

## Whaley4Wards

### **Minutes of the 35th Meeting held at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at the Mechanics Institute**

#### **1. Welcome**

The following were present:

Cllr Jon Goldfinch	WBTC (Chairman)
Cllr Martin Thomas	WBTC/WB Amenity Society (acting Secretary)
Cllr Susanne Lomas	WBTC/COGS
Phil Lomas	Self Employed Engineer (ex Dorothea)
Mary Nother	Horwich End W.I.
Barry Rudd	W3
Cllr Anne Winter	WBTC/WB Amenity Society

#### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr John Pritchard	WBTC (Secretary)
Stephanie Raybould	WBTC Town Clerk
Cllr Barrie Taylor	WBTC

#### **3. Minutes of Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

The Minutes were **AGREED** as a correct record.

#### **4. Regeneration Grant Financial Update**

Cllr Goldfinch circulated a spreadsheet which shows that assuming the £2000 budget for the shop front scheme is utilised then the projected expenditure on planned projects almost perfectly balances the roll-forward and the current year grant.

#### **5. Actions Roundup and Next Steps**

**WW1 Commemorations:** A note has been put on the Whaley Bridge Community website that a new home was sought for a large display board (that had been donated by Seymour Silks, when the shop had moved to new premises) that remained at the Uniting Church, and that a PAT-tested Digital Projector/Lamp equipment was available for hire.

**Furness Vale Post Office Service:** The invoice for £1,000 from the Post Office officer has been paid. Cllr Susanne Lomas asked to record the thanks of the FV community for this grant.

**Missing Entrance Signs for FV and Bridgemont:** Cllr Goldfinch reported that both these have been located. They will be re-erected by DCC/HPBC.

**Shop-front improvements scheme:** Papers have been prepared and the comments of HPBC incorporated.

**Removal of Overgrown trees at Canal Basin:** HPBC have confirmed that this expenditure is eligible for inclusion under the regeneration budget.

## **6. Portal Entrance Signs**

**Whaley Bridge area:** The Town Clerk and Cllr Thomas will visit Leander to approve the painted signs as soon as they are ready.

**Furness Vale:** As previously noted above – therefore no new signs required.

## **7. Linear Park Panel (Bridge 43)**

Quotes have been received for the design work from designeverything for £320 and for the sign production from Arien Signs for £729. These were agreed and Cllr Thomas will proceed to instruct the production of a first draft.

## **8. Shallcross Incline Interpretation Panel**

Cllr Thomas and Mary Nother had met with the Town clerk and a designer, Paul Barton. However following the meeting, the Town Clerk has reported that DCC are still committed to assist her in design work. She reports that she has not had time to progress this., but remains committed to doing it.

## **9. Shop front and pavement improvement scheme**

**Market Street Pavements:** It was **AGREED** that photographic evidence (held by Cllr Thomas) should be submitted to the Town Clerk, who should draw the matter to the attention of DCC (Local Highways Authority) and request them to identify which areas of the pavement were the responsibility of DCC to maintain (and which were the responsibility of the shop owners or tenants). This item is on the January Town Council Agenda.

HPBC have suggested a means by which group schemes can be facilitated.

### **Shop front Improvement scheme:**

Cllr Goldfinch has worked with the guidance of Helen Pakpahan (HPBC) to produce a draft scheme for Whaley Bridge town centre. This scheme will work within an initial budget of £2000 to provide small grants of up to £1000 per project, but typically of £500. Funding will be at 50% of eligible expenditure.

HPBC already have a scheme for larger grants.

We already have one prospective applicant.

The timescales are very tight and applicants must submit their application by 31 Jan 2015, with expenditure committed by 31 March 2015.

A panel comprising: Cllr Goldfinch, Phil Lomas, Cllr Pritchard, Cllr Thomas and Barry Rudd will meet to decide on grant awards. Grants will be conditional on working up a scheme acceptable to the conservation officer of HPBC.

Awards will be made on the basis of maximising impact on the look of the town centre.

#### **10. Other Future Projects**

**Canal Basin Trees:** BR will speak with Monica Gillespie to seek advice about felling the trees which are to be removed. Budget of £500 agreed.

**Benches for Canal Basin:** BR has been offered two benches from CRT for £700 Budget of £900 agreed.

**Old Christmas Tree Lights** will be used in FV also next Christmas.

**Safety netting around Christmas Trees:** It was agreed to seek a less conspicuous colour such as green.

**FV Village Notice Board:** Cllr Goldfinch suggested the salvaged notice board from the Memorial Park might be used. Cllr Lomas will investigate the feasibility of siting this near St Johns Church, or other ideas.

**11. Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 11th February 2015 at 7.30pm at the Mechanics Institute.

**12. AOB:** None.