



MINUTES

Date:

Tuesday 2nd October 2018

Time:

19:00 – 20:30

Venue:

Horwich Community Centre

1. Attendance, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Attended: Marie Brady, Stuart Whittle, David Barnes, Eileen Jepson, Barry Jubbs, John Rigby, Caroline Turner-Preece, Scott Turner-Preece, Peter Wright (9)

Apologies: Jim + Dorothy Bullock, Rod Riesco, Steve Glover, Susan Baines, Steve Chadwick (6)

Declarations of Interest: Members were asked to make a declaration of interest regarding items to be discussed, none were declared.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous meeting held 4th September 2018 were read and approved by the members who had been present at that meeting. All matters arising have been included in the agenda; the Chairperson signed and dated.

3. Actions Agreed from last meeting/ Actions Outstanding

Outstanding from last meeting (4/9/18): Website: Progress has been made in finding someone to design a website (**see report in section 5 below**):-

Actions Agreed from 4th September meeting:

- Marie B reported that Locality Funding has now been received and we have a cheque for £6,000 and that Technical Assistance has been granted. (**see report below**)
- Caroline T-Preece has been in touch with a number of photographers/social media up-loaders including Peter Ravald, John Winter, Andrew Murdoch and Ian Allcroft with a view to obtaining a stock of photos of Open Spaces in Horwich which could be potentially used in future publications (online or in print; with permission) this is to get more people interested in the N-Plan, asking people to let us know which spaces are important to them and why. **Action: The work on this is on-going**
- It was suggested we might all benefit from training. CPRE run courses on N-Plans or Steve G may know someone who has this expertise and might be willing to give us some advice. **Action: Steve Glover to make enquiries**
- C T-P offered to design some posters to be put in local Estate Agents (Lancasters, Regency and Redman-Casey's) **Action: Caroline to explore the possibility of a communication strategy.**

4. Issues discussed 2nd October 2018 (use topic headings)

Draft Vision & Objectives: Prior to the meeting on 4th September Stuart Whittle had emailed everyone a Ten Point Plan to act as a vision document to capture the public's imagination and get more Horwich residents interested in the Neighbourhood Plan. It included a draft Vision Statement and Ten Objectives with examples of Community Actions that might kick-start people into forming action groups they align themselves to.

This was discussed at length on 2nd October and resulted in the Ten Point Plan becoming a 7 Point version. All ten points remain, however some have been merged to align with others (see appendix 1).

The Lowick Neighbourhood Plan design is accepted as the working model ie. short and snappy and to the point; and providing every sub-group meets to draft a page outlining their area(s) of specialism with a draft vision statement (only a couple of sentences needed in the vision) we should be able to circulate them between ourselves by 23rd October.

The objective of the document we are drafting is to draw together the people of Horwich to become part of a Community Action that is pertinent to them. By setting it out simply with an Objective: followed by a Policy Statement; then a proposed Action, with short questions asking if people Agree/Disagree, allowing a few lines of feedback it keeps it easy to follow the pattern. Members were urged to refer to the Lowick version emailed and relate it to Horwich **Action: Scott and Caroline Turner-Preece will be collating the drafts into a combined working document.**

Updates were given by sub-group members that attended, including Barry Jubb who queried whether ALL Sporting Facilities need to be included with the list for Sporting Green Spaces. Eileen J circulated the document sent by Rod Riesco (who had given his apologies prior to the meeting) it outlined planning policy relating to Green and Open Spaces. David B brought attention to the fact that we now have two SSSI's within our Horwich Boundary which should have special reference in the document being drafted as they are our own "Horwich Crown Jewels"; Red Moss and Smithills Moor which forms part of the West Pennine Moors (and is managed by the Woodland Trust) should this be classed as Active Open Space? John R also enquired whether the land that Bolton Council has recently recognised as a Green Corridor, which covers the Golf Course, Nellie's Clough and adjacent farmland be classified for protection as a leisure facility or Community Asset value? **Action: Barry J to list All Sporting Green Spaces to take to the sub-group meeting**

Updates were given by sub-group members David Barnes who presented the draft H&SC and Well-Being document and Eileen J who was presenting Education. As both Health and Education are statutory agencies it was agreed that they be co-joined and EJ handed over the draft Education document to David B. **Action: DB has agreed to amalgamate them into one.**

John Rigby presented the Business & Employment draft he had prepared and enquired whether Heritage is part of the Business remit as Heritage covers the whole of Lee Lane and part of Church Street (which is predominantly shops and businesses). Marie B explained that Heritage will be emphasised in a lot of areas and does not necessarily need to be a separate issue.

Marie B reported that the Horwich Business Alliance has indicated that it wants to become involved with the Neighbourhood Plan. There is to be a meeting on Thursday 11th October at 5pm where MB will explain the type of plan / vision they will need to produce for the people of Horwich to eventually vote for it. Car parking will feature highly in the potential plan. Eileen J suggested a map showing where toilet facilities are located in Horwich town centre for people who come to shop here but aren't aware of public places where they can use them as this was highlighted in a recent public engagement.

5. **Application for Locality Funding** – Marie B happily reported that the application has been approved and we now have the first £6,000 of funding, some of which will be needed for the printing of the leaflets we are currently preparing. Some funding has also been used to engage a web site designer (see item 6). Marie B had an hour long telephone conversation with Aecom on 28th September and she has ordered a Housing Needs Assessment to commence with immediate effect; the payment for this will come from the government as we qualify for Technical Assistance. Providing we keep good communications with Aecom they are happy to assist us.
6. **Website** – A quote from Neil Rickaby was: £800 to set up and maintain the site for 1 year; £400 up front followed by £400 when it is running satisfactorily. It was agreed and £400 has been sent.

With regard to the You Tube video clips it was felt that as we are now going ahead with the web site, then the sound-bites with photos can be uploaded straight onto the web site and see what kind of impact it makes before embarking on You Tube.

- 7. **AOB:** David B made a closing suggestion about having a shorter Vision Statement with a little less emphasis on the railway heritage as we have a lot more going on in Horwich, including being a gateway to the West Pennine Moors.

Barry J will be speaking to our local MP Chris Green about getting his support for a new roundabout on Chorley New Road at the junction with the opening to Fowler Industrial Estate. It could potentially relieve traffic congestion along CNRd if Bolton Council were to open up the access from the end of the current cul-de-sac and build 800 yards of road to join up with the link road that runs through Middlebrook (close to the Royal Mail parcel office) as vehicles could drive through the industrial estate, on to the Middlebrook spine road. Time is of the essence as the work is being put out to tender by Bolton Council very soon. Most people agreed that Barry's idea is a good one but the map needs an overlay.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed.

Declaration: These are a true record of the meeting

Signature Date

Next Meeting: Tuesday 6th November 2018

7.00 pm – 8.30 pm at Horwich Community Centre