

HEBDEN BRIDGE PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 26th October 2009 in the Committee room,
The Council Offices, Hebden Bridge

1. **Present:** Cllr Janet Battye, Andrew Bibby, Sally Coombs, Penny Eastwood, David Fletcher, Polly Webber, Guests: PCSO Steve Bates, Jason Boom (HRTC), Chris Evans (CMBC), Cllr Robin Dixon,.
2. **Apologies:** Lesley McKay, Amy Leader and Duncan McKie (HB Business Association), Cllrs Lesley Jones and Susan Press (HRTC), Bear, Louise Harrison (UCVR), Gerard Liston
3. **Election of Officers for coming year:**
 - Chair:** David Fletcher (nominated: Jason Boom, seconded Cllr Janet Battye)
 - Deputy Chair:** Polly Webber (Jason Boom/David Fletcher)
 - Secretary:** Andrew Bibby (David Fletcher/Polly Webber)
 - Treasurer:** Andrew Bibby (ditto)
 - Minute secretary:** Cllr Janet Battye (David Fletcher/Polly Webber)

Noted that Andrew Bibby agreed to continue as Treasurer in the short-term but a replacement should be found as a matter of urgency.

4. **Minutes of last meeting** (August 18th) agreed as a correct record.
5. **Hebden Bridge 500:** Cllr Robin Dixon presented the plans of the Working Group of the Town Council to celebrate 500 years of the packhorse bridge. They are collating a programme for this which was circulated and is available through the Town Council. The intention is to reduce duplication and co-ordinate events, with a core civic event on the weekend of June 20/21st. A communication and marketing strategy is being developed by Rachel Dearden, including a logo.
6. **Issues raised by Board members:**
 - 6a. **Funding to support Christmas local shopping:** Cllr Janet Battye presented proposals drafted by the Business Association to use a sum of £5,000 provided by Calderdale Council's Economic Taskforce. This was broadly supported with the key issue raised of trying to include not only local shops but also local goods and food (PW has a list of these). JB to pass these comments on and ensure that the money is drawn down (through the Partnership).
 - 6b. **Low Carbon Community Challenge:** Polly Webber is co-ordinating an application being made by UCVR for the second phase of this government grant to be spent on capital projects. Possible ideas include insulating hard-to-treat houses.
7. **Hebden Bridge constitutional review:** In the absence of key members of this group, it was AGREED to defer this to the next meeting but that a written report should be presented to enable a detailed discussion to take place.

8. Progress with UCVR Priority and other projects:

8i. Market: JB reported that this had been discussed at a recent meeting of Calderdale Council's Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel. It is being put forward for funding to Yorkshire Forward but no reply as yet;

8ii. Central St: JB also reported that she has discussed with Calderdale's Leader the fact that frontagers appear to prefer to have a charge put on their property: he would accept this but the issue of whether interest would be payable needs to be resolved.

8iii. Calder Holmes Park: The second stage of the bid for funding is being prepared with assistance from the Town Council. Noted that youngsters have themselves raised £25,000 (well done !). Some work is about to be done to improve the Memorial Garden: questions asked as to whether there is scope for Incredible Edible to get involved and the opportunity (later ?) to tidy up the canalside area.

There seems to be a delay in the lease being completed for the Pavilion etc: JB will chase this up with CMBC.

8iv. Town Hall: Recent successful AGM and new Board of Trustees. Still awaiting decision from CMBC on Asset Transfer. Architects appointed (Bauman Lyons from Leeds) and preparatory work beginning for funding applications to Communitybuilders and ERDF.

8v. Ecomuseum/inheritance project: Similarly decision being awaited on Asset Transfer. Funding application being prepared to Heritage Lottery.

Other report: Hope Baptist church: Andrew reported that Gerard had advised him that development work was beginning with removal of asbestos and new boiler installed, kitchen to be refurbished and roof and guttering fixed. A longterm Business Plan is being prepared.

9. Officers reports:

9a. Calderdale MBC (Chris Evans) reported on a couple of tourism events and forthcoming tourism publicity;

9b. Jason Booms (HRTC) Entrance to the Picture House is currently being repainted, funded by HRTC; and further attempts to bring the empty shops along Market St back into use.

9c. Allotments meeting (HRTC): One Calderdale site (Sandy Gate) is currently being explored and at Mytholm Meadows. Some real progress now being made.

9c. Community Policing: PCSO Steve Bates reported on reported crime during October including thefts of Land Rover Discovery vehicles. He confirmed that people should ring 999 in emergency and otherwise 0845 6060606.

9d. Ward meeting: The next Calderdale ward meeting is on **Tuesday 3rd November: 6.30 for 7pm at the Little Theatre.**

10. Correspondence: AB reported:

- **UCVR website** is being revitalised – see note from Louise Harrison - and a local contact is needed for this;
- **Study tour to Settle community hydro project:** Agreed that AB and DF would represent HBP;
- **Invitation to Ian Gray, new Director of Economy and Environment (CMBC):** Agreed that he will attend the next meeting of this Partnership;
- **LEADER project newsletter:** circulated for information.

11. Financial report: There has been no activity with the funds over this last period.

12. Dates of next meetings: Next meeting already set for **Tuesday 15th December: 7pm in the Committee room, HB Council Offices.**
DF and AB will propose dates for 2010 – either a Monday or Tuesday.