

BUXTON TOWN TEAM

NOTES ON THE DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH 2015

Present: Charles Jolly, Janet Miller, Joe Dugdale, John Estruch, Philip Barton, Rachel Hoodith, Richard Silson, Sarah Rawlinson, Tina Heathcote

Apologies: Jean Ball, Roddie MacLean,

1. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was agreed that subject to a minor correction the notes of the meeting on 17th February represented an accurate record, and can be posted on the website.

JM

2. BOARD, DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

2.1 Board Search Committee

It was confirmed that Claire Millard has agreed to be put forward as a Director, and that a resolution to appoint her will be presented to the general meeting.

2.2 General Meeting 25th March

The notifications have been sent out to all members, and a notice has been posted in the Buxton Advertiser. The main focus after the formal business will be the launch of the Conference Report. Details of who will do what as regards presentations is still being finalised. It was agreed Philip should have the merchandise there on sale.

**RM/JD
PB**

3. IDEAS MEETING

Notes of the meeting on 11th March had been circulated.

The problem of finding a new venue was discussed, it was agreed we need to draw up a list of requirements, Dick and Joe agreed to go round and assess suitability of the various options.

RS/JD

Topics for future meetings provisionally agreed as follows:

April - Greening up the town (BCA and others to present)

May - Leisure Provision in the Town (for adults, youth and children)

June - Market Regeneration

4. COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Notes of the meeting on 10th March had been circulated.

5. SCRUTINY GROUP

Charles presented the draft report from the Scrutiny Group for 2014, to be presented to the general meeting.

6. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCES

6.1 Current Position

The number of members is now 185, Facebook Likes are at 572.

A report on finances for the last two months was circulated. Current cash assets including money due is £11,335.

6.2 2014 Management Accounts

These were amended as agreed at the meeting on 20th January and are ready for signing, then filing.

6.3 HMRC

As agreed at the 20th January meeting Rod Layton had written to HMRC on our behalf. A response came to us last week, stating that they could not deal directly with Laytons as they have not been given the relevant authority; they cannot consider an appeal while returns are outstanding; the fact that we are not for profit is irrelevant, we still have to send in a return. It now transpires that Rob Layton had not submitted a return, but is adamant that we do not need to, and has assured us that if he is wrong he will pay the £200 fine himself. It was agreed that Rob Layton should be authorised to argue his case directly with HMRC on our behalf. It was noted that HMRC have threatened to pass the matter on to a debt collection agency if the fine is not paid; it was also pointed out that our reputation as directors, and that of the Town Team, is at risk. The situation will be reviewed at the next meeting.

PB

7. TOWN MATTERS

7.1 Nestle Site Proposals

We understand that although the new date for determination on the website is 20th April, it is not expected to go to the committee until July at the earliest. HPBC have asked CPG to re-do the Heritage Impact Statement, as the one submitted was a comparison between the Tesco proposal and the old bottling plant buildings, therefore not relevant. They have also commissioned JVA to carry out a thorough assessment of the Retail Impact Analysis, including the claim that impact on town centre shops would be offset by linked trips.

7.2 The Local Plan

Inspection of the Local Plan is on hold due to a major change in the national projection of housing requirements. HPBC therefore have to check through the impact of this on the Plan, assess how it affects the local need, and re-cast the arguments as to why the housing land bank is adequate. This should not prove problematic, because the requirements have been reduced, but it does mean a delay in the process.

7.3 Crescent Development

Apparently construction work is due to start in May, but we have no further details.

8. PROJECTS UPDATES & PROPOSALS

8.1 Project Monitoring

The updated summary sheet had been circulated. John is chasing closing reports for a number of projects.

JE

8.2 2020 Vision: Buxton Conference

The event went very well, and the post conference report is almost complete. It was agreed that this could be sent to Pure Buxton to meet their publishing deadline, under embargo until next week. The five key priorities for the town were identified as traffic, transport & parking; the Crescent development; the station, Nestle & DB Schenker area; the Market Place, Town Hall and Hardwick Hall; the retail offer. Most of these are in hand by one means or another. It was proposed that a Traffic & Transport Forum should be set up, involving all relevant organisations and expertise. Sarah will look into what role the University could play in this.

SR

8.3 Artisan Market Trials

A closing report had been circulated, this was accepted and can be posted on the website.

JM

It was noted that Denise has applied to hold the Artisan Market in Spring Gardens, and that Licensing are consulting. Our stance of neither opposing nor supporting this until the future of the regular market is known, was confirmed.

8.4 Winter Lights Competition

A project proposal had been circulated. It was agreed that the project team should register an interest with the competition, but that the proposal needed a lot more detail - type of lights, where placed, who will erect and dismantle, storage arrangements etc - before it can be approved and an entry submitted.

RM

8.5 Buxton Spring Clean & Railings Clean

A project proposal had been circulated, this was approved with zero budget.

9. MEETINGS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Joe attended the Community Voice meeting which was well attended and worth going to.

Philip attended an ATCM meeting with Jean Ball.

Long outstanding action on Roddie to arrange a date for the next meeting with Dai Lerner.

RM

Tina will attend the Vision Buxton Marketing Group meeting and the Derbyshire Business and Towns Forum.

TH

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Cinema

Philip had identified a company who are opening new cinemas in small towns eg Wisbech. They are due to assess Glossop's suitability after Easter, and have been persuaded to visit Buxton while on the same trip. Philip will continue to liaise with them. It was noted that there are other companies, who might be worth approaching, John will forward details to Philip to follow up.

PB

JE/PB

10.2 'Welcome to Buxton' Banners

This project was passed to the University, who are in discussion with Vision Buxton, who are in discussion with HPBC regarding planning permission. Dick is trying to reconcile the different viewpoints and agree a workable plan.

RS

10.3 ATCM Links

It was noted that the ATCM support through the Town Team Partnership comes to an end at the end of March, as does Jean's role as their East Midlands Advisor. Philip reported that Jean is trying to arrange via HPBC for ATCM membership to continue after this date for all the High Peak town teams.

11. DATES OF NEXT DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

The next meeting will be **7:30pm on Thursday 23rd April** in the Old Hall Hotel.

Two further meetings were agreed:

Monday 18th May 7:30pm

Tuesday 23rd June 7:30pm

Venue to be confirmed depending on decisions re a new venue for the Ideas Meeting.

JCMM

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