

Todmorden Pride Partnership
 Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting
 Thursday 12th April 2007, 6:30pm Old Hall, Todmorden

Present:	James Gregory Malcolm Birkett Lynne Midwinter Helen Marshall Cllr Janet Battye Peter Cockcroft David Storah Alan Darwin Tracey Geoghegan Simon Brearley Kate Peach Alan Fiddling Mary Clear Louise Castro	Chair Treasurer
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Apologies:	Cynthia Murray Anne Lee Doug Blenky Tony Mullin Claire Townley Margaretta Holmstedt
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Chair: James Gregory

Minute Taker: Louise Castro

	Discussion	Action
51/04/07	Welcome and Apologies	
	James welcomed everybody to the meeting, especially Helen who had to travel home to Leeds and Kate on her first meeting with Todmorden Pride.	
52/0407	Minutes of the last meeting	
	Accepted: All	
53/04/07	Matters Arising	
54/04/07	Declaration of any Other Business	
	Helen: Upper Calder Valley Renaissance Letter from Calderdale MBC regarding Walsden Update on Patmos Area	

55/04/07	Upper Valley Renaissance	
	<p>Helen updated the meeting on the Upper Calder Valley Renaissance projects from the Partnership meeting held on the 17th April 2007; a copy of the report is attached.</p> <p>Fielden Wharf is being entered into the AMT awards. Louise and Mary have already completed most of the form Chris Evans is to complete the remainder, Hebden Bridge town centre scheme is also being entered.</p> <p>Bramsche Square – A very good response with over 200 people attending the Town Hall open consultation. A further meeting of the consultants, Yorkshire Forward, Calderdale MBC and representatives from Todmorden Pride will be taking place in Bradford on Wednesday 2nd May.</p> <p>The consultants are considering putting up a display in the Library.</p> <p>Louise suggested a duplicate could be displayed on the ground floor of the Community College with Customer First.</p> <p>Arups Traffic Study is now also complete, with the findings to be published shortly. The study was carried out over 2 x 12 hour periods and looked at 8 car parks within 500m of Bramsche Square. Occupancy averaged 80%, however there was always spaces available on some of the car parks.</p> <p>Peter stated that it was important not to remove car parking spaces from Bramsche Square as this would have a detrimental impact on trade in Todmorden, particularly on the indoor and outdoor Markets.</p> <p>James replied that at least the consultation would force a reaction from everybody and they had been given the opportunity to fully participate in the consultation process. Todmorden Pride in particular had worked hard to have Tipside included in the plans this had resulted in Tipside being featured as essential in both options.</p>	

James also noted that the markets thrive most vigorously when the Continental Market takes over Bramsche Square; the project can not be driven by a few unimaginative traders. Everybody has to live here and the opportunity to stand back and look at the picture as a whole must be taken.

Lynn was concerned that the two options presented at the open consultation, particularly option B, had a large volume of building on it and felt it defeated the ideas put forward of the area becoming an open space public realm as well as having a small amount of additional buildings. Lynn also felt that a pre-conceived agenda was being implemented and that if a poor decision was made regarding the Bramsche Square development than it would impact on any work along Halifax Road.

James – Although everybody would like the ideal and we have to be enthusiastic but also realistic.

Helen – concerns regarding the commercial value have to be taken into consideration.

David - schemes have to work for Yorkshire Forward, the Town and the people who invest in it. The options have to a commercial viability.

What the consultants started with and what they finished with were two different things. It relies on the fact it is an idea and has to be commercially viable to investors and whilst we can try and guide what is happening it has to be balanced with commercial realism.

The consultants reported that the consultation with Todmorden Pride had been the most realistic and participants from the Board had given the most considered opinion and that the consultants had listened to all the points raised and ideas had been changed from what had first been thought. This is a long term vision and is not going to happen over night. Tying it all together will not suit everybody and the results of the consultation are not set in stone but should be used as a planning tool to form a basis from which to work from. And it is up to the people

Todmorden to say if it wants to support more housing or another scheme.

James – it will not happen unless a whole lot of ideas converge and the opportunity to work with Yorkshire Forward will not come again.

Helen – Halifax Road development brief was approved by Cabinet in March; with sequential tests included (Sequential tests are an Environment Agency pilot around positive and negative flood tests and issues that would impact on a development).

James – Very pleased that in this pioneering area of work is taking place in Todmorden.

Upper Calder Valley Renaissance dates for your diary: 19th May 10:00 – 13:00 Training on UCVR and Town Team structures.

21st July Community update and open day (probable venue Mytholmroyd Community Centre)
If Todmorden Pride Partnership Board members could bring to the next meetings ideas of what they would like to get out of the open day.

Expression of interest for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 needs to be sent to Ruth Hair for the £5000.00 RMT.

Alan Darwin - Walsden would like to do more of the same.

Malcolm – Would a bit more of an increase year on year be available.

Helen – At present there is no allowance for increase.

Malcolm It is very important to mention that Todmorden Pride Partnership Board members are aware of Calderdale MBC has money from car parking charges. Would it possible to obtain some of the monies from car parking and ensure it is put back into Community regeneration programmes.

Janet – Offered to ask Martin Hibbins to clarify the situation and report back to the Board.

	<p>James – There have been concerns raised by members of Todmorden in Bloom over the level of support being given to Todmorden by Calderdale MBC. Calderdale MBC will be judged by results and the Ladies of Todmorden in Bloom should not be out with brooms and bin bags cleaning the streets and trying to water plants.</p>	
56/04/07	Kate Peach – Conservation Areas	
	<p>Kate reported that she had been in post a couple of months and had been working with Chris Edwards towards raising the standards of design in Todmorden and surrounding areas alongside looking at the current conservation areas and extending the area of Todmorden. New Government policy dictates that all conservation areas have to have appraisals; Halifax now has three completed.</p> <p>A conservation area plays an important role in influencing design and planning and can pressure in areas such as shop frontage and shutter styles as well as signage. Part of the Management plan is to further widen and strengthen the development plan which will assist developers and businesses with any planning proposals.</p> <p>There are plans to extend the current conservation area boundaries and these are being looked into.</p> <p>Alan Darwin – Conservation areas give a level of influence, it doesn't stop anything progressing but you have to go through certain protocol and hopefully reach a higher quality of development; if used correctly it is a very useful tool.</p> <p>Kate – will try and attend the June meeting and report on any boundary changes.</p> <p>James – Thanked Kate and responded that the Board have high hopes of the changes over planning and we, as a group, welcome wholeheartedly the influences of the conservation area. Kate was invited to come as often as possible to the meetings.</p>	

57/04/07	AGM and Open Meeting	
	<p>The Board settled on Thursday 24th May in Todmorden Town Hall for the AGM and Open Meeting: times as follows:</p> <p>AGM – 6pm – 6:30pm Open Meeting 7:00pm – 8:30pm</p>	
58/04/07	Financial Matters – Malcolm Birkett	
	<p>The Board had slightly overspent on the Walsden project – approximately £70.00.</p> <p>A letter had been sent to the Bank to combine both bank accounts as discussed at the last meeting.</p> <p>Malcolm also proposed that the Board think about obtaining registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee Status. There are considerable benefits including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting the Board Obtaining Funding Gives a measure of protection and security <p>This will be voted on and ratified at the AGM.</p>	
59/07/04	Date and Time of Next Meetings	
	<p>Annual General Meeting and Open Meeting Thursday 24th May 2007 18:00 Todmorden Town Hall</p>	
	<p>Board Meeting Thursday 28th June 2007 18:30 Todmorden Old Hall</p>	