

WHALEY BRIDGE 4WARDS

Wednesday 1st June 2011

Inaugural Meeting

MINUTES

1. Welcome, present and introductions:

Cllr Jon Goldfinch	Chair/WBTC
Stephanie Raybould	Town Clerk
Mary Nother	Horwich End W.I.
Robin Wignall	Friends of WB Station
Cllr John Pritchard	HPBC/WBTC/Amenity Society
Maureen Roberts	WB Rose Queen Festival Committee
Ezra Garside	Local resident/business
Sam Gray	WB Association
Barry Rudd	Whaley Water Weekend event
Nigel Eastmond	Goyt Valley Round Table
Cllr David Lomax	HPBC/WBTC/Twinning Association
Mike Morris	HPBC Regeneration Officer
Barrie Taylor	DCC – County Councillor
Cllr Martin Thomas	WBTC

2. Regeneration Partnership

A brief history of the previous Regeneration Partnership (administered by HPBC) was circulated.

3. Goals for Whaley4Wards

To identify, prioritise, plan, design, cost and provide regeneration projects for Whaley Bridge and Furness Vale which are achievable within a short-timescale.

Parking provision was considered to be a priority.

Creating a definitive colour scheme for central WB was discussed.

Those present were asked to submit up to three ideas for regeneration projects within WB and FV. These to be achievable in a short timescale and affordable within current identified funding.

4. Funding

Whaley4Wards

Defining, Proposing and Implementing community supported achievable projects across the 4 Wards of Whaley Bridge.

Sources of funding:

Tesco Section 106 Agreement = £115,000 (85% for Whaley Bridge regeneration projects) to be released on completion of store extension.

It was agreed that projects eligible for this funding should be initiated and managed by Whaley4Wards and not HPBC.

Going Local Scheme (HPBC) = £40,000 to be divided between the four central areas. Eligibility and schemes with prior agreement from HPBC.

DCC – Small amount via member councillors (Cllr Barrie Taylor)

WBTC (possibly £2,000 initially)

Grant funding (e.g. Lottery and WREN)

Sponsorship (local business asked to sponsor portals, planters, website, etc.)

5. Projects

Those identified at the meeting:

- a) Parking provision
- b) Improved public toilet
- c) Improved communications/PR and publicity using modern technology and website.
- d) Portals/village entry features and signage. (Chapel Road, Long Hill, Macclesfield Road, Whaley Lane and Buxton Road)

6. Organisation

Chair: Cllr Jon Goldfinch

Secretary: Cllr Martin Thomas

Deputies: TBA

Press Officer: TBA (It was agreed to report on meeting to HP Radio)

Working Groups: As required

Relationship with WBTC: Stand-alone organisation but with advantageous financial connection (i.e. reclaiming VAT when applicable). Reporting back progress to WBTC at their monthly meetings.

Using WBA as umbrella organisation (for grant applications, etc.)?

6. **Date/venue for next meeting: Wed 22nd June 2011, 7pm, Mechanics Institute.**

Suggestions for consideration: (not part of the minutes and not in any order of priority). Please submit further suggestions for projects asap.

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1. Village entry features/portals
2. Highway verge planting and maintenance
3. Bridgemont roundabout redesign
4. Parking provision
5. Replacement bus shelters
6. Preserving historic features (e.g. Toddbrook Reservoir valve project)
7. Shop front improvements
8. Encourage new business for empty shops
9. Public toilet refurbishments
10. New Town Guide
11. Notice and interpretation boards
12. Railings/walls/street furniture upgrade and maintenance
13. Support for village events
14. Encourage tourism
15. Road junction improvements
16. Road and pavement surface improvements (road adoptions)
17. Coronation Rowan Project
18. Spring clean/town centre improvements (signs, graffiti removal, etc.)
- 19.

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