

BUXTON TOWN TEAM

NOTES ON THE DIRECTORS' MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2017

Present: Charles Jolly, Janet Miller, Jim Lowe, John Estruch, Matthew Nuttall, Philip Barton, Roddie MacLean, Richard Silson, Simon Fussell (to Item 7 only), Suzanne Pearson

Apologies: None

1. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the meeting of 26th October were approved and can be posted on the website.

JM

2. BOARD, DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The Search Group will be meeting again very soon. Roddie confirmed his intention to hand over to a new Chair (should we choose to appoint one) at the 2018 general meeting.

3. IDEAS & ACTION MEETING

The notes of the November meeting are in draft and will be circulated shortly. The main topic was a presentation by John Bishop about his work with young children. While the objective of developing a sense of civic involvement is similar to say the Railings Clean, it is not clear at this stage what role the Town Team might take.

4. COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

The notes of November meeting had been circulated. The proposed date for the workshop on engagement strategy is 22nd January; this was agreed, Janet will send out the invitations, the group will work up the agenda at their December meeting. They are also meeting Vladimir Antchak (UoD) that day.

JM

5. ACCESS, PARKING, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT GROUP

Notes on a meeting of the Travel Plan Steering Group had been circulated. It was noted that this was originally conceived as a sub-group of the APTT Group, but has as many members with a lot of overlap; we need to ensure that the other work of the APTT Group is not forgotten about.

Jim and Dick had separately met with Carol Parsons, who has funding for capital projects that encourage greater use of bikes (pedal and electric). Dick will write up the notes and circulate.

RS

6. SCRUTINY GROUP

The group have not met since their last report.

7. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCES

7.1 Current Position

One new member has joined since the last meeting, also noted that Geoff Willis died in October, total membership is 256. Facebook Likes are at 1481.

A finance report had been sent round showing a current balance of £13,865. A further £120 has been received since for Christmas lights, bringing total donations to £1,900, which will cover all the committed expenditure.

8. PROJECT UPDATES & PROPOSALS

8.1 Projects in Development

BID 2017: Outstanding action on Roddie to write a Supporting Role Project Proposal. This is urgent as the agreed £250 has already been paid to Vision Buxton. It was noted that this should not have happened before the proposal had been formally signed off.

RM

Market Place Enhancement: Outstanding action on Janet to draw up proposals for the University of Derby funding, this is also urgent as we have had the money for a considerable time now.

JM

Buxton Spring Fair 2018: Richard Lower is not willing to lead this in 2018 and so far no-one else has come forward. Janet will circulate a list of members for all of us to look through for people who might be approached; we should also consider other contacts who are not BTT members. If a leader is not found in the next few weeks we will have to let everyone know that we are taking a break next year.

JM

8.2 Buxton in Bloomin' Winter 2017 (JM)

Businesses and organisations have been emailed about 'adopt-a-spot' decorations and some have responded; one retailer emailed to raise objections, this has been addressed. Lights on the Slopes and the Market Place, as well as Christmas tree bows and other decorations, are being put up on Friday, Trevor Zoppi will be installing the Spring Gardens lights soon. Buxton Sparkles' plans for the parade are going well, with plenty of publicity.

8.3 Corporate Volunteer Hours (JL)

Jim will contact CEMEX about resuming volunteer days, but noted that plans tend to be made at short notice and can be changed due to unforeseen events at the quarry. The plan is to refurbish the benches on the Market Place, it was suggested that this project might link with the Market Place Enhancement project, with regards to fitting seats on the low walls and resurfacing the rough area outside the New Inn etc.

JL

8.4 Ashwood Park (SF)

Some planting has been done in the bed next to the quarryman statue and we should have a celebratory stone plaque to install soon. Hope was expressed that the yew trees could be cut back to hedge height soon.

SF

8.5 Slopes Care Team

Jim has a closing report in draft and will circulate it soon. It was agreed that the recommendation to continue as an ongoing activity could include occasional work in other locations in the town, but a new project proposal would be needed before taking on any other long term commitment.

JL

8.6 Open Gardens Trail 2017 (RM)

A closing report had been circulated, this was accepted subject to a minor correction on the costs table.

JM

Janet has written to Jo with our decision on their using the Town Team in 2018, we have not yet had a response.

8.7 Open Gardens Trail 2016 (RM)

A closing report had been circulated, this was accepted subject to the addition of £70 received in donations.

RM

8.8 Fairfield Road - Gateway to Buxton

A project proposal had been put forward, and the project had been discussed at the Ideas & Action meeting.

While we support the aims of the project some amendments are needed to the proposal, including clarification on plans for promotion and publicity; Janet will sort these out with Tina and Richard. It was also noted that Cllr Dave Kerr was separately trying to get a community group together to do something very similar, and that we need to agree the best way forward with him before finalising the proposal. Suzanne will follow this up, and if the revised proposal goes ahead will join the project team and act as the Link Director.

SP

8.9 Buxton Neighbourhood Development Plan (RS)

A pre-meeting had discussed this at length. It was agreed that we need to contact other organisations in town and find out their views first, asking for a response by Friday 5th January; Janet will make further amendments to the letter and circulate. If the response is generally positive we will sign off on a proposal to arrange the first public meeting only, John will draw up a project proposal for this. Those attending will agree whether to go ahead, and if so whether they want the Town Team to be the Neighbourhood Forum and 'host' the project or to make other arrangements. If the former we would need a second project proposal and to be clear about the terms under which the forum will operate.

JM

JE

8.10 Other Project Updates

A status report had been circulated. Further project updates noted as follows:

Talking Signposts 2017 (RM): Roddie will chase Kate for the Closing Report.

RM

APT&T Conference (RM): The Closing Report is long overdue.

RM

8.11 Ongoing Activities

Merchandise: Tea towels are still selling well, with one design available in four colours. It was suggested we could produce the Illustrated Map as a tea towel, but detail would be lost. It was also suggested that we could run a competition for a new pen and ink design, possibly as part of the Buxton Spa Prize, Suzanne will investigate.

SP

Litter Picking Group: A report had been circulated. It was noted that HPBC have offered to provide hi-viz jackets with wording; while working on the highway means they should be yellow, our logo plus 'volunteer' would work if printed in black rather than our normal colours. Roddie will ask Karen for more information.

RM

9. TOWN MATTERS

High Path: Roddie is in contact with the landowner, Bernard Titterton. Another section of wall is in danger of collapse, and will be rebuilt in due course.

Buxton BID: The feasibility report will be out in draft at the end of November. The 20% of businesses who were consulted with are generally in favour, but a vocal opposition group has developed among other businesses. If the study finds that there is a viable BID area, a group of 8-15 businesses will be set up to develop a business plan (structure, BID area, objectives etc), which will go to a referendum.

10. UPCOMING TOWN TEAM MEETINGS

10.1 Ideas & Action Meetings

The December meeting is a review of the year and social. Janet will book the space in the Cheese, Dick will organise the activities - we hope to have a 5 year anniversary video to show.

JM

RS

11. LINKS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Serpentine Walks: Jim and Simon had met on site with HPBC and FoPG, a plan is being developed for the maintenance of river banks and tree growth, and HPBC are looking for volunteer help with the work. Jim will maintain contact; if a significant amount of work is required a project proposal will be written up.

JL

Lightwood Reservoir: Nestle have called a meeting to discuss plans for the site and requested Town Team input, Simon will be asked to represent us if he is available.

SF

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Electric Car Charging Points: Transition Buxton are writing to all businesses in town who have car parking to suggest they install charging points and have asked if we will be co-signatories. This was agreed however it was noted that there are a number of different types of connectors and some guidance on this should be included.

CJ

13. DATES OF NEXT DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

Dates of the next Directors' meeting is:

Thursday 14th December

at 7:30pm, in No6 Tea Rooms.

JCMM

23Nov17