

Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd Development Board

Minutes of the meeting held 5th September 2023

Meeting held Hebden Bridge Town Hall

Board Members Attending

Councillor J Fenton-Glynn

Councillor Sarah Courtney

Councillor Kate Kimber

Councillor Keith Butterick

Graham Mynott

Jason Boom

Roger Benn

Sue Slater

Dr Stow

Trudi Deakin

Others In attendance

Rob Shipway

Jae Campbell

Darren Thomas

Zakariya Ali

Apologies

Councillor Scott Patient

Councillor Nikki Harvey

Councillor Richard Needham

Councillor Bampton Smith

Stephne Harrison

Geoff Wood

Geoff Matthews

Valerie Stevens

Alison Bartram

Adrian Gill

1. Welcome.

The Chair declared the meeting quorate and welcomed new Board members to the Board.

The meeting was primarily an informal opportunity to meet new Board members and discuss the role of the Board.

The Board agreed that further expansion of Board membership would be welcome particularly in areas which required expertise such as health and wellbeing and environment.

Action: RS to review Board details in liaison with Councillor Courtney.

Introducing the role of the Board, the Chair noted the importance of working together to promote Hebden Bridge and support improvements to the town. It was important that we have a clear focus and to this end the Board was leading on the development of a Vision for the town. This would identify opportunities for the town and provide a strategic overview to support investment and funding bids. He noted the role of the masterplan in Mytholmroyd and the Local Plan as adding further strategic context to future delivery.

The success of this work lay in ensuring we secured the support of local stakeholders, and they were able to influence content. This might be through direct engagement, surveys, workshops – a variety of methods to maximise engagement.

2. Vision update

Providing context for new Board members, RS noted that the need for a strategic vision for the town had long been overview and discussed by the Board in 2020. The need for a vision arose out of a lack of up-to-date data to support potential future bids and other spend and investment priorities.

Board stressed the need for any plan for Hebden Bridge to be mindful of its impact on neighbouring towns, parishes, and villages. It is important the vision complements other strategic documents such as the Mytholmroyd masterplan.

Also stressed the need to end the process with a portfolio of project ideas which come from local stakeholders.

The Board asked if parking would be addressed by the plan. RS reported that the plan would be limited to smaller interventions but noted the plans for a parking strategy for Calderdale towns.

Action: RS to bring a report on the parking strategy to the next meeting of the Board.

Regarding the business support element RB on behalf of the Business Forum offered the services of the Forum to support with the survey. RS agreed to attend a meeting of the Forum and to meet with RB to move this forward.

GM similarly offered the support of the Hebden Bridge Community Association to deliver a survey to the sector. RS agreed to join a meeting of the sector to explain the purpose of the survey.

Chair noted the need for engagement of the Environment Agency to maximise opportunities and be fully aware of work they are delivering.

RS was directed to census data and information available via the NHS and CMBC data sources.

Once the work on the voluntary sector and business sector is complete the Board can consider next steps in terms of procuring additional support and how to use the £19,000 Ambition for Towns funds remaining.

Action: Rob to identify potential timescale for completion of surveys once he has met with the Business Forum and Community Association.

3. Any other business

RS reported recent work delivered by the Community Rail Partnership (CRP) to promote the Calder line and towns along the trail.

Action: RS to invite the CRP to the next meeting of the Board.

Chair reported meeting with Calder Homes which he would feed back to the Board.

4. Date and venue of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Board will be held via Teams and will commence 6 pm.