

## HEBDEN BRIDGE & MYTHOLMROYD TOWN DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Zoom Meeting

### MINUTES

**Present:** Cllr Sarah Courtney (Chair), Cllr Dave Young, Cllr Carol Stow, Anthony Rae, Geoff Wood, Susan Slater, Roger Benn (Rotary).

**In Attendance:** Cllr Scullion, Zohrah Zancudi, Steven Lee, Kate McNicholas, Sian Rogers, Bobsie Robinson, Jae Campbell, Jo Arnold, Debbie Milner and Christina Merriman (Environment Agency), Sandra Robertshaw (Minutes).

**Apologies:** Cllr Scott Patient, Cllr Susan Press, Alison Bartram, Neil Fearnley, Cllr Val Stevens, Cllr Tony Hodgins, Christine Bampton-Smith, Stephanie Harrison, Edwin Baker, Graham Mynott.

		ACTION
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	
	All welcomed to the meeting and introductions made. Noted apologies as listed above. Welcome extended to Jo Arnold, Debbie Milner and Christian Merriman from the Environment Agency and Bobsie Robinson, Cultural Manager for CMBC.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Board Meeting Dates:</b> details circulated with agenda. All to check and confirm okay and calendar appointments will be circulated.</li> <li>• <b>Master Plan Briefing &amp; Progress Update:</b> meeting held with Corporate Projects Team, some minor suggestions have been made to the brief, in respect of meeting RIBA requirements in particular RIBA2. Once at this stage we would be in a good position for future funding. SiR to amend and redistribute to the Board. Some suggestions received for potential organisations. Board Members requested to provide details of any organisations they feel could be included in quotes. Noted £26k left in the budget for this Board, this should be sufficient funding to progress to RIBA2 status. SiR suggested a small Task &amp; Finish Group, expected timeline to complete would be 12 months. Agreed SiR/JC to email the Board asking for any interest.</li> <li>• <b>Meeting Attendance:</b> Cllr Stow commented that Jason Boom, didn't receive any paperwork or contact. JC to check is on circulation list.</li> <li>• <b>Public Toilets:</b> Cllr Stow thanked ZZ for progressing and concluding the costing issue for the mobile loo mentioned at the last meeting. Cllr Stow also raised the issue of access to public toilets for disabled visitors. ZZ confirmed that she had progress this item since the last meeting. Public Health Team are developing an age friendly strategy for the borough, and ZZ has raised the issue of access and concerns expressed and requested that this item is added for consideration, to help contribute to towns being more accessible. Public Health have agreed to include. Although this isn't an overnight solution, it is now part of wider planning for Calderdale, with funding through changing places as well. Noted key contact is Ken Barnsley (Acting Interim Public Health Consultant).</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ALL</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SiR ALL</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SiR/JC</b></p>

		<b>ACTION</b>
	<p>GW confirmed that there is a disabled toilet in Mytholmroyd, located within the Best Practice Training Building. However, noted that this access is going to stop as the building has recently been sold and the remaining café will be closing.</p> <p>SS confirmed there is a disabled toilet within the Mytholmroyd Community Centre. The Car Park is due to be resurfaced in due course, the driveway in front of the centre has been tarmacked making access a lot better. New drains have also been inserted. The Centre is open from 7am until 9-10pm, with access at weekends being slightly different. Agreed we need to publicise access and signpost. SL will look to publicise along with other work being done. SiR, Welcome Back Fund might be able to help with funding for signage. JC commented that there are also Ward Forum funds that are underspent for Mytholmroyd.</p>	<b>SL</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Declaration of Interests</b>	
	None.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>A Boards, CIP and Parking Review - Updates</b>	
	<p><b><u>A Boards</u></b></p> <p>A Boards Policy Report approved at Cabinet last night, it had been called in previously by Adults Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet were asked to revisit. Approval given to progress to a consultation exercise. At this point we can also look again at the original 1.8 measurement and replace with something more suitable following the consultation exercise.</p> <p>CLlr Stow confirmed that the Disability Access Forums are very clear about what they want, and won't be changing their opinion, its disappointing that a further consultation is required. CLlr Courtney clarified that consultation also needs to take place with local businesses as they don't appear to have been included previously. Noted that there are several proposals and options given in the report. We do need to be mindful of regeneration and business needs as well.</p> <p>SL confirmed that approval of the report was stipulated with a time limit for the consultation. Officers have been instructed to have the consultation and a trial of the option being proposed both completed within a six-month period so that we can report back to Cabinet on the outcome. There are a total of five options to be considered: no policy, limited width policy, ability to introduce licences (and therefore to completely control where A Boards go), suggestion that we could introduce a Town Centre ban similar to the one on the city walls in York, also a suggestion of an ultimate ban across Calderdale as a whole.</p> <p><b><u>CIP</u></b></p> <p>Currently in discussion with EA about the flood scheme because we want to ensure that CIP proposals suit proposals for the flood scheme. Questions about the overall programme for the flood scheme which has impacted on the CIP. We are shortly about to start work on Heptsonstall Junction by widening the footway outside The Fox and Goose, due to start in Spring. We are also in conversation with local contactors about an early start on the replacing of the New Road Footbridge built on existing line, expect to have a project in place to replace that in the next 6 months.</p>	

		ACTION
	<p>Further consultations being carried out on some of the TRO's that align with the CIP proposal itself. Stubbings Home Car Parking area has been impacted, can't do anything about Burnley Road parking until we have taken this to the Board.</p> <p>AR stated that the document has some contradictions, particularly around the carbon emissions impact whilst at the same time stating that changes will ensure more visitors by car. In March WYCA will be looking at a methodology to assess the carbon impact of these CIPs, waiting to see what that will say, it should demonstrate the consequences. Since elements of the scheme are going to be delayed by the time we get to them it is likely that the CIPs may be scrapped.</p> <p>GW asked if there is an implementation plan for New Road Footbridge? Noted that installation of the Bus Stop has been delayed due to the work required on the footbridge, would there be a coordination meeting with Local Town Councils to enable understanding of the deadlines and what is happening so this can be publicised? SL confirmed he had begun early dialogue with contractors so implementation will still take some time but will ensure stakeholders are informed.</p> <p>Cllr Stow queried the fact that Stubbings Home Car Park is unavailable due to EA works, do we have an idea of timescales for this? Also queried what data has been used claiming that there will be more visitors arriving by car?? The increase in cars/visitors could have a horrendous impact on the town if there is only short-term car parking, as well as the impact on carbon emissions for local residents.</p> <p>SL stated when we talked about parking charges and decreasing amount of parking the response is that we won't do this because Hebden Bridge is a tourist town and visitors need access, and by reducing parking and increasing parking charges we are preventing access, this is part of the basis for the statements made.</p> <p><b><u>Parking Review</u></b></p> <p>ITT is currently being published so we can engage in the next part of the Parking Strategy that will look at the comments just made. On the equality point raised earlier by AR, the assumptions being made at present by the number of vehicles that go through and the impact on air quality don't take into account any of the vehicles changing to electric or hydrogen technology that buses will use.</p> <p>CM (EA) responded and confirmed in terms of Stubbings Road Car Park, EA are working closely with CMBC, works have recommenced following a short pause this week. Repairing dilapidated wall, to enable us to access the site later on and will enable CMBC to turn the site into a car park. At the moment, work will be ongoing until June, then proposal is to commence the canal work later on in the summer, proposing to submit a planning application in the spring, no exact timescales, need to defer to project team. On completion of canal work will hand back site to CMBC.</p> <p>AR asked if this meant that the Vale Centre would be available earlier? CM confirmed they do have a small site there to repair wall and deliver overflow, it was considered as a possible compound but ultimately was not suitable. Not looking to utilise this as a long-term compound looking at other areas.</p>	

		<b>ACTION</b>
	<p>In respect of the car parking review beginning again, does this pick up from the review that got halfway through in 2018/2019? If the Vale Centre Scheme proceeds earlier, say 2022, that would mean an expansion of the parking available in Hebden Bridge by about 100 spaces. This is a considerable increase, how can this be consistent with policy including the Mayor's policy, which talks about reduction in carbon emissions. SL confirmed there is a counterbalance looking at existing parking on Burnley Road adjacent to the station which would reduce the figures overall, all part of a netting off process.</p>	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Flood Alleviation Scheme Engagement Plan</b>	
	<p>Jo Arnold, Debbie Milner and Christina Merriman (Environment Agency) introduced. Noted FAS presentation given to provide context, and the following points were raised/discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GW welcomed the presentation and hoped that lessons have been learned from Mytholmroyd, who had been used as a pilot scheme. How long term will the Hub be? We need to retain knowledge and expertise in the Valley so that people moving here and starting businesses etc, will have somewhere to go to get educated and learn what we have all been through. JA (EA) responded and confirmed that the legacy had been discussed and as preparation work for the recent Mytholmroyd Scheme opening, a lot of historical information about flooding and photographs had been used on display boards, and these can be reused. It is really important to document the work being done here, Brighthouse consultation coming up in March, doing same thing, using same materials, history of the scheme etc to use and learn from.</li> <li>• JA confirmed that information will be shared with the Stakeholder Engagement Group, in respect of timelines, and confirmed not many changes since before Christmas.</li> <li>• Cllr Stow asked for reassurance that EA are talking to CMBC Cultural Manager, as it's possible that Calderdale's Year of Culture in 2024 could be impacted by work that EA are undertaking in the centre of Hebden Bridge. Agreed SiR to facilitate contact between EA and Bobsie Robins (Cultural Manager).</li> </ul>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Cultural Strategy and Year of Culture</b>	
	<p>Bobsie Robinson (Cultural Manager, CMBC) introduced. Noted document circulated with the agenda and BR provided a verbal update. The following points were noted/discussed:</p> <p>Bobsie Robinson (Cultural Manager, CMBC) introduced. Noted document circulated with the agenda and provided a verbal update to the Board. The following points were noted/discussed:</p> <p>In terms of background to the document, we undertook consultation in July 2021. A first draft of the strategy was submitted to Cabinet in September. Cabinet requested the team to go back out for further consultation, in particular to ensure that the voices of local community groups and disability forums was evidenced to help inform the strategy.</p>	

		ACTION
	<p>Worked closely with the creative sector, Calderdale Creates (network organisation). The vision then came out of this, where we want to get to, five priority areas: living a larger creative life and capturing health and wellbeing, creative citizens and supporting community organisations, seeking new talents, cultural education, future talents. Resilient valley, economic resilience, our place, that new talent that is emerging and how we support that. Environmental factors, trying to capture spirit of what we have discovered in terms of consultation from a range of partners, there is a wealth of talent and expertise across the borough, a range of creativity flow. Distinctively Calderdale, this is us as a place and borough, links to what we want to share and displace into 2024 and Year of Culture. Thriving cultural theme, recovering, growth, talent, enterprise. The strategy provides a framework to galvanise action, going forward, it's a strong rich heritage that we have here.</p> <p><b>Next Steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work on strategy will be circulated, and a summary document will be prepared for public consumption.</li> <li>• Looking at a Capacity Building Programme to support the sector, areas around fund raising, procurement and tendering, attracting inward investment into Calderdale. Main events and festivals to promote.</li> <li>• For organisations in the area we will be asking what capacity and support do you need from us, so that they can play a part bringing this story forward.</li> <li>• Work won't stop in 2024, we will be showcasing that year but there will be a legacy from that.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr C asked SiR to facilitate contact between BR and Graham Mynott at HBCA</p> <p>What other marginalised communities are the team engaging with? BR confirmed working closely with SiR and her team and have identified groups from this work. Consultation sessions have been held which will be a key thread and ensuring voices are heard. BR confirmed in the document circulated, at the back, there includes a list of groups that have been consulted with. Also actively utilises the Libraries Network as well.</p> <p>JA (EA) confirmed unaware of Year of Culture. Similar challenges around schemes, will be useful to get together as potentially a lot of crossover.</p> <p>SiR commented about some of the work done around post flood 2015, some interesting work done then with the community about flood recovery and also about using arts and culture to engage communities about the experience. Important about recovery and impact of flooding. Also reached people who may not otherwise be involved in arts and culture. Good thing to explore regarding works in Hebden Bridge, some good spin offs. Would like to do some flood resilience, engaging people and using different ways. How do they make their properties and businesses resilient.</p> <p>JA (EA) is aware that Calderdale Council have funded an artist (via grant) to look at all the NFM work being done around the flooding. With regard to resilience, CM mentioned earlier about the Flood Mobile, we are having it for two days in Calderdale, this is something that we have in conjunction with Mary Queen of Floods, big mobile vehicle, has lots of PFR examples in, taking it to towns where we are building schemes.</p> <p>Cllr C noted some effective use of hoarding/barriers, which can be utilised for messages and pictures to promote year of culture. GW stated lots of cities have strategies for that, ie Cultural Hoarding Strategy by commissioned artists. SiR confirmed HBAF have commissioned graffiti artists for hoardings.</p>	

		<b>ACTION</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Forward Plan</b>	
	All to think about anything to add for future forward planning.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
	JC mentioned the Safety of Women at Night Campaign, funding through Safe Streets Fund to Calder Holmes Park, tight deadline £10k for each park to improve look and feel. Any ideas, for safety and security in the park, then please email JC in next couple of days. Noted that appropriate lighting can be an issue, although funding will only stretch to something low fi (cats eyes, reflective blocks etc). GW expressed caution around this issue, as we could potentially end up illuminate potential victims and hide perpetrators. SiR asked if we could match with the Welcome Back Fund.	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	
	6.00-8.00pm on Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2022.	