

## **BUXTON TOWN TEAM**

### **NOTES ON THE DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

**Present:** Janet Miller, Jean Ball, John Estruch, Roddie McLean, Suzanne Pearson, Tina Heathcote

**Attending for Specific Topics:** Alan Thompson

**Observing:** Derek Bodey

**Apologies:** Adrian Brown, Joe Dugdale, Mike Bryant, Rachel Quinn

#### **1. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was agreed that the notes of the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> September represented an accurate record, and can be posted on the website.

**JM**

#### **2. EXPANSION OF THE BOARD**

Tina, Roddie and Jean have had one meeting so far and have made a start identifying skillsets; they will be meeting again next week

**TH/RM**

#### **3. IDEAS & VISION GROUP**

Mike Bryant is still in hospital and unlikely to be able to resume the role of convener any time soon. It was agreed that Janet and John will draw up the agenda for the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October, and that Janet will circulate this round the group. We will need a volunteer to take over the secretariat, and particularly keeping the Schedule of Ideas up to date, until Mike returns.

**JE  
JM**

#### **4. COMMUNICATIONS**

Janet and Tina have met up with Zoe to discuss what work she might be able to take on. It had been agreed that the most useful project to start with would be the expansion and revamping of the website, Tina and Janet will draw up a remit for the additional pages for Zoe and Andy to implement. It was suggested we should try to have some improvements in place before 8<sup>th</sup> November when the Academy of Urbanism Awards will be announced.

**JM  
TH**

#### **5. SCRUTINY GROUP BUSINESS**

Regarding the complaint, it was confirmed that Roddie should deliver hard copies of all correspondence by hand. The Scrutiny Group had conferred again, and had no further issues of concern.

**RM**

#### **6. BUSINESS PLAN**

There are a number of revisions outstanding from the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> September. As soon as these are received, Joe will proceed with compiling a revised version for approval.

**JD**

#### **7. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCES**

##### **7.1 Current Position**

There has been very little change in the last month, membership is still at 80 and cash assets are at £3,121.97. Janet will submit a claim to HPBC for some of the outstanding £7,000 shortly.

**JM**

##### **7.2 Insurance**

John has requested updated quotations for insurance, which he will circulate when received.

**JE**

#### **8. PROJECTS UPDATE**

##### **8.1 Green Man Gallery**

Since the last meeting, it had been agreed that as Bridgehead Arts Ltd are in a position to take on a lease direct, the lease which Buxton Town Team holds on behalf of the gallery will be allowed to expire on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The Green Man Gallery have already been informed of this by letter; it was confirmed that while we would be taking no further part in discussions as regards their financial position, we were willing to assist in whatever way we could short of financial support. It was agreed that Janet will write formally to JM Asset management to confirm this position.

**JM**

Meanwhile they are in negotiation with the landlords direct, and are developing a number of proposals such as Friends of the Green Man Gallery, which they hope we will promote to Town Team members. It was agreed that Alan will produce a completion report, with reference to the original aims and success criteria. Alan was thanked for all the work he had put in to ensure the success of the project. Suzanne will act as the point of contact with the gallery from now on.

**AT**

**SP**

##### **8.2 Jack in the Box**

John reported that the large co-operative envisaged for Unit 8 in the Springs Centre was not viable due to too few traders being prepared to make the necessary commitment. The application for charitable

status has also failed, because the benefits to the participants were deemed too great in relation to the benefits to the community. The team are now re-evaluating their options.

### **8.3 Illustrated Map**

A revised version had been received, and further amendments agreed and fed back to the artists.

### **8.4 Buxton Spa Prize**

Suzanne reported that they had acquired eight sponsors so far, and a number of artists have registered an interest in taking part. They have had some success recruiting well known locals for the judging panel but would welcome further suggestions.

### **8.5 Academy of Urbanism Visit**

HPBC and Trevor Osborne have booked tables at the 8<sup>th</sup> November Awards Lunch and have sent out invitations to those involved in the project; a minibus has been arranged via the University of Derby. Roddie will ascertain the list of invitees to ensure no-one has been missed. He will also ask after the draft judges' report, which we understood we would see before it was circulated to members.

It was agreed that we need to make the most of the event with regard to publicity, and suggested there should be a further meeting of the project team; Roddie will organise this.

Tina will produce a report on the project in due course.

RM

RM

TH

## **9. Project Proposals**

### **9.1 Artisan Market Pilot**

A draft project proposal had been circulated prior to the meeting. Since then HPBC had made it clear that while they were wholeheartedly in favour of the pilot going ahead, in association with the Town Team, they would not be able to offer any financial help. It was agreed that Alan, John and Tina will redraft the proposal form to reflect this, and also to make it clear that the project is just to run a pilot (or possibly two), followed by a review and recommendations. Further amendments to the detail were also requested.

AT/JE/TM

It was agreed that negotiations with the Artisan Market Company (AMC) should proceed, Alan and Tina will attend a meeting with HPBC and AMC on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October.

AT/TH

## **10. Forward Project Proposals**

### **10.1 Local Loyalty Scheme/ Christmas Shopping Crawl 2013**

Neil had advised that he planned to have Project Proposal for the Christmas Crawl ready to present to the Ideas & Vision Group meeting on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October. The latest thinking was that they were looking to launch the Totally Locally scheme at the Spring Fair, concern was expressed at this delay. It was confirmed that there was no conflict between the Totally Locally proposals and the Voucher Cloud proposal being developed by Vision Buxton, the two will operate in parallel as recommended by the University of Derby research report.

### **10.2 Spring Fair 2014**

Janet will draft a Project Proposal to go to the Ideas Group meeting on Monday.

JM

### **10.3 Talking Signposts 2014**

There is great enthusiasm for the scheme to be implemented through the tourist season in 2014, but detailed planning has been postponed until the new year.

### **10.4 British Legion Building /Hardwick Hall**

Roddie reported that Trevor Osborne's offer to purchase the building had been accepted. Roddie is meeting Trevor next week and discussions between TPO, HPBC, Town Team and Vision Buxton would be starting very shortly.

RM

### **10.5 Market Revitalisation**

John, Jean, Tina and Roddie had met a representative from the National Association of British Market Authorities and will report to the Ideas Group meeting on Monday, which has this as the main topic.

JB

### **10.6 White Lion Building**

Adrian had circulated agents' information, but has not yet arranged a date for some of us to look round.

AB

## **11. BTT MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS**

### **11.1 Neighbourhood Planning Workshop**

Joe is no longer available on 12<sup>th</sup> November, and will propose an alternative date later in the year.

JD

### **11.2 HPBC Local Plan Workshop**

Richard Silson has agreed to run this, Roddie will ask if he can do it on 12<sup>th</sup> November, and if so to

RM

provide contents details for Janet to circulate to all Town Team members.

**JM**

### **11.3 Meetings with Other Organisations**

Tina had attended the Vision Buxton Marketing Group. They had agreed to adopt the HPBC preferred strapline 'England's Leading Spa Town'. There had been a presentation from Visit Peak District who are launching 'Towns & Villages' membership at a cost of £600 per year. It was agreed that it would not be appropriate for the Town team to contribute towards this.

## **12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **12.1 Talk to U3A**

Janet and Roddie will deliver a talk about Buxton Town Team on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

**JM/RM**

### **12.2 Retail Group**

The suggestion that we set up a separate group of traders, landlords and interested parties was discussed. It was agreed that it would be difficult to ensure that such a group did not work at cross-purposes to the Ideas Group, who already cover this topic. There is nothing to stop any individual or group of people developing specific suggestions for projects to improve the retail environment, but these should continue to be brought to the Ideas Group for consideration.

## **13. DATE OF NEXT DIRECTORS' MEETINGS**

**Directors' Meetings:** Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December, both at 7:30pm.

JCMM

11Oct13