current priority.

b. Proposed Hebden Royd Youth Conversation. Dave Young agreed to follow this matter up with the Town Clerk.

4. Review of priority areas and task group activities

A. Access for all. A report had been circulated by Bob Deacon, and Susan Quick had also circulated reports relating to proposed improvements at the station. An application had been made to Northern Rail for the small works budget, and the submission was well received. The lift was in the work programme up to 2018, but was dependent on the result of a feasibility study. Agreed to speak to candidates at the general election, also CMBC councillors including current portfolio holder Scott Benton. Action: **Lesley** to draft letter to be sent by the Secretary.

Other issues related to this priority would be taken up after the conclusion of Jonathan Timbers' mayoral year.

B. Traffic issues.

Crown Street/Albert Street junction: Anthony explained that he was struggling to find out whether a fatal accident report was taking place.

Susan raised the problem of crossing at the Commercial St/New Rd junction  
Andrew proposed prioritising work to enable better pedestrian crossing facilities at the main traffic lights. Dave pointed to the slow progress by CMBC Highways in dealing with works.

It was felt that the 20mph residential initiative was unlikely to impinge on the A646.

Lesley proposed work to 'dress' the entrances to the town and to consider bunting etc to create a sense of busyness as drivers approached the town. It was

suggested that the Rotary Club might be interested. Action: **Anthony** to speak to Jae Campbell.

C. Market relocation. Dave reported on developments. A meeting was being held the next day with CMBC officers. The in-principle decision to move the market had been made. Smaller colourful (temporary) stalls had been proposed. It was proposed to try to hold markets on Thurs (as present), Fri (as Weds), Sat (crafts etc), Sun (farmers). There would be more information on the proposed timetable at the following day's meeting. Action: **Giles** offered to help with retailer consultation.

D. Business Forum. Giles gave a verbal report. There had been a lull after last October, and a certain existential crisis for the group, but it was now agreed that the initiative was worth progressing. Another social event is the next planned event (Mar 25). The Forum is not at this stage looking for hard membership enrolment. The long-term aim is for the group to be sustainable. 130 names are on the distribution list.

E. Visitor Economy strategy. Stephen had circulated a written report, and spoke further to it. It was disappointing, if understandable, that Nick Shields had had to withdraw from the group. The group (acting through UCVR) had also been unsuccessful in a bid for funding to consider the future shape of the TIC service in the upper valley. However, there was a link being developed with Leeds Beckett University. The proposal was to link the visitor economy work with the business forum. The possibility of a web presence was discussed. Bob and Andrew cautioned about the need to collaborate with the existing HebWeb community website.

F. Visitor leaflet. Bob had circulated a written paper. It was agreed to use Lambert Printers. It was agreed that the Partnership would subsidise the leaflet to the extent of £238. Anthony was thanked for his work in obtaining adverts. Anthony said that, for 2016, Town Council support should be sought. Bob expressed the view that from 2016 such a leaflet (or alternative publication) should be the responsibility of the Visitor Economy group working with the Business Forum.

G. Valley Rd. Bob had circulated a written paper. The task group was meeting on March 24. Funding from Locality in relation to Neighbourhood Development Orders might be possible. The SOS meeting had attracted a small public audience, but no striking new ideas.

H. Housing. Andrew had circulated a written paper on the Community Land Trust. The CLT was now incorporated. The first asset transfer request, for land at Walsden for retirement units, was close to being submitted. Funding from Locality from the new Community Buildings fund would be sought.

I. Calder Holmes Park. Dave reported that the Friends of the Park had not met since the Autumn. He was attending representing the Town Council.

J. Low carbon. Pail had circulated a written paper. Anthony proposed waiting until after the election, when the future national and local political leadership was clearer. The big focus should be on solar.

Bob Deacon as chair summed up the discussions. He suggested that the next general Meeting should be used to promote the priorities and attract more support. This was agreed.

#### 5. Other matters

a. Tour de Yorkshire. It was noted that there was a meeting in the Town Hall on 19 March, 6.30pm

b. EA and flood preventing. It was noted that work was commencing on reconstructing a goyt under the Keighley Rd at Nutclough, and in building a holding tank in Carlton St. It was noted that EA staff member Andrew Cohen lived in Hebden Bridge. There was some concern that the EA were not adequately communicating their programme of works to the community. Anthony pointed out that the Hebden Water catchment modeling report was due shortly, perhaps in May.

#### 6. Administration

a. The annual accounts were accepted. **Action: Andrew** to submit.

b. The cash flow forecast from Paul was noted and approved

c. Membership application from the Millpond Community Alliance was approved.

d. Resignation for family reasons of Cllr Kate Drury from Wasdworth PC meant that Kate had also tendered her resignation from the Partnership. Action: **Andrew** to write to Kate thanking her for her contribution, and to the Parish Councils requesting a new representative.

#### 7. AOB

a. Bob drew attention to the new Staying Well scheme commissioned by Calderdale CCG and CMBC, the Hebden Bridge hub of which was being managed by HB Community Association. Applications for projects to overcome the isolation of the over 65s are required by March 27. Details at [www.hebdenbridgetownhall.org.uk](http://www.hebdenbridgetownhall.org.uk).