

Summer General Meeting of Hebden Bridge Partnership.

Monday, July 6th 2015, in the Terrace Room, Hebden Bridge Town Hall, 7.30pm.

Minutes,

1. Apologies from Giles Dring, Andrew Bibby, Janet Battye, Paul Forrest, David Fletcher, Diana Monahan.

About 20 in attendance (no attendance list taken)

2. Minutes of last General Meeting (http://www.hbpartnership.org.uk/docs/HBP_2_Feb_2015.pdf) were agreed as correct and all matters arising were on this agenda.

3. DEVELOPING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Hannah Dobson, Hebden Royd Town Council gave an introduction to the work being led by the town and parish councils towards a Neighbourhood Plan for our area: what it means, why it matters and how the consultations will take place. (Power point attached). A group exercise was then undertaken imagining good and bad developments in specific local sites.

It was noted that the NP committee were also commenting on the CMBC 'local Plan' and in particular were concerned that development sites under 0.1 Hectare (e.g Valley Road) were not being considered as contributing to the Local Plan's need for a minimum level of development.

Planning for such small sites could, in principle be directed by a Neighbourhood Development Order.

4. The former Fire Station site.

Bob Deacon, chair of the task group established by the Partnership to explore alternative uses for the 'Sainsbury' site, reported on developments and possible ways forward. The revelation that the site owners are to ask for a judicial review of the Planning Inspectors decision led to discussion about the wisdom of engaging with site owners at this point. The discussion of alternatives for the site was inconclusive although it was recognised that some options (gardens, open space, swimming pool) would not be commercially viable and only a possibility if CMBC were to purchase the site. Some other options (Housing included accessible housing for more elderly, hotel/hostel training centre) might be worth exploring. Removal of car parking continued to create the problem for any alternative development that did not include it. Suggestions for an underground car park to square the circle of need for parking and development were received with scepticism. It was asked whether the surface car park had been commercially rewarding. The Task Force would meet on July 7th and progress the issues.

5. Other active initiatives

a. Proposed market relocation. Cllr Dave Young reported that the results of the survey revealed stall owners and market shoppers were in favour of the move while some shop keepers were not. Meetings to progress are upcoming.

b. Disability access initiative. This is still waiting enough human resources to push the agenda forward. A meeting between Jonathan Timbers, Dave Young, Janet Battye, Susan Quick with a new local group interested in outreach services to people with disabilities is to be held in July

7. Arrangements for AGM (October 12th). To be decided by Secretary.