

Hebden Bridge Partnership Ltd  
Minutes of meeting held on Tues 10<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at HB Town Hall

Present: Robin Dixon (chair), Andrew Bibby, David Fletcher, Belinda Jones, Amy Leader, Janet Battye, Susan Quick, Lesley Mackay, Sally Naylor, Bear.

Also present: Mark Humphreys (CMBC), Pete Hill (ATC), Judith Patrick (Nat Trust).

Apologies: Dongria Kondh, Dave Nelson, Polly Webber, Guy (food hub), Dorothy Sutcliffe

1. Minutes of meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> approved as circulated

2. Matters arising.

a) LDF. It was not clear whether the proposed meeting had taken place. HRTC had put in a submission

3. Presentation: Hardcastle Craggs

Judith introduced herself and her work. The NT had a strategy for the property for the next ten years, with detailed objectives for the next three years. Gibson Mill (where visitor numbers were declining) would be subject shortly to an 'experience design' review. Pennine Horizons were interested in a potential collaboration.

Among other issues raised were:

- whether electric cycle charging could be available
- whether cycles and horse riders could be given rights to use the track to Gibson Mill
- the possibility of creating a new footpath to complete the 'missing gap' in the riverside walk from HB. (The LDF was believed to have identified the walking route to the Craggs as a priority)
- bringing back the sculpture trail
- opening the toilets at Gibson Mill later
- pressurising Calderdale to progress the application for the now-closed footpath up Cherry Tree Clough (Rowshaw Clough), Walshaw to be made definitive. It was agreed to invite a representative of Calderdale Rights of Way team to a future meeting.

4. Presentation: water turbines

Pete Hill gave a brief introduction to the basic operation of micro-hydro schemes. He said that 3-4 applications for turbines were currently being progressed locally, including Bridge Mill (David F) and Dog Bottom, near Lee Mill (Bear and BEAT).

About 40 very small projects were also being considered by landowners, who would be unlikely to use MCS installers and the feed-in tariff scheme.

David commented on the delays imposed by the EA on his application.

Sally mentioned that the Calder is a recovering salmon river, and weirs are the main barriers to the fish reaching the upper river.

Pete mentioned that Calderdale owned weirs at Copley and Cromwell Bottom, and was exploring the introduction of turbines there.

## 5. Projects and initiatives

a) Skate Park. Belinda reported on the fact that this was now open. The Partnership agreed to minute its thanks to Lesley Jones for her work. The grand Festival for Youth would be on 21<sup>st</sup> May.

The contractors were also congratulated for their work

b) Town Hall. Andrew reported on progress and gave out copies of the first newsletter. The contractors were now several weeks into the build, and the demolition work was almost complete.

Members asked Andrew to ensure that photos were taken regularly.

## c) Pennine Horizons

David reported that the HLF application would be made by June 1<sup>st</sup>, with the decision to be heard in Sep. The project was focusing now on mobile exhibitions and e-trails, two of which were available (from the Book Case, and downloadable from the website). About 4 new e-trails would be produced each year.

The proposed learning centre would now be relocated at Birchcliffe. This meant that the Youth House asset transfer would not progress. Members were invited by Janet to consider whether other community uses for this building could be identified.

d) Transition towns. Bear reported briefly on developments. The next general meeting was on 16 May

e) Picture House asset transfer. Andrew reported briefly that the project was awaiting the views of the newly elected HRTC councillors.

f) Electric cars. Lesley outlined the scheme for electric cars and electric bikes to be available in HB. The Partnership gave its full support for this initiative, which was being coordinated by the Sustainable Transport Group with HourCar, the ATC and CycleRecycle. Electric cycle charging facilities would be available at several venues, including the Town Hall, but more were needed for both cars and cycles. Andy Geale, CMBC cycling officer, had been met

## 6. Events

Amy mentioned the Rag Market, to be held on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Masonic Hall, organised by the newly-founded HB Womens Institute

## 7. Officer report

a) Mark reported on developments with the Market St shops. A joint HLF bid was envisaged for the marina and canal, also including Pennine Prospects.

b) No report had been received from HRTC

## 8. Partnership

Robin asked for the Self-Build Group to be invited to the next meeting.

He also suggested that the next meeting considered ways to promote and market the work of the Partnership, building towards the Oct AGM. Amy offered to contribute to the writing of the marketing strategy

**Next meeting: Mon June 20<sup>th</sup>, 7pm**