

Hebden Bridge Partnership Ltd

Minutes of management board, held on Oct 10th 2016 in Hebden Bridge Town Hall

Present: Bob Deacon (chair), Cllr Dave Young, Anthony Rae, Thom Bull, Paul Forrest, Susan Quick, Andrew Bibby. Apologies: Janet Battye, Nina Smith.

1. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of 12 September were approved as circulated.

3. Matters arising

a. Empty unit, Canal Works. Dave Young reported that there CMBC were looking into this further. Anthony Rae said that there was a need to untangle ownership of the unit.

b. Access initiative. Bob Deacon reported that the steering group had met and would meet again in December. The access audit had begun. Some local businesses, although still only a few, were participating. Susan Quick reported on the Access Forum, which had met, although with only three participants. Anthony Rae undertook to raise the Access Forum at the next Neighbourhood Plan meeting.

c. Flood initiatives. Bob Deacon reported, urging the Partnership to continue to apply pressure, particularly in relation to short-term measures.

The catchment plan was about to be published (Oct 30), and will be reviewed next April. Bob called for greater emphasis on 'traditional' physical flood prevention measures to be taken and to ensure the Hebden Bridge Stakeholder group continued to meet. Anthony Rae expressed concern that little was being done to plan for a flood in the very immediate future. There was a question over access to temporary barriers.

The stakeholder group meeting has been postponed by the EA, purportedly to await further research. The Flood resilience board was now meeting in public, following Partnership pressure.

d. Traffic lights in the centre of town. Andrew Bibby had written to Brian Sutcliffe (CMBC Highways) regarding the lack of a pedestrian crossing on the west (Todmorden) side of these lights. The issue had been noted and referred to the Road Safety officer.

e. Market relocation. Dave Young reported that no responses had been received to the first tender document sent by CMBC. The council was now contacting contractors on its approved list. However the market move would as a consequence be delayed, perhaps until next Spring.

f. Parking. A brief discussion following the discussion the previous meeting took place.

4. AGM

a. It was agreed that the Partnership's AGM would be held at the start of proceedings on Oct 24th, from 7pm to around 7.20pm-7.30pm. Andrew Bibby called on all management board members to play a role in helping ensure the practical arrangements went well.

b. Management board membership. It was agreed that Andrew Bibby would send round another mailing to the Partnership's mailing list, encouraging nominations and drawing attention to the Chair's Report on the HBP web site. Bob Deacon undertook to contact HebWeb and the HB Times.

c. Publicity. Andrew Bibby is arranging for posters to be designed and printed. Anthony Rae undertook to distribute them. An electronic copy to be made for Hebweb.

d. Chair's report. Bob Deacon was thanked for his work in preparing the draft report, which was agreed subject to checking the latest position regarding the station lift.

5. Valley Rd. It was agreed that the proposed Partnership consultation event should be deferred and combined with the Neighbourhood Plan consultation process next year. In the meantime Bob Deacon and Dave Young are continuing discussions with CMBC, particularly in relation to parking provision. Anthony Rae pointed out that publication of CMBC's Local Plan was now postponed for a further year. The Neighbourhood Plan committee had yet to discuss how this affected its own work. Andrew Bibby called for the Neighbourhood Plan to continue with some urgency regardless.

6. Treasurer's and secretary's report

a. Paul Forrest reported that the Partnership's current funds stood at £1316. He and Andrew Bibby were working on an application for £500 from the Ward Forum grant fund. As part of this application, a Safeguarding Policy would be needed. It was agreed to delegate approval of this to the chair and treasurer, with a formal decision by the whole management board next meeting. The application would be based very closely on the Chair's report.

b. The secretary reported the application for membership from Calder Valley CND for Peace and Justice, who were welcomed into membership.

7. AOB

a. Since this was Bob Deacon's last management board meeting as chair, he was warmly thanked for his very significant contribution to the Partnership's work.

b. This meeting also represented Susan Quick's last management board meeting as the delegate for the disabled community, since she had served two full terms. Susan had been involved from the Partnership's very early days, and she was also warmly thanked for her participation and contribution.

