

HEBDEN BRIDGE PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of meeting held on 27th April 2010

1. **Present:** David Fletcher (Chair), Andrew Bibby (Company Secretary) Cllr Janet Battye (Minutes), Polly Webber, Gerard Liston, Lesley MacKay, Susan Quick, Ian Oates and Sally Naylor (Calder and Colne River Trust), Amy Leader (Business Association), Cllr Robin Dixon (HRTC), Bear (Treesponsibility) and, in attendance:, Katie Kinsella, Mark Humphreys, Kerstin (CMBC), PCs John Spence and David Evans (West Yorks Police), Michael Newton (Town Twinning and Camera Club), Natja Thorbjornsen (Transition Town and Treesponsibility), Louise Harrison (UCVR).
2. **Apologies:** Becky Liddell, Penny Eastwood, Cllr Lesley Jones (HRTC)
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting:** Noted corrections to item about Disability Access to stations: A taxi service is not available for disabled people; Stations have been graded A to F: Hebden Bridge is graded E and therefore does not qualify for full disabled access even by 2020.
4. **Priority projects:**
 - Pennine Horizons (DF)** Noted that the project in Youth House has been changed so that it incorporates the concept of helping people to discover the hills that have helped to change the industrial shape of the country. Calderdale Council have now formally agreed to the Asset Transfer of Youth House on similar terms to the Town Hall, dependent upon the outcome of the funding bid to Heritage Lottery Foundation which has now reached Stage 2 with the bid to be submitted by June and a response by September. They are looking for additional funding to fill the gap between HLF and actual requirements. Designs have been completed for the main exhibition area. The adjacent barbers shop is now empty and is also owned by CMBC.
 - Town Hall (AB):** Annual Report available and distributed in the meeting. Asset Transfer took place on 1st April with a 40-yr lease. This is of national significance and attracting media interest. It may point the way for the future ownership of local government assets. Cosmetic work started to bring the hall into use and available for letting – from mid-May. Project team in place for completing the plans – detailed consultation session being organized for **Sat 22nd May** with a further information day on **Sat 5th June** prior to the planning application being submitted. Funding – ERDF now passed Outline Business Plan and preparation of detailed plan starting; Communitybuilders: feasibility grant of £75,000 completes the funding needed for detailed plans (as above). Noted that the Holland pictures on the stairs have been formally loaned but will be returned to CMBC when major building work underway – hopefully CMBC will be able to repair the painting of HB which is in poor state of repair.

Central St (RD): Disappointingly only one out of 9 owners have formally signed and returned the letter agreeing to the repair work on the road. There are 19 properties and 13 owners. Some have asked for the right to park at the rear of their premises. Discussion about what to do next. AGREED that DF as chair of the Partnership would write to the property owners urging them to agree.

An alternative may be that the Council only repair Hilton St leading up to Central St school.

Market relocation (JB): JB reported that Calderdale have not made progress with securing any funding for this so she was asked by the Markets Working Group to check the views of the Partnership about this development. Members agreed that they do still wish to see this happen. JB will take this back and DF (as Chair) will write to Ian Gray (Director, Economy and Environment, CMBC).

Calder Holmes Park: Lease for Pavilion should now be being finalized by Calderdale Council so that it can reopen at Easter/early summer. Funding bids completed for skateboarders.

There will be a day of Youth Activities on Sat May 22nd.

John Fawcett Centre: GL reported that the kitchen has now been refurbished and the community rooms redecorated. HB playgroup has now relocated into the Centre.

A Festival of Faith and Spirituality is being planned for July.

Application is being made for funding to Lottery Community Spaces with the Calder Food Hub. This has reached Stage 2.

They have had an offer of £138,000 from English Heritage for repairs to the chapel.

Plans are still being developed for using the manse as affordable social housing, probably with Pennine Housing.

Transition Town: Preparations are being made for a launch of this at end May. Events in Holme St and elsewhere.

5. Partnership business:

a. **Update on constitutional changes:** DF thanked AB for his work on this. A Special General Meeting will be needed to formally agree the changes. This relates to the size and composition of the Management Board although all meetings will, in practice, continue to be open. This SGM will be at the next meeting of the Partnership.

b. **Annual Accounts:** These need to be independently examined by 2 members of the Board before they can be adopted by the Board. AGREED that Cllr Robin Dixon and Polly Webber will do this.

c. **Treasurer's report:** Noted that there is £1,400 in the unreserved account and £395 restricted because an invoice is still outstanding from Johnson Press for the Christmas shopping adverts. Report accepted.

- d. Appointment of Treasurer:** Penny Eastwood has agreed to be Treasurer and this was formally AGREED by the Board. WY Accounting Service to be contacted to give Penny advice/support.
- 6. HB Action Plan:** This is now 5 years' old and needs to be revisited. Noted that UCVR are planning a Masterplan review conference at end June. Agreed to set up a small working group to look at the plan to begin to review it in preparation for the conference. New ideas are welcome.
Group to consist of JB, PW, Bear, GL, Sally, Amy, Louise, and DF.
To meet on Tuesday 11th May: 70pm at ATC.
- 7. Reports from other organizations:**
- a. CMBC:** MH reported that British Waterways are planning to resurface the footpath, starting in Sowerby Bridge in July/sept. There will be public consultation first.
Katie Kinsella introduced herself as the new Principal Officer for tourism with the Council. CMBC are launching a new Tourism Board at end of the week.
- b. UCVR:** LH confirmed that there will be a Masterplan review conference at end June and the details are still being finalized. It will be led by John Thompson, the consultants who did the original work.
- c. Police:** Insp Oldham will be changing job shortly and Insp Alan Raw is currently being introduced to the job. Not yet certain where he will be based. Radar gun being purchased for the area, based at Tod Police station.
There have been 2 burglaries in the previous period: one taking keys to steal a car, and an assault on the house occupant.
Pubwatch have reported incidents in the town centre including a nasty assault. Noted that CCTV needs repairing again.
Some discussion about ASBOs and the value of the Early Intervention Panel.
The phone number for the public to ring to contact the NPT is 0845 6060606
- d. Calder River Trust:** reported that they are doing bi-monthly monitoring of invertebrates on the wavy steps to measure pollution levels.

Date of next meeting: Monday 28th June: 7pm: HB Town Hall