

Minutes from the Airedale Partnership Board meeting held 18th January 2007 at 14:00 at Airedale Partnership Offices North Street

Present: Cllr Andrew Mallinson, Chair
Mick Milner, Leach & Thompson
Jean McAllister, Shipley College/the Learning Partnership
William Jowitt, Carnaud Metal Box
Bob Gomersall, Bradford Technology Group Ltd
Cllr Lynne Joyce, BMDC
Trevor Higgins, BT

In attendance: Andy Taylor, Regeneration Manager, Airedale Partnership
Robert Brough, Brokerage & Network Coordinator
Steve Barton, Major Works BMDC
Joe Grint, Transportation & Planning BMDC

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Apologies were received from Adam Cairns

3.0 Declarations of interest

3.1 Jean McAllister declared an interest from Shipley College under the Skills Action Plan funding item. Otherwise declarations of interest would be noted as and when they occurred during the meeting.

4.0 Minutes from the last meeting

4.1 The minutes from the 7th December meeting were agreed as a true record and will be placed on the Partnership website.

5.0 Matters arising:

5.1 It was agreed that future agendas will include an update on progress of the Leeds City Region strategy

6.0 Presentation by Steve Barton on the Airedale Transport Improvement Project/Shipley Eastern Link and Canal Road Corridor, followed by a short synopsis by Joe Grint on possible alternative transport solutions.

6.1 Steve Barton gave a presentation explaining the background and history of bringing about improvements to the long term transport infrastructure in Airedale.
The various past options for solutions and the problems they raised were explained followed by current thinking on what the most effective solutions could be.

6.2 Joe Grint lead a brief discussion on possible other alternatives to help reduce traffic congestion in Airedale from home working, car sharing, car clubs to better access for pedestrians and cyclists. Links were also made to the need for businesses to consider disaster planning contingencies.

6.3 It was agreed that a further meeting be set up with key Board members to discuss the options in more detail. Joe Grint agreed to circulate details of other measures to Board members.

7.0 YF Digital Cluster Team visit

7.1 Andy Taylor updated the Board on the above visit and confirmed that the Partnership had completed all the action points that were agreed from the visit. We are now waiting to hear from Stuart McFarlane at Yorkshire Forward.

7.2 It was agreed that a further report on action following the visit would be included on the agenda of a future meeting of the Board.

8.0 Masterplan update:

8.1 A report on progress with the delivery of the masterplan was circulated with agenda. All five priority projects were moving forward and making progress.

8.2 Andy Taylor also informed the meeting that the bid to Yorkshire Forward for funding for the Airedale management team is nearing approval; however some additional information was requested. It was anticipated that the funding bid would be considered by the Yorkshire Forward Executive Team to approve stage 4 over the next couple of weeks

8.3 The ADI have now appointed new engineering staff bringing the total full time staff to 5 in line with its business plan.

8.4 Consultants Arup have now been appointed to undertake scoping studies on Keighley Station and Transport Strategy. Network Rail is also looking at access improvements at Keighley and Shipley Stations.

9.0 Membership of Regeneration Keighley (RK):

9.1 Following a brief description of the aims of RK the Board was asked to nominate either a Board member or to give delegated powers to Andy Taylor or Robert Brough to attend RK Board meetings on their behalf.

9.2 It was agreed that Andy Taylor would attend on behalf of the Partnership. Robert Brough will attend the equivalent meeting in Shipley.

10.0 Press Coverage:

10.1 A summary of masterplan coverage was issued with 3 articles featuring the masterplan so far in January 2007.

11. AOB:

11.1 Bingley PO closure – Trevor Higgins raised his concerns about the closure of the Post Office in Bingley Town Centre.

11.2 The Airedale Partnership Marketing Plan– It was agreed that a marketing plan would developed by Robert Brough to be discussed at the next meeting.

12.0 Date of Next meeting – will be held at 14:00 on the 8th March 2007 at the Partnership offices on North Street, Keighley.