

MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF TODMORDEN PRIDE

Thursday 27th August 2015

Present: Simon Brearley (Chair), D Blenkey, Cllr S Booth, Cllr J Battye, P Cockcroft, C Murray, B Glenister, S Murray, J Gregory, A Greenwood (Minutes)

Apologies: D Storah, M Birkett, A Holdsworth, Cllr J Costello, Cllr A Miles, Cllr S Press

1.0 Minutes of the last meeting (2nd July 2015)

The minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposed P Cockcroft seconded Cllr S Booth.

2.0 Matters arising

- £450,000 is remaining from the previous Development Board. Approximately £50,000 has been spent/allocated for work on the Town Hall. J Gregory pointed out that this money was for regeneration work and it seemed that it was being spent on maintenance – the responsibility of Calderdale Council. Cllr Battye had made the point at Cabinet that the money seemed to be ‘dribbling’ away.
- Band Stand – Simon Brearley reported that Kirsten Fussing has said that currently Calderdale Council does not have the money for repairs. Vandals have been identified by the police who are taking action. It was felt that the Band Stand was vulnerable as the rear is hidden by trees.
- Sustrans and Route 66 – Peter Stubbs has been invited to a future meeting of Todmorden Pride.

3.0 Items for AOB

- Letter from Rob Goldthorpe – Hotel for Todmorden.
- Discussion paper – Items for consideration by the Council and Todmorden Pride. Presented by James Gregory.

4.0 Chair’s Report

5.0 UCVR

A meeting was held in Luddenden Foot but, due to work commitments, Simon Brearley was unable to attend. Stephen Curry has been invited to update the group at a future meeting.

6.0 Treasurer’s Report

The balance of funds is currently £8623.09

7.0 Calder Valley Community Land Trust (CVCLT)

- CVCLT is now an exempt charity
- Old School Field, Walsden – the council has agreed that the land is surplus to requirements. Mark Thompson is moving the transfer forward. Waiting for the formal agreement to transfer.
- Bridge Lanes – the next stage is to undertake a trial investigation of the ground to find out whether it is possible to move forward. It is feared that this investigation may throw up problems.
- CVCLT AGM – 17th October at 11am in the Fielden Centre, Todmorden.

8.0 Schemes in Todmorden and Progress Reports

- **Rose Street** - McCarthy Stone have received the report from the Environment Agency and hope to contact the Council by the beginning of September. It was pointed out that McCarthy Stone have the legal option to buy Rose Street; therefore others cannot bid at the moment.
- **Todmorden Development Board** – This week there is an advert in the Todmorden News for two business representatives and two community representatives to sit on the Board. Cllr Battye said that she hoped that these representatives would introduce new skills and local knowledge. Simon Brearley had heard that these new representatives would not have a vote which could deter people from applying. Cllr Booth and Cllr Battye stressed that support from representatives from business and community groups would assist and support the local councillors on the Board. A wide ranging discussion followed, at the close of which Simon Brearley agreed to put himself forward as a representative of Todmorden Pride. Should any other group member wish to apply, please approach Simon.

ACTION S Brearley and Group members

- **ASDA** – Graham Connell (Surveyor for ASDA) has said that as far as he is aware the building should be demolished by the end of the year and building work started.
- **Morrison's** – Shaun Murray said that Morrison's have applied for extended hours.
- **Halifax Road** – James Gregory has heard that a planning application for a retail development on the Halifax Road site is under consideration. Although a fence has been erected around the site, this is only on two sides and local residents still look onto piles of rubble etc. Calderdale Council say that they are unable to enforce further clearing.
- **Derdale Mill** – work is moving forward. The planning permission has been sorted out although the developer may apply to replace the proposed flats with houses. Cllr Battye felt that the building of flats would allow older people to downsize.
- **Cinderhill** – A Section 215 notice has been issued. No further information.
- **Street Railings** – Will be moving forward. Cllr Battye will be taking up the issue of missing railings at Der Street and opposite Gordon Riggs.
- **Todmorden Town Hall** – Peter Cockcroft said that funds for the Heritage Centre will cease in approximately 15 months' time and therefore outside funding is required. The Town Hall committee are still looking at alterations to the inside of the building.

9.0 AOB

- **Hotel for Todmorden** – this is being proposed by Todmorden Information Centre trustees. A letter has been received from the Chair, Rob Goldthorpe and there is an article in the Todmorden News. Simon Brearley was asked to comment on behalf of Todmorden Pride. He had said that there could be a demand but that there were other issues to consider e.g. a site, whether it would be a chain or a local developer. This led to a short discussion of the proposal.
- **Discussion Paper Todmorden Pride Todmorden Town Council (see attached)**
James Gregory circulated and presented the Discussion Paper. He said that he hoped that Todmorden Town Council would take the lead on these projects.

Some comments from the group

- Item 4 – Calderdale Council will do this.
- Cllr Booth felt that pump priming was a good idea at the time of financial constraints.
- The viaduct could also be floodlit.
- Cllr Booth would like to develop a Peoples History Museum in Todmorden to complement the Heritage Centre.
- Would Weirs build a piece of art work for Todmorden in the same way as they build the elephant for Glasgow?
- Could McCarthy Stone make a donation to some of these projects should they come to the town?
- Station entrance – The Town Council would prefer disabled access.

10.0 Date of next meeting

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER at 6.30pm

Venue to be confirmed

PLEASE NOTE –

TODMORDEN PRIDE AGM (planned for 17th September) HAS BEEN POSTPONED and will be rescheduled.