

# Minutes of meeting of Todmorden Pride

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Present:** James Gregory (Chair)                      Malcolm Birkett                      Mary Clear  
Anne Holdsworth                      Doug Blenkey                      Ivor Dibble  
Cllr C.M Baksa                      Peter Cockcroft                      Cllr Janet Battye  
Simon Brearley                      Cllr Anne James                      Cllr Joe Rez  
Cynthia Murray                      Alison Greenwood (Minutes)

**Apologies:** David Stora

## Update from Pam Warhurst, Chair of Incredible Edible Todmorden

Prior to the formal meeting of the members of Todmorden Pride, Pam Warhurst was invited to give an update on two initiatives.

- **Asset transfer of the Market Hall.** Following a public meeting which included representatives from Heywood Market, around 20-30 mixed traders, members of the public and councillors, Incredible Edible Todmorden have applied for funding for a pre-feasibility exercise. They are hoping to be awarded 3 months funding plus a coordinator.
- **IET liaison with the development arm of Yorkshire Forward.** IET has asked for assistance in looking at what Todmorden would look like if food was the economic driver. Building on this exercise, they would like a timeline with ideas for the way in which this could be moved forward and eventually presented to the Town Council.

For both the above results of the research will eventually be presented to the Town Council. In the meantime they are asking the council, market traders and other interested groups for the names of two representatives to join an independent steering group, chaired by Kate Morton-Deakin, to look at the feasibility of Asset Transfer of the Market Hall. It is hoped that the first meeting will take place in February and that there will be two public meeting during the process. They would welcome interest from Todmorden Pride. **ACTION**

## 1. Minutes of the Last Meeting (1st November 2013)

**Approved** James Gregory

**Seconded** Malcolm Birkett

## 2. Matters Arising

## 3. Treasurers Report

- Still solvent – as of last August £8,500 plus £3,000 grant, £2,000 of which is earmarked for maintenance of public art.

## 4. Derelict land Areas in Todmorden. Possible Actions.

James Gregory reported that he had attended the meeting of the Development Committee of the Town Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

- Success in the Appeal has raised the problem of two derelict sites (Burnley Rd and Halifax Rd.)
- James sent a letter on behalf of Todmorden Pride to Ian Gray, Director of Regeneration. (Letter circulated). In it he thanked the council for their response to the Asda Appeal.
- Giles Cannock has suggested that the local authority make use of Town and Country Planning Act Section 215 in relation to the two sites. (Copy of Section 215 circulated) and in his letter James emphasized that development of the two sites is essential

and the situation is currently having an effect on the morale of the town. He has had no reply from Calderdale Council.

- After his attendance at last night's council meeting, James pointed out that this letter was now out of date as it seems likely that the Abraham Ormerod site will be sold to McCarthy Stone to build a 36 unit development. It also seems that Property Alliance is not interested in selling the Halifax Road site and their representative, Mr. Russell is talking about submitting a smaller planning application to Calderdale Council. He felt that Calderdale Council is still in favour of a supermarket development on the Halifax Road site.
- James suggested that Todmorden Pride contact Calderdale about invoking Section 215 should Property Alliance not tidy the site or move things forward.

There was discussion regarding James's report and the members agreed that Todmorden Pride should continue to lobby Calderdale Council regarding the two derelict sites. It was also emphasized that although tonight's meeting dealt only with the two sites, this was because they were currently a priority and the sites at Cinderhill and Victoria Road had not been forgotten.

**ACTION**

### **5. Annual General Meeting**

It was agreed that there would be one further meeting prior to the AGM and that the officers will arrange the dates.

**ACTION Officers**

### **6. AOB**

- New members. Todmorden Pride is not exclusive and is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Members are asked to identify potential member and invite them to a meeting.

**ACTION all members**

- Cllr Battye has had a meeting with the Chief Executive and it was suggested that Todmorden Pride arrange a meeting in the future.

**ACTION**

- Todmorden Renaissance Board was mentioned. More information at the next meeting.

**ACTION**

- Upper Calder Valley Regeneration. (Summit to Sowerby Bridge) Peter Cockcroft is the current representative and would like another member of Todmorden Pride to join him. There are four meetings a year, the next meeting being on 16<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm in the Alternative Technology Centre, Hebden Bridge. James Gregory agreed to attend.

**ACTION James Gregory**

- Calderdale Council would like to retain ownership of the Town Hall but would like someone to manage it. It was agreed to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

**ACTION Alison Greenwood**

### **7. Dates for future meetings.**

7th March

18th April

30th May \* - AGM

11th July

22nd August

3rd October

14th November