

## Hebden Bridge Partnership

Minutes of meeting held on Monday Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 2011 at HB Town Hall, 7pm

Present: David Fletcher, Andrew Bibby, Dongria Kondh, Polly Webber, Robin Dixon, Susan Quick, Amy Leader, Bear, Belinda James, Leslet Mackay, Lesley Jones, Dave Nelson (part), Cllr Janet Battye (part). Also present: Cllr Richard Marshall (part), Jae Campbell (part), Mark Simmonds, Guy Rees, Emma Housman, Fi Godrefy-Fausett. Apologies: Steve Bates, Michael Newton, Rebecca Dearden.

1. Minutes agreed as a correct record. No declarations of interest.

### 2. Matters arising

- a) Andrew explained that the discussion with the Business Association was now proposed for a later meeting
- b) Dongria asked for her presentation on green infrastructure projects to be deferred

### 3. Presentations

a) Ground Floor. Jae Campbell explained that the project was identified for funding cuts in Calderdale's proposed budget, which could cut its current £12000 grant from the council and the secondment of staff. This could result in the end of thirty years of activity, he said. He asked Partnership members to object to the proposed cuts on Calderdale's website by Feb 9<sup>th</sup>.

It was agreed that the Partnership would write formally to the Leader and Chief Executive expressing its concern. Action: Andrew Bibby

b) Mytholmroyd Community Centre. Richard Marshall presented plans of the proposed redevelopment of MCC, to include a new leisure pool, five-a-side football and other community facilities. Funding of £1.5m-£2m would need to be raised. £1m was already available. Richard said that the facilities themselves might be privately run. Some members encouraged the MCC committee to look to follow the existing models of community-run leisure facilities.

### 4. Projects

a) Town Hall. Andrew advised that building work was likely to start in April. This was a very busy time.

b) Calder Holmes. The skate park work had commenced. Unfortunately the site had been subject to the theft of plant, and a phantom graffitist had struck. Groundwork Leeds had been awarded a contract to explore options for the central area of the park

c) Pennine Horizons. The committee was making some changes to the project, with a view to returning to HLF in the summer. The proposed asset transfer of Youth House was not affected.

d) Baptists. Guy advised that he believed the Baptists had received funding for the community garden space and railings

e) Central St. Deferred until after TC elections

- f) Friends of the Station. Going well. Good response to carol singing. Issue of disabled access remained, however.
- g) Transition Town project. Thirty people had attended a recent meeting, which had restructured and refocused. Monthly meetings are taking place. The Local Economy group is working well. The HebVeg vegetable box now goes to 50 people a week. The group is actively seeking land within three miles of HB.
- h) Traffic and A646. Lesley Mackay reported that Calderdale staff were very pressured and it was unlikely that much could be achieved in the short term
- i) HB Self-Build group. Robin reported that this was now incorporated, and was banking with Triodos. 20 homes were planned. Land was being sought.
- j) Town Council asset transfers. Transfer of public toilets was being progressed. The Town Council was engaged in discussions with Calderdale regarding parks and open spaces, Mytholmroyd library and the market. Banksfield allotments were potentially to be transferred, although the land was identified as potential development land
- k) Picture House. A consortium of local groups, including the Town Council, Community Association, Ground Floor and Little Theatre, as well as the Partnership was at an early stage in developing an asset transfer proposal. Capital works of perhaps £400,000 might be needed. The profitability of the cinema looked promising.

#### 5. Arts round up

- a) HBAF. Dave advised that the launch of the Arts Festival programme would be on May 8<sup>th</sup>. The festival would begin on June 25<sup>th</sup>.
- b) Wainsgate Chapel. Dave also reported that English Heritage had made a grant of £65000 to the Historic Chapels Trust, to improve the chapel's appearance. Funding was being sought for work to repair the organ. Painting sessions were planned, and volunteers would be required. [www.wainsgate.co.uk](http://www.wainsgate.co.uk)
- c) The HX7 jazz club had just celebrated its first birthday

#### 6. Partnership business

- a) Dates of meetings of the Partnership were agreed as follows:  
Monday March 14<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday May 10<sup>th</sup>, Monday June 20<sup>th</sup>, Mon Sep 5<sup>th</sup>.  
An extra August meeting might be arranged.  
The AGM was fixed for Mon Oct 10<sup>th</sup>.
- b) Chair. Andrew reported that one person, Robin Dixon, had identified themselves as willing to take over the chair from David Fletcher. Robin was unanimously elected. It was agreed that the exact date of the handover would be agreed between David and Robin.
- c) Secretary. Andrew reported that one person had contacted him, requesting more information about the Secretary's role
- d) Dongria gave the Treasurer's report and presented draft accounts for the year
- e) Funds left from 2009 Christmas promotion. It was noted that, because of the apparent non-issuing of an invoice, the sum of £396 remained in the accounts from the 2009 Christmas grant from Calderdale. Andrew agreed to check with

Calderdale that the funds did not need to be returned. Two proposals, for support for the Town Crier event in August and for a Local Economy conference, were made for this fund. It was agreed to (a) ask the Local Economy conference to investigate whether funding could be obtained from Calderdale's social enterprise fund and (b) to ask the two sponsors to talk together before the Partnership's March meeting, to see if they could present a unified proposal.

#### 7. Town Action Plan.

It was agreed that Janet, David and Polly would meet with Emma, with a view to progressing this after the May elections.

#### 8. Officer reports

a) Calderdale. Fi reminded members of the localism public meeting, in HB Town Hall on Feb 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

b) Emma reported that the Dodd Naze consultation over proposed Sandy Gate allotments had taken place. The response had been positive.

Emma also advised that work was being undertaken to improve the Xmas lights for 2011.

The footbridge between Pitt St and Riverside playground was shortly to be painted, using the Community Payback scheme

The annual Spring Clean was fixed for 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> April.

#### 9. AOB

a) Lesley M raised the need to ensure that the UCVR noticeboard in New Road was kept up to date. It was agreed to ask the Town Council to consider taking on this role.