

**Minutes of the meeting of Todmorden Pride
Thursday 18th April 2013**



Present:	James Gregory (Chair) Cllr Janet Battye Peter Cockroft Alison Greenwood (Minutes)	Cllr C.M. Baksa Anne Holdsworth Ivor Dibble	Cynthia Murray Shaun Murray Cllr Margareta Holmstedt
Apologies:	Doug Blenkey David Storah Cllr Anne James	Malcolm Birkett Simon Brearley	Cllr Joe Rez Kate Moreton-Deakin

1.0 Minutes of the last meeting (7th March 2013)

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Proposed Peter Cockroft
Seconded Cynthia Murray

2.0 Matters arising

3.0 Treasurers Report
No report

4.0 Renaissance Board

James Gregory brought the committee up to date with a variety of recent developments.

- Asda is formulating a planning application for the town centre site but are currently looking into some technical problems. Graham Connell, who has been helpful to Todmorden Pride in the past, has been retained as surveyor. It is envisaged that the 12,000 sq metre building will have 77 parking spaces and be built in a contemporary style. The committee felt that the style of building should be acceptable to the people of Todmorden.
- The Halifax Road site still needs to be tidied. There was no reply from Mr Gray to the first letter. James Gregory has phoned the portfolio holder and has sent a further letter regarding the Cinderhill Mill site. James Gregory, Ivor Dibble and David Storah are to meet with the Development Manager on 19th April. They are hoping to encourage the planning department to take action on the Halifax Road site as any development is likely to take about 3 years to complete. The group will report back to the Annual Open Meeting. **Action – James Gregory**
- Peter Cockroft pointed out that in the past there would have been a compulsory purchase order on the Cinderhill site leading to the building of industrial units. Janet Battye will be meeting Mark Terry tomorrow and will also bring up the future of the Cinderhill site.
- James Gregory again emphasised that Calderdale Council should be using Section 215 to ensure the owners of the Halifax Road site and Cinderhill site tidied them in the short term. However it was pointed out that the council would only consider enforcement action by way of Section 215 if they had a good chance of recovering their costs should they need to undertake the work themselves.
- Der Street and Adamroyd sites have not been forgotten however the other sites currently take precedence.
- Bramsche Square – Margareta Holmstedt reported that when tenders were requested in the autumn only one was submitted. It should be going out to tender again soon. This is an EU project.
- Janet Battye hopes to have a place on the new Todmorden Town Centre Development Board. There will be no representation from Todmorden Pride.

5.0 Lever Street Car park

- Anne Holdsworth reported that they are waiting for the Canal and River Trust to get together to discuss how to prevent further flooding.
- It was suggested that the Flood Project Managers could be invited to a Todmorden Pride meeting to explain about the radical work taking place on the hillsides e.g. opening up old reservoirs and the use of the canal to hold flood water. It was decided that this would not be relevant to the committee at this time.
- Improvements to the canal and towpath are still under consideration.
- The eyesore caused by the parking of commercial vehicles in the area was also discussed. As the owner is parking partially on his own land and so the council is unable to enforce the removal. Margareta Holmstedt will speak to Joe Rez to ascertain exactly what action has been taken and whether further action can be taken.
- Gauxholme arches are still an eyesore. As some of the land is owned by Network Rail, the committee felt that an early meeting with them, the Environment Agency and Calderdale Council would be useful.
- Chris Baksa commented that volunteers could be recruited to assist with a clampdown on spitting, dog mess etc.

6.0 Ownership of Todmorden Town Hall

- Following a meeting this afternoon, it was reported that the process had started and that representatives were looking at Calderdale Council retaining ownership and continuing to fund the building with Todmorden Town Council taking over the management. Currently it is run by Communities who employ the caretaker.
- Need to have a working lift in place before any changes take place.
- Currently Committee Room A will have a new projector, Wi Fi and be redecorated. Committee Room B will be redecorated and carpeted. Chairs in the committee rooms will be repaired. £21,000 has been spent.
- Todmorden Town Council holds the view that the Town Hall should not need to 'make ends meet' however Calderdale Council does not agree.
- It is hoped to look at ways of improving footfall.

7.0 AOB

- Calderdale Core Strategy –Margareta Holmstedt and Janet Battye reported that it had been agreed that Todmorden become the hub for the Upper Valley with 2000 new homes and more floor space for industrial development. Also more young families would be welcome as school population numbers are dropping. A copy of the comments will be sent to David Storah. If comments were submitted by Todmorden Pride, Margareta would appreciate a copy.

8.0 Date and venue of next meeting

The next meeting of Todmorden Pride will be on Thursday 11th July at 6.30 at Todmorden Vintner.