

**Minutes from the Airedale Partnership Board meeting held on the 10th
September 2009 at the Airedale Partnership Offices Keighley**

Present:

Mick Milner, Leach & Thompson (Acting Chair)
Trevor Higgins, BT
Bob Gomersall, Bradford Technology Group Ltd
Nav Chohan, Shipley College
Adam Cairns, Airedale PCT
William Jowitt

In Attendance:

Andy Taylor, Airedale Partnership
Robert Brough, Airedale Partnership

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

1.1 Introductions were given and everyone was welcomed to the meeting

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Adrian Naylor (Chair)

3.0 Declaration of Interest

3.1 These would be noted as and when they occurred during the meeting

4.0 Minutes of the previous meeting

4.1 The minutes of the meetings held on the 2nd April and 28th May 2009, were agreed and will be published on the Partnership's website

5.0 Matters arising

5.1 It was noted that Mick Milner is not the Vice Chair. This will be removed from the Minutes of the 2nd April.

5.2 Trevor Higgins thanked the Board for its support in successfully lobbying for investment in Next Generation broadband in Shipley and Saltaire. Trevor emphasised the requirement for an early meeting with planners to ensure the smooth implementation of the fibre-optic network. The sensitivity of installation in the Saltaire World Heritage site was also recognised. Andy Taylor agreed to set up the meeting between BT and the Council's Planning and Conservation team.

6.0 Airedale Health Village – Adam Cairns

6.1 The Airedale Health Village is a proposal for Airedale Hospital to develop its business in relation to its assets and to stimulate enterprise, employment and economic development.

The development of this idea began with an initial scoping study (now complete). This is being followed by a commercial viability study which when completed will be put to the Hospital Board to decide whether to continue to the development phase of the Health Village. Progressing

the project would be dependent on securing funding from external partners.

Importantly the project brings together many different partners from the public and health sector, health related businesses and business support services.

Agreed – The Board gave its full support to the Airedale Health Village project and requested that Adam produce a brief prospectus for Board members to assist them to promote the project in other forums.

7.0 Masterplan update

7.1 Andy Taylor updated the Board on progress with the masterplan since the last meeting.

Key progress included:

- Continued progress with the Advanced Digital Institute including the official opening by Lord Mandelson of the ADI's new offices in the Waterfront building, Saltaire.
- Securing funding for Phase 1 of the Connecting Airedale package of transport improvements.
- The completion of an advocacy document for the proposed improvements to Keighley Station for discussion with key stakeholders.
- The completion of the feasibility and options study by BDP on the existing College buildings in Keighley, the proposed North Street, Mixed Use Development. A presentation on the outcome of this study would be made at the next Board meeting.

The update also included work on the rural economy, an Interreg project and Partnership events.

7.2 The Board discussed and agreed on the need to build on the positive networking and PR which accompanied the ADI opening event and suggest that the ADI would be a good project to showcase at the next District Regeneration Conference in October. Trevor Higgins and Mick Milner informed the meeting that they were being consulted on the agenda of the conference and would put forward this proposal.

7.3 The Board were also informed that Tesco had formally submitted a planning application for their proposed store on the Bingley Auction Mart site. After extensive discussion the Board expressed their view that the proposal would be detrimental to the vitality and health of Bingley Town Centre and lead to a loss of scarce employment land. It was contrary to the aims and objectives of the Airedale Masterplan. They agreed to formally oppose the application but requested that the Partnership officers continue discussions with both planning officers and Tesco to monitor progress and ensure that if successful, the

conditions of approval minimised the detrimental impact of the development and maximised economic and employment benefits.

Agreed –

- a) The Board noted and supported progress with the Masterplan to date
- b) That the proposal for the development of a Tesco store on the Bingley Auction Mart would have a detrimental impact on the vitality and health of Bingley Town Centre, lead to a loss of scarce employment and was contrary to the aims and objectives of the Masterplan. The Airedale Partnership opposes the application.

8.0 Task and Finish Group

- 8.1 The Board were informed that following approval of the £2.7m Outline Business Plan by Yorkshire Forward Full Business Plans (FBP) are being developed for the Centre for Connected Health (ADI), the Buck Lane Development (including promoting Airedale) and the High Value Manufacturing Institute (HVMI). The development of the FBPs for the first two of these projects is progressing well, but further work is required to clearly define and differentiate the HVMI. There is concern within Yorkshire Forward that the HVI would overlap the work of the Manufacturing Advisory Service. It was suggested that the experience gained in establishing the ADI could inform the process of setting a clear vision for the HVMI. The next meeting of the Airedale Task & Finish group will be held on the 25th September.

Agreed –

- a) That progress with the Airedale Task & Finish Group be noted
- b) That a meeting be held with the CEO of the ADI, Bob Gomersall, Mick Milner and Andy Taylor to assist in the development the vision for the HVMI.

9.0 Board Membership

- 9.1 Nav Chohan was welcomed as a Board member following the retirement of Jean McAllister. In order to strengthen the Board four new business people have been recommended to join the Partnership.

Agreed - That the proposals be ratified at a future special meeting to be held on 15 October 2009.

10.0 Future agenda plan

- 10.1 The future agenda plan was discussed and several new items were suggested for inclusion for the future

11.0 Press coverage

11.1 Press coverage since the last Board meeting was circulated to the Board

12.0 AOB

12.1 The meeting was informed that the Partnership would be represented at the inauguration of the Airedale Methodist Church circuit as the masterplan guided their thinking in the establishment of the new circuit

12.2 Nav Chohan informed the Board that Shipley Colleges development strategy is still a high priority despite the recent LSC funding problems. They are working with the World Heritage site and Bradford Council on the provision of visitor information centre and a World Heritage Centre

12.3 The next Board annual review meeting will be held in the New Year following the appointment of the new Board members.

The next meeting will be held on the 15th October at 2:00pm at the Airedale Partnership offices in Keighley