



Elland Town Development Board
Minutes of the meeting held on 11th of June 2024
Elland Community Hub

Present

Councillor Gallagher (Chair)
David Wilkinson (Vice Chair)
Councillor Veitch
Councillor Hunt
David McCorie
Graham Hale
Graham Sykes
Vickey Platt
Pauline Shaw

Others in attendance

Alan Lee
Jess Thompson
Graham Gibbons
Sam Roper
Andrew Parr
Rob Shipway

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair opened the meeting.

a. Apologies

Councillor Sarah Courtney, Councillor Prashad, Samantha McCormick, Harriet Fletcher, Zakariya Ali.

2. Quorate Declaration

The meeting was declared quorate.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the meeting held 12th March 2024

The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.

a. Matters arising

Town Centre parking – Mary Farrar is meeting with Councillor Veitch in early July to complete a walkaround. GH asked to be invited.

5. Banking Hub

The temporary hub didn't go ahead as a permanent hub will be implemented instead. The process for both takes the same amount of time which is why the temporary hub didn't proceed.

6. The Old Council Offices

It was confirmed that the building has been sold.

Ex-Council Offices on Southgate - whether they can be used to support VCS activity as part of Culturedale and also to have a look for the Elland Masterplan.

A copy of the Masterplan will be uploaded onto the Council website.

GG has been in touch with CAFM re use of Calder House offices. They are currently in use as the site office until the end of Aug. There may be a possibility for use after they have been vacated in the Autumn subject to any other use being required.

7. Business Forum update

Andy Parr addressed the Board, setting out plans for moving forward with the Board's ambition for a Business Hub.

The experience from the other end of the town is that some businesses are thriving. There is an opportunity to look at marketing, networking an investment. Initially looked into a BID but Elland does not have enough retail premises to make this model viable.

Opportunity to look at more events and ways to increase footfall.

Considering the option of a website promoting the town and businesses. Initially be running 4 network events over the year.

The next meeting will be 26 June and we welcome people to come along with ideas.

8. Future High Street Fund update (Jess Thompson)

The refurbished community hub has now been handed over to the management committee. There are a few outstanding items to be completed: snags, construction of the bin store, fencing.

The FHSF public realm works are expected to be completed mid-August
The TRO consultation finishes this Friday with the decision next week
Coronation St car park opened this week

Q: What are the red items on the market square?

A: It is play equipment in keeping with the theme of the old fire station.

GH asked about the disabled parking on the Coronation St carpark. It was understood from the plans that there was supposed to be an additional space at the bottom by the ramp

Comment: I understood there were also supposed to be 2 spaces at the bottom of Coronation St.

DM provided a summary of the 2 meetings organised by the businesses in relation to the town centre works.

First meeting attended by approximately 30 businesses.

Key concerns:

- Reduction in car parking, access for deliveries, pedestrianisation
- 78% of respondents felt they had lost trade, 11% not sure
- 68% of respondents were negative about the potential situation following completion of the scheme

Changes they would like to see:

- Keep Southgate open
- More convenient parking
- Erection of proper signage

Second meeting attended by approx. 50-60 members of the public

Key concerns:

- Change to how people shop with less people perceived to be coming into Elland
- 86% of respondents were negative about the pedestrianisation. 14% were positive
- 93% would like to see Southgate open on a one-way basis
- 92.5% were against the removal of on street parking.
- 55% had issues with the location of the market in relation to parking. 45% were in support.

Changes they would like to see:

- More convenient parking

Q: what consultation was done for the scheme.

JT responded that extensive consultation was carried out with stakeholders.

GH highlighted that 4 shops in the town centre are now fully accessible which is positive for the disabled community.

JT highlighted that the FHSF is directly informed by Central Government Policy to promote green and healthy streets and active travel although we recognise the importance of an individual approach.

Cllr Courtney reinforced that it is about future proofing and changing trends in high streets across the country.

9. Events (David McCorie)

- 3 events are planned for this year:
- 24 Aug – music festival on Southgate Square, which has been approved for support of £1500 by the Town Board
- 5 Oct – Festival of Speed
- Dec – Xmas town centre event

The proposal is to develop the soap box event for inclusion in the events programme next year.

10. Heritage update (Rob Shipway / David Wilkinson)

Funding is available through Historic England for conservation areas. Meeting with Kate Peach from CMBC and developing – deadline September.

11. Youth Sector Update (Graham Sykes)

A project is running with Brooksbank School around youth democracy. The idea is to tie it in with the General Election incorporating a decision making questionnaire. 100 responses have been received from young people. We will then create a podcast with the young people to analyse and highlight the issues. We will then look at how we pick these up and feedback to the board.

SR reported that Newground will be using space within the Hub. Funding is in place for an employment hub and work is ongoing to identify and apply for funding for youth activities.

12. VCS Update

Funding has been provided for 6 workshops

Liaising with the Elland Hub for dates for the workshops

13. Ambitions for Town Funding

RS updated that there is £8000 remaining and proposed that this is held for events and to support the business forum.

It was highlighted that in the Council's budget there is no funding for Christmas lights.

SR informed the meeting that they will be applying for a licence to run 4 community market events. Which is the maximum permitted by the Council's policy each year. SR highlighted that initially they were not aware of the need to apply for a licence and had been informed legal action could be taken if the process was not followed which he felt was excessive.

It was mentioned that there will be a new accessible walk in the grounds of the Crematorium.

14.A.O.B

There was no other business.

15.Date of Next Meeting

24th of September 2024, Elland Community Hub.