

BUXTON TOWN TEAM

NOTES ON THE DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST 2013

Present: Janet Miller, Joe Dugdale, Mike Bryant, Roddie McLean, Suzanne Pearson, Tina Heathcote

Observing: Derek Bodey

Apologies: Adrian Brown, Jean Ball, John Estruch, Rachel Quinn

1. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was agreed that the notes of the meeting on 9th July represented an accurate record.

2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Expansion of the Board

No progress to report, but Tina will pick this up once the Academy or Urbanism visit is out of the way.

2.2 General Membership

We now have 77 members, there is a steady trickle of people joining.

3. FINANCE REPORT

3.1 Current Situation

A report had been circulated, there has been a slight decrease in cash assets, to £10,201. It was suggested that as well as recording donations in kind, people should also keep a record of the hours spent on town team business.

3.2 Insurance

It was agreed that we should take out a policy that did not include major events such as the Spring Fair, John will be asked to obtain from the companies quoting full details of exactly what would be covered.

4. PROJECTS & IDEAS

4.1 Academy of Urbanism Visit

This project had to be picked up very quickly, without having been discussed at the Ideas & Vision group, because of the short timescale available. The Academy judges are visiting on 21st August, the Town Team are taking a lead in organising this. While the major expenditure items are being covered by others (HPBC, University of Derby Buxton, Trevor Osborne) some minor Town Team expenditure will be incurred. The project proposal was discussed and formally approved.

4.1 Green Man Gallery

Alan had forwarded a set of accounts. Income levels from both sales and membership are down, and rental payments are due to start in November. A proposal to use an existing company as their constituted body may not be the best option. It was agreed that Tina and Joe should discuss options with them and assist with applying for grant funding, Janet will draft a letter for Roddie to send them.

4.3 Market Revitalisation

Roddie had met with Terry Crawford, it seems that HPBC may be interested in handing over responsibility for the market to someone else if they can. The possibility of the Town Team taking control of it, and how that might be funded, was discussed. It was agreed that an overall strategy for the market was needed and that this should be the main focus of the October Ideas & Vision Group meeting. Tina and Joe will plan and facilitate the discussion. Meanwhile Alan has been in contact with a company offering to arrange Artisan Markets in the town and is keen to pursue that. It was agreed the company would be invited to give a short presentation to the September Ideas meeting, but that no decisions would be made until after the October meeting. Suzanne will ask if the person who runs the Leek market could also come to the September meeting.

4.4 Festival Guides

A full report had been circulated, the project was deemed a success, the Ideas & Vision Group will develop a proposal for a similar service over a longer period next summer. A press release was sent to the Advertiser, Janet and Tina will ensure this is forwarded to Pure Buxton magazine.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

There is no sign of the previous members of the Communications Group wanting to resurrect it. Janet will contact Zoe re arranging a meeting to discuss what work she might be able to take on.

Developments with the email system mean we can now send out personalised mass mailings.

6. SCRUTINY GROUP BUSINESS

Derek reported that, other than concern about the Communications function, the Scrutiny Group with how things were going. Regarding the complaint, there had been no response to any emails sent to the trader concerned, Roddie was considering delivering hard copies by hand.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Retail Sub-Group

A suggestion that the Town Team should set up a Retail Sub-group was discussed. It was hoped that something along these lines might develop from the retailers involved in setting up the Totally Locally scheme (and hopefully also the Christmas Crawl). It was agreed that we should encourage a sub-group to evolve naturally, rather than imposing a structure.

7.2 Neighbourhood Planning Workshop

Joe has volunteered to organise a workshop covering the basics of Neighbourhood Plans, followed by discussion of the pros and cons for Buxton specifically. Provisionally this will be on Tuesday 12th November, Joe will ask if we can use the Pavilion Gardens café.

7.3 Business Plan

Only a handful of people have posted comment about the draft on the forum. Janet will email all members asking for responses by the end of the month.

7.4 Churches Chaplaincy Project

Churches Together are keen to set up this service and to do so in partnership with the Town Team. It was agreed Steve Fisher should give a short presentation to the Ideas & Vision Group.

7.5 ATCM Courses

Jean had suggested that details of their events should be circulated more widely, it was agreed not to do this on a routine basis, so as not to overload members with emails.

7.6 D2N2

We understand Peter Dewhurst is involved in the LEP, Tina will ask him to let us know of any potential opportunities for the Town Team.

8. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Business Plan Meeting: Wednesday 4th September, 7:30pm in the Old Hall Hotel.

Directors' Meetings: Monday 9th September, Wednesday 9th October, Wednesday 6th November, Tuesday 10th December, all at 7:30pm. Janet will check the Old Hall can accommodate us.

HPBC Local Plan Meeting: Roddie will follow this up with Richard when he is back off holiday.

Neighbourhood Plan Workshop: Tuesday 12th November, 7:30pm, venue TBC.

JCMM
16Aug13