

HRDB Actions – 15th June 2021

Apologies: Sian R, Roger B, Steven Lee, Jae Campbell, Councillor Scullion

Actions:

1. No matters arising
2. Infrastructure Update:
 - D Benn's team would be enforcing the policy
 - Highways want to try the policy in HB and see the real-life implications
 - Discussion: disabled groups are clear that they don't want A boards anywhere in Calderdale and so it is preferable that a blanket ban should be brought in asap. It is not entirely clear who the policy is aiming at, the objectives and the proposed outcomes and it appears to have considerable resource implications around enforcement. Currently the way the policy stands with measurements around what is allowable it would make it very difficult to enforce.

There was a question around what businesses would be able to do instead within the conservation area to advertise their businesses. It was noted that a discussion had already taken place around the possibility of using hanging signs and this could actually become a feature of Hebden Royd centres adding to the aesthetic look of the towns, in addition to solving the A board issue. It was thought that it would also be good to explore potential incentives for businesses too.

A point was also made about the general issue that it would need to be considered how it would be enforced across Calderdale as whilst there might be support for this in Hebden Bridge and the Upper Valley, in some locations it could be controversial and seen as 'anti-business,' and this is also off the back of lots of businesses in the process of recovering from several lock downs. **There was a strong feeling in the group that action on this needs to be taken asap and before the next meeting.**

Actions:

- **Mary F agreed to take the issues around the policy to Steven Lee; Mary will also go back to relevant team to ask about hanging signs**
 - **Sarah C will have a chat with Councillor J Lynne and Councillor Scullion with their joint portfolios. Mary F agrees it would be good to have a trial in Heb Royd, she will talk to colleagues from Bradford.**
3. Parking review 2019:
 - Current review happening around car parking strategy. Mary F is going to take two discreet areas and do a deeper dive into the parking strategy, is considering HB and Brighouse. Currently developing a parking policy which will be taken to Cabinet in the autumn.
 - Parking strategy will be wider than just parking, also considering environmental issues, economic status and development. It was agreed that parking strategies need to be regularly reviewed. It was recommended that the review should be broad and include

residential and visitor parking. It was also encouraged that the Town Council to have a say on this issue.

Vision from Mary – to push traffic to out of town car parks and pedestrianize some of HB including the pavement widening on Crown St. Carol S – challenge of Airbnb and visitors taking residents parking spaces and requested if this issue could be looked at in the strategy. Geoff – would be useful to put in the alternative parking before taking away the current parking spaces. Rob F – general acceptance from the Town Council around pedestrianisation but parking needs to be considered and resolved alongside plans for pedestrianisation. Changes needs to be done in proper partnership, community to be kept informed and involved in the decision making around this. Mary F: challenge with land available for offsite parking. Dave Y – parking scheme needs to be reviewed as there are different terms for resident parking in different parts of HB. Sarah C – need to take the Neighbourhood Plan area when considering the overall parking strategy. Draft strategy will be developed by September.

Action: Mary F – will ask the question around the current parking around charges and different experiences of residents.

4. ERDF

- Karen H: Secured ERDF and matched with Public Health. Team of 8 officers and coordinators, one officer per town. Reducing Covid transmission and supporting businesses around online and real-life sales. £20k per town can be used for advertising and online provision, green spaces and open spaces or whatever the town needs. **Diana will present at the next board.** Officers will be working with Town Boards around process and representation.

5. HR Resilience & Recovery

- Covid-19. Stage 4 relaxation has been delayed. Latest figures have significantly increased with the delta variant. 17-24 years old has the highest transmission rate. Vaccination programme going really well, and now the Council is developing an inclusive recovery plan, currently chaired by Councillor Swift but will be moving to a private sector chair.
- HR Recovery Plan: Trying to inject energy and hope into business and community in Hebden Royd. Wants to make sure everyone is included and not forgotten. Reached out to community groups, sporting groups and businesses. 30 members are there as contacts to be drawn in as we see fit but have a core group of 6 that make things happen. Group sees themselves as facilitators and enablers

What has been done?

- Set up a website with a calendar to talk about what is planned displayed to promote activities but also to give hope
- Set up two launch projects to promote what is happening in Hebden Royd.
- Have reached out to all schools (including Woodbank and Calder High) 'our vibrant valley' with postcards includes the hilltop parishes.
- Have asked children to interpret what makes our valley a vibrant and exciting place to live and these will be exhibited in HR Town Hall.

- HB radio has been promoting in all local media and beyond. Exhibition will be moved to the Mytholmroyd.
- Light up the Valley – at Christmas – interesting and exciting events. Promoting the valley as a place to visit. Wants to work with others, community groups etc. for this event.

6. Working Party

- Brief for consultant is finished so Karen recommends this is taken away and considered by the sub-group.
Action: send comments on the brief to Sarah C and she will feed into sub-group.

7. Toilets in Mytholmroyd: 6 businesses are in scheme. Station building will have a toilet. Reviewing and revisiting the toilet scheme. Financial incentive might need to consider.

8. Valley of Culture: Groups of towns can now bid. Zohrar informed that 2024 will be a year of culture for Calderdale as 50 years old so could be used as a catapult, energising the cultural offer that we have in this area. The group agreed it would be better to get behind these plans.