

# Todmorden Town Centre Development Board

25<sup>th</sup> November 2014

## Attendees:-

Councillor J Booth (Chair)	Claire Butler ( <i>Project Manager, Corporate Projects</i> )
Councillor J Battye	Joanne Gott ( <i>Programme Manager, Corporate Projects</i> )
Councillor D O'Neill	James Crawley ( <i>Lead for Corporate Projects</i> )
Councillor S Press	Andrew Pitts ( <i>Head of Neighbourhoods</i> )
Councillor S Sweeney	

## Welcome & apologies:-

Apologies were received from Councillor Caffrey, Councillor Rez, Councillor Thompson, Ian Gray and Robin Tuddenham.

## Agreement of minutes – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Agreed.

## Matters Arising

It was noted that representatives from the Todmorden Markets group had been invited to attend the meeting to provide an update, however there was no attendance and no apologies had been received in advance.

**Action: CB to invite Todmorden Markets representative to attend the January Board meeting**

**Action (c/f) : Officers to invite the EA to attend a future Board meeting to discuss the detail of the FRRS programme**

It was noted that the requested confirmation had been provided regarding Board membership, which clarified that Cllr Sweeney is a Board Member.

Board members raised concerns regarding the Rose Street compound area, as the gates are open and there has been damage to hoarding. Officers clarified that the compound area is no longer being used by the Environment Agency and is therefore in council ownership. Officers confirmed that a work instruction has been issued to CAFM to make good and secure the compound area.

Board asked if there was any update on ASDA, Hope Street. Officers advised that the position had not changed from that reported at the last meeting.

The Board requested that a formal letter be issued to ASDA on behalf of the Board to request an information update and clarification of timescales, as rumours are circulating indicating that the development is not proceeding.

**Action: JG/CB to action**

All other actions were covered by the main agenda items.

## Project Updates

### 1. Rose Street

Rose Street development options were discussed. After consideration, the Board agreed to invite developer representatives to the January 2015 Board to talk through their proposals in more detail. The Board noted it would be useful if the developer could give consideration to how their proposals would sit alongside public realm space.

**Action: Officers to invite developer to give a presentation to the January Board meeting**

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## 2. Water Street pedestrianisation

Officers provided an update on the proposed traffic study, which started on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014. A Highways officer has been asked to attend the February 2015 Board meeting to present the survey outcomes, recommendations and next steps.

## Todmorden Town Hall

Officers reported that interviews for the HLF co-ordinator role would be taking place on Weds 26<sup>th</sup> November. There had been a lot of interest in the role, from which 6 candidates had been shortlisted for interview. It was confirmed that the post had been advertised internally and externally, in line with HLF requirements. Cllr O'Neill asked that the Board be kept updated.

### **Action: Officers to update the Board following interviews**

Officers advised that the HLF funding award had been formally launched at an event held at the Town Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> November. The event had been co-ordinated with a photographic exhibition and a "scan and save" event where memorabilia was scanned and saved to the digital archive. The scan and save event had proved to be a phenomenal success, and the combined events attracted over 250 visitors in total to the Town Hall over the weekend. In addition, a number of local primary schools held their assemblies in the Town Hall on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllr O'Neill asked where the HLF co-ordinator would be based and whether they would be able to open up the building. AP advised that the post was part-time (18.5 hours per week), and the co-ordinator would therefore not be permanently based at the Town Hall. It is expected that the role will be 'hands on', working closely with the Town Hall manager. The longer-term aspiration is to establish a bank of trained volunteers who will be available to open up the building and conduct tours.

Officers explained that the outline project plan had been updated to reflect comments made at the last Board meeting. The plan was reviewed and accepted. Cllr O'Neill said it was important that the Board and the Working Group were joined up. Officers confirmed that they were taking the report to the next Working Group meeting (Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Nov).

It was noted that the next General Purposes Committee meeting date is on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and an update will be provided on behalf of the Development Board.

### **Action: Representatives from the Development Board to provide an update at the next Town Council General Purposes Committee**

## AOB

### 1. Centre Vale Park – Environment Agency flood remediation works

Officers advised that works had been stopped due to bad weather, and were not scheduled to start again until Spring 2015. Concerns were raised regarding arrangements for the Carnival (end May) and Agricultural Show (June), preparations for both of which would be starting shortly. Officers confirmed that members from the Agricultural Show were represented on the stakeholder group, who had been informed. It was noted that CMBC would be asking the EA to restart the works ASAP.

### 2. Centre Vale Park – HLF bid

Officers reported that initial feedback had been received from HLF which indicated that other parks are in greater need of funding and may therefore be prioritised. However, the Council has received various consultation and "mystery shopper" responses advising that the park is in urgent need of

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improvement. This will need to be worked into the bid.

### **3. Finance update**

A financial summary was circulated to the Board for information. It was noted that main items of expenditure related to the acquisition of the former health centre site and demolition works. It was noted that current restoration work at the Town Hall was being funded separately from CMBC's Asset Management Plan Capital budget.

### **Date of next meeting:-**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015, 5 - 7pm Committee Room A, Todmorden Town Hall.