

Hebden Bridge Partnership

Minutes of Management Board, held on Monday Nov 3rd at Hebden Bridge Town Hall

Present: Bob Deacon, Stephen Curry, Lesley Mackay, Cllr Dave Young, Anthony Rae, Susan Quick. Also present: Andrew Bibby, Giles Dring, Cllr Janet Battye, Paul Forrest.

1. Apologies: Cllr Kate Drury, Charlie Carr

2. Board membership.

Bob Deacon advised the board that Polly Webber was tendering her resignation as a Management Board member, and that Paul Forrest (of Calderdale Community Energy) was offering to join the Board. It was agreed to It was agreed to coopt Paul to the place left vacant by Polly's resignation. He would then stand for election to the position at the next AGM.

The Board expressed their very great thanks to Polly for her contribution to the Partnership, since the very earliest days. Andrew Bibby was instructed to write to Polly with this message.

In the light of some confusion over Board members' current positions, Andrew was instructed to send round a revised list of Board members.

Andrew was instructed to contact Junior Band, to see if they might be interested in taking up the vacant space for a youth organisation representative on the Board.

3. Minutes of September and (short) October Management Board meetings were agreed as a correct record.

Matters arising:

a) Calder Civic Trust. The Board expressed its hopes that the Civic Trust could play a more active role in the future. It was agreed that Andrew would invite Trevor Smith to the next Management Board meeting in December.

It was noted that two planning applications had recently been made (Mayroyd car park, Heptonstall Rd development) which potentially had implications for the Action Plan, and it was agreed that these would be agenda-d in December.

b) Lesley reminded members that the 10 year celebration of Upper Calder Valley Renaissance event would be held on Nov 21st, 1.30pm in HB Town Hall.

c) AGM. Members agreed that the AGM had gone well, with a good attendance.

4. Board officers for 2014-15

The following were agreed:

Chair: Bob Deacon (with informal agreement that in Bob's absence Stephen would deputise)

Treasurer: Bob Deacon but only until the end of the financial year (Jan 2015)

Secretary and Minute Secretary: Andrew Bibby

5. Work programme 2015

a) Traffic and a pedestrian-friendly town. Agreed, this would fall under the responsibility of Anthony and Lesley, and more broadly the Sustainable Transport Group. Agreed that a report would be submitted on progress after 3 months.

b) Accessibility. Agreed, work programme on this would be deferred until Jonathan Timbers was present in December. Noted that the Town Council advisory group has yet to meet.

c) Market. Janet reported that she had arranged a meeting for Nov 11th, 10am-12 noon, in the Town Hall to discuss both potential relocation of mid-week markets and arrangements for other street markets, to be attended by Robert Campbell, CMBC Business Support Officer, and John Walker, CMBC Markets Officer. Agreed Dave Young and Stephen Curry to attend representing the Partnership. Janet has also invited Amy Leader (HBCA) and the licensee of the Crown.

d) Visitor economy. Stephen reported that the Visitor Economy Group was progressing its work and should be in a position to report back in three months. Giles reported that the findings would feed directly into the work of the Business Forum. It was noted that the Tour de France assessment report should be available in December.

Bob advised the Board that he had met with Nick Shields, and that he and Nick were proposing as an interim measure to produce a 2015 visitor leaflet, closely modelled on the 2014 design. The cost would be about £600 for design and printing of 5000 leaflets, for local distribution. Efforts would be made to sell one page of advertising and if needed HRTC would be approached for a small contribution. It was agreed to proceed with this initiative. Bob and Anthony agreed to take responsibility.

e) Valley Rd. Bob and Anthony (for the Partnership), together with Jonathan Timbers (HRTC) and Dave Young (CMBC) had met with the Valley Rd developers Eshton Gregory. The Sainsburys planning application was likely to be appealed. It was agreed that, if the appeal was not made or was unsuccessful, the alternative vision for the whole Valley Rd site needed to be developed further, in conjunction with public engagement and consultation. The Eshton Gregory developers agreed to meet with CMBC (Ian Gray) to discuss this

plan B. It was noted that the Partnership, together with ward councillors, were meeting Ian Gray shortly to prepare for this. It was agreed to discuss this issue further in December.

f) Business Forum. Giles reported on progress. The aim was to build membership through regular meetings. Additional talent on the board would be valuable. Anthony offered to lead a session with Business Forum members on the Neighbourhood Plan, to allow local businesses to input their ideas and concerns.

g) Housing. Andrew reported on the forthcoming CLT public workshops in Hebden Bridge and Todmorden on Nov 15th.

h) Transport. It was agreed that there was a need to ensure that Calderdale proactively pushed the rail bodies for the station car park and lift initiatives, to ensure that these were not forgotten. Anthony and Lesley agreed to take responsibility for this area of the Action Plan implementation. Anthony suggested that the town council should be engaged in discussions on car parking, and for annual reviews of parking to be encouraged. He would write to HRTC on our behalf.

i) Calder Holmes. In Charlie Carr's absence this item was deferred.

j) Low-energy HB. Paul reported on developments with Calderdale Community Energy, which included the appointment of a project officer Sam Saxby. One possibility being considered was solar panels on school buildings. Paul and Anthony to take responsibility for this area of the Action Plan implementation.

6. Town Council

Andrew proposed that the Partnership should offer to meet Town councillors after the May elections, during their induction period, to discuss the work of the Partnership and our relationship with the council. This was agreed.

7. Next General Meeting.

It was agreed that the next General Meeting would be on Feb 2nd, and would feature a presentation on the Neighbourhood Plan. The January 5th meeting would be a Management Board meeting.

8. Finances

Bob's financial report was received and approved.

a) CLT. It was agreed to convert the £300 loan to the CLT into a grant, to match the £300 donation made by Todmorden Pride.

b) It was noted that the Business Forum had yet to request access to the seedcorn grant of up to £500 (to be matched with other funds raised by the Forum)

c) Visitor economy group. Agreed to increase total grant from £200 to £250.

9. Other matters

a) Stephen reminded Board members that the Partnership had a twitter account. Information relevant to Partnership meetings should be sent to him.

b) New members. Andrew reported that Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd Business Forum had applied for membership of the Partnership. The Forum was admitted.

Dates of next meetings;

Mon Dec 1, Mon Jan 5, Mon Feb 2 (GM)

all at 7.30pm, HB Town Hall