



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TODMORDEN PRIDE
Thursday 23rd February 2017

Present: S Brearley (Chair), M. Birkett, D Storah, Cllr Holmstedt, Ms E Reed, Cllr J Battye, D Blenkey, I Dibble, J Gregory, P Cockcroft, Mrs C Murray, Cllr S Booth, Ms A Greenwood (Minutes).

In attendance Cllr J Grieve

1.00 Apologies: Cllr Press, S Curry, Ms A Holdsworth

2.00 Minutes of the previous meeting (3rd November 2017)

The minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposed Mrs C Murray, seconded D Blenkey.

3.00 Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4.00 Items for AOB

Men in Sheds
Cricket
Bank changes

5.00 Chair's report (as AOM)

A lot has happened in Todmorden since the last AOM in October 2015 not least the flooding of December 2015. Whilst the effects of the flooding in Todmorden were perhaps not as devastating as in Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd they have had a severe effect on businesses and residents. The floods have also severely affected the Councils who have had their attention diverted quite naturally to the aftermath of the flooding. As things now calm down there will be opportunities for Todmorden Pride to reinvigorate itself and concentrate on delivering schemes locally.

Bodies with which we have association – UCVR, the Calder Valley Land Trust and the Town Centre Development Board – have been very active.

Thanks should also go to James Gregory for his persistence in pursuing the illumination of the Unitarian Church Spire which will probably be reaching fruition next week.

In the future it is hoped that Todmorden Pride will be able to grow closer links with Todmorden Civic Society as the numbers of members of that organisation have dropped. Closer links would hopefully strengthen both organisations.

Rose Street, Calder College and Ferney Lee School are all issues that are current and on which Todmorden Pride can have an influence. Princess Mary Way, I would suggest should be our number one priority as we go forward.

6.00 Treasurer's report

- £6462.42 currently at bank.
- £3330 allocated to Unitarian Church Tower fund. Todmorden Pride also manages the fund.

7.00 UCVR (report by email)

A brief report on UCVR activities in Todmorden since my last attendance would read that we:

- Continue to support the businesses with an offer of one-to-one Business mentoring
- Have funded the Todmorden Business Network with £500 to help them formalise and recruit new members.
- Now have a 2 year contract to provide business networking support from Todmorden to Brighouse
- Provided the Todmorden Community College Pre-feasibility Report to Calderdale and Todmorden Council as commissioned.
- Nominated Todmorden Community College as an Asset of Community Value.
- Connected UCVR Sustainable Transport Group (STG) with TP re the Station issues. There is a proposal for an interim measure to allow disabled/impaired access to/from the East-bound platform. Raised by UCVR Director Mike Troke, talking direct with STG contacts in Northern Rail. (Ivor will hopefully know more about this and any progress)

8.00 Calder Valley Community Land Trust

- Work at Walsden is moving forward. A full site survey has been undertaken. Also CVCLT has obtained the funds to undertake their part of the project.
- Bridge Lanes - £40,000 grant funding has been obtained for a feasibility study and there is currently a bid for funding for a member of staff to take the project forward.
- Fielden Centre – a new committee is in place.
- M Birkett suggested that CVCLT should look into producing more publicity as there seemed to be a lack of local knowledge of the group and its purpose.

9.00 Schemes in Todmorden and Progress reports.

- **Rose Street** – S Brearley will report on the result of the soft marketing at the next meeting. A working group is also looking at Todmorden Town Council's views on the site.
- J Gregory asked whether Pollination Street was likely to be retained. Cllr Booth suggested that interested parties should attend the workshop on the Neighbourhood Plan which will be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 25th February from 10.00 – 2.00 and voice their views. There will also be a meeting on Saturday 4th March 10.00 – 12.00 to canvas views on the future of the Town Hall, specifically the courtroom.
- J Gregory also raised the question of the refurbishment to the railings and flagstones around the Town Hall. C Murray and P Cockcroft said that the railings were a Heritage responsibility and part of a funding bid. The councillors present reported that the Town Council is to refurbish the doors. S Brearley said that some funding could be available from Todmorden Pride for the railings.
- **Calder Community College** – the last Development Board voted for the sale of the building to Aldi. Since then Todmorden Town Council has been looking at alternative proposals. An application has been submitted to list it as an asset of community value which will allow some breathing space. Cllr Battye reported that there is a worry that a substantial part of the college site would be the lorry park and be next to the Ridge Foot flats. Currently there is a lack of community space in Todmorden especially as space is no longer available at the High School for community use and a working group is looking at drafting new plans for the college building. Although Aldi have said that they will build a new nursery and youth club there is no Children's Centre included and there is nothing in writing yet. Unfortunately the building is high on the list of Calderdale Council properties which drain money. Calderdale Council will pay for the demolition of the building and contribute £1million to building costs.
- **Lidl** – have got planning permission and are working through the conditions.
- **Carr House Estate Playground** – another meeting will take place at the beginning of the month.

- **Unitarian Church Tower** - James Gregory reported that there had been contributions to the fund from local businesses and organisations including the Todmorden Development Board and that local workpeople were used and that costs were slightly less than anticipated. The total cost will be around £10,000.
- The switch on of the lights will take place on Friday 3rd March from 7.00pm – 9.00pm and all are invited.
- **Station Approach** – see UCVR report.

10.00 AOB

- **Men in Sheds** – Pam Warhurst has identified an area to the rear of the Health Centre for a shed with electricity and machinery. Cllr Grieve spoke about the benefit of this type of scheme to people with mental and physical health problems as there are currently few opportunities for social activities in Todmorden for men, especially activities which are practically based.
- **Cricket** – Cllr Booth has been approached by young people who currently play cricket on the Rose Street site. She asked the group if a patch of ground could be identified in the centre of Todmorden where children could play. Although some of the children go to Todmorden Cricket Club, the younger children are not catered for.
- **Yorkshire Bank Account** – The Yorkshire bank in Todmorden is to close so D Blenkey will arrange to the Todmorden Pride account to be moved. S Brearley will also try to ascertain what will happen to the building.

11.00 Date and time of next meeting

THE NEXT MEETING OF TODMORDEN PRIDE WILL BE ON
Thursday 27th April at 6.30
in the Community Room, Lever Street, Todmorden