

BUXTON TOWN TEAM

NOTES ON THE DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2014

Present: Janet Miller, Jean Ball, Philip Barton, Richard Silson, Tina Heathcote, Sarah Rawlinson

Observing: Charles Jolly

Apologies: Joe Dugdale, John Estruch, Rachel Hoodith, Roddie MacLean

1. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was agreed that the notes of the meeting on 13th October represented an accurate record, and can be posted on the website.

JM

2. BOARD, DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Janet, Jean and Tina volunteered to form a sub-group to look into the skills and experience we would want in a ninth director. Janet will arrange a date to meet and start work on this.

JM

3. IDEAS & VISION GROUP

Notes of the last meeting on 8th October had been circulated earlier. Aside from project proposals and updates, the main topic was a presentation from the Communications Group. It had been agreed that the open nature of the meeting should be emphasised and that future communications would refer just to the Ideas Meeting.

4. COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

The group met on 14th October and 4th November, the notes have been circulated. The presentation to the Ideas Meeting last night had included the results of the member survey, which had had 60 responses. In general members were happy with the way communications were being done, there were a few suggestions for improvement which the Group will look into.

5. SCRUTINY GROUP

Charles advised that while they were generally happy with things, they did have some points to raise:

- attendance at directors meetings - we should agree a target for attendance, and report on this; it was suggested that a target for attendance at other meetings (Ideas etc) would also be useful; Janet already keeps a record of meeting attendance and project involvement, she will circulate this for discussion at the next meeting
- directors having specific responsibilities - while some areas of responsibility have been allocated to individual directors, this should be formalised and properly recorded - for discussion at the next meeting
- Roddie's professional interest in the Hardwick Hydro Building - this has been discussed previously, we are confident there is no conflict and that the matter is in hand, but will keep it under review
- 'fledged' projects - we now have two projects initiated by the Town Team but running independently, and expect there will be more; while not interfering, we need to maintain links with them and make it clear that if they run into difficulties they can come back to us; it was suggested that this should be a regular (3-monthly) agenda item, and that fledged projects should be included in the reporting at the general meeting.

JM

RM

All

RM

6. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCES

6.1 Current Position

The number of members is now 173; Facebook 'Likes' have surged from 414 to 491. This is linked to the recent Crescent Development campaign.

Philip had circulated a financial report; current cash assets, including expected income, stand at £10,391. Most transactions in the month were purchase and sale of merchandise, which generated a profit of about £700.

7. TOWN MATTERS

7.1 Nestle Site Proposals

Roddie, Dick, Joe and Tina met with CPG representatives on 29th October. Their views were listened to, but it was made clear that this 'consultation' would change nothing as the planning application was ready for submission. This is now in the hands of the HPBC Planning Department, Dick will monitor developments.

RS

7.2 Crescent Development

A combination of the members' newsletter, a Facebook campaign and posters on site had generated an extra 54 emails of support to Richard Tuffrey, additionally the Facebook post had received over 400 'Likes' to date, and reached over 6,000 people. HPBC are hopeful that the HLF will agree to the additional funding on 18th November. It was noted however that the grant from D2L2 is dependent on central government funding, which will not be confirmed until the Autumn Budget statement in early December.

8. PROJECTS UPDATES & PROPOSALS

8.1 Buxton Conference

The revised project proposal was approved, with a budget of £250. The conference will be organised jointly by the Town Team and Vision Buxton, and take place on 25th February in the Pavilion Arts Centre. Janet and Tina are in the process of drawing up an invitation list. Sarah will seek to involve students in the technical side.

**TH/JM
SR**

The strapline '2020 Vision' was discussed; it was agreed that this did not restrict us from looking beyond 5 years.

8.2 Buxton Spring Fair

The project was approved with a budget of £1,000, but the team will aim to break even. Janet is in the process of recruiting the project team, Sarah will aim to provide more help from students than last year.

JM
SR

8.3 Welcome to Buxton Station

A draft project proposal has been circulated, and has the support of the Ideas Meeting. Costs are being determined, once these are known the project will be submitted to the Directors for approval.

8.4 Buxton College Student Projects

Public Service Students have been offered a number of projects to work on with us, Ashwood Park, Spring Clean and the Railings Clean among others. Project proposals will be submitted in due course.

8.5 Market Place Landscaping

Tina, Dick and Janet had met with Mike Badman who was drawing up a proposal for the paved area by Scarsdale Place. It was agreed that this does not impact on the BCA/Well Dressing plans for the well outside Sainsburys, but it is important we keep abreast of what they are doing and vice versa. Jean advised that there is a fund for groups seeking to beautify community spaces, she will forward details.

JB

8.6 Merchandise

Sales so far have been very encouraging, and the initial order of 200 tea-towels and 48 jigsaws has sold out. Further orders for 400 tea-towels and 48 jigsaws has been placed. It was noted that while the placing of further orders was discussed and approved via email, the agreement as to quantity became confused; it was agreed that we need a more formal process for approving proposals outside of meetings.

JM/RM

It was also noted that the original idea for the tea-towels was to develop a product that the TIC and Buxton retailers could stock, not to become a retailer ourselves. While it is a welcome source of income it also involves significant effort and ties up funds. Further discussion is needed on future plans for merchandising, and on whether we want to continue having a stall at the Artisan Market after Christmas.

Philip advised that he had investigated other stall opportunities eg the Dickensian Market, but we were too late.

8.6 Market Regeneration

HPBC have now issued a tender for the operation of all the markets in High Peak; the closing date for submissions is 28th November. This is a Pre-Qualification exercise, so a submission would not commit us to anything, but if we do not register an interest at this stage we will be precluded from any further discussions. Terry has confirmed that a proposal to operate just the Buxton market would be acceptable. Concern was raised about the amount of time operating a market would involve, it was confirmed that a separate CIC would be set up to do this, with a paid manager. It was agreed that we should submit a proposal. It was also agreed that we should seek advice from the Matlock Town Team and from Frank Horsely at DCC.

JM/JE/PB

8.7 Buxton in Bloom

A Closing Report has been circulated, and was accepted subject to confirmation of the final costs.

PB

8.8 Street Art Phase 1

It was agreed that the bottle snow birds can be included as part of this project. Tina is arranging to hang these on the Market Place and The Slopes on 21st November, all offers of help are welcome.

TH

9. PLANNED TOWN TEAM MEETINGS

9.1 Ideas & Vision Meetings

It was agreed a summary of the year's achievements and a look forward to 2015 would be appropriate, possibly incorporating John's new project monitoring role; Janet and Dick will sort out the details.

JM/RS

9.2 General Meeting

The sub-group charged with planning this (Roddie, Joe, Tina and Philip) has not yet met, Roddie will arrange a mutually convenient date. The provisional date for the meeting is Wednesday 25th March.

RM

10. MEETINGS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Roddie is still trying to arrange a date for the next meeting with Dai Lerner.

RM

Tina will be meeting shortly with officers from HPBC Parks and Gardens to discuss ideas for Ashwood Park.

TH

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Roddie is hoping to arrange space in the Hardwick Hydro Building to store Town Team equipment. He is also organising for us to have a display area in the Pavilion Gardens which will feature our certificates, achievements and the poem as well as samples of merchandise. Both these initiatives met with approval.

RM

12. DATES OF NEXT DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

Sarah has offered to accommodate us at the University on 11th December, details will follow.

SR