

Minutes from the Airedale Partnership Board meeting held 26th October 2006 at 14:00 at North Street

Present: Cllr Andrew Mallinson, Chair
Mick Milner, Leach & Thompson
Jean McAllister, Shipley College/the Learning Partnership
William Jowitt, Carnaud Metal Box

In attendance: Andy Taylor: Regeneration Manager, Airedale Partnership
Diane Ramsden, Monitoring Officer, Airedale Partnership
Robert Campbell, b enterprising.

1. Welcome and Introductions:

1.1 The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Apologies:

2.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Lynne Joyce, Bob Gomersall, Trevor Higgins

3. Declarations of interest:

3.1 This would be noted as and when it occurred during the meeting.

4. Minutes from the last meeting:

4.1 The Minutes from the 14th September meeting were agreed as a true record and will be placed on the Partnership website.

5. Matters arising

5.1 William Jowitt requested an update on progress with arranging the Dockfield Road Business Forum. Andy Taylor informed the meeting that arrangements were well advanced for a meeting of the Dalton Lane Business Forum on 14 December 2006 but a date hadn't yet been agreed for the Dockfield Road Forum. It was agreed that the Airedale Partnership office would liaise with William to set a date and agree an agenda as soon as possible.

6. Briefing on the LEGI Programme – Robert Campbell

6.1 Robert Campbell attended the meeting and briefed the Board on the LEGI programme. Bradford has been awarded £21.4m over the next 30 months to encourage local people to set up their own businesses. It's a district wide initiative providing intensive support and assistance. The first contracts for the delivery of the programme have been awarded:

- Accent Community Partnerships to target young people
- Digitalife to support women returners

- Into Business providing advice and guidance to the unemployed
- A consortium of companies, including Bradford Chamber and AES led by the West Yorkshire Enterprise Partnership providing intensive support to entrepreneurs.

6.2 Funding has also been awarded to the Bradford Enterprise Fund run by Bradford Chamber. This will help people who are unable to secure bank loans with loans from £500 up to £30k. Applicants must have a good business proposal and agree to intensive mentoring. A Property fund has also been launched providing grants for property improvements to developers, landlords or tenants.

6.3 Robert also updated on the Airedale Enterprise Facilitation Project, one of six projects across the district, which has been submitted following widespread consultation with the Board and other key stakeholders. Airedale has been provisionally allocated £300k. A showcase event of the consultants who have been shortlisted to provide the support to the project will take place on the 8th November. This will be followed by a series of meetings to agree the preferred provider. Further discussions need to take place fairly quickly on how this would work for Airedale.

6.4 In the subsequent discussion Board members stressed the need for the Facilitation Project to work closely with the Partnership and ensure it supported the delivery of the Masterplan.

6.5 The Board thanked Robert for the briefing and asked to be kept informed on progress.

7. Next Steps Workshop

7.1 A report on the Next Steps workshop held on 26th October was circulated with the agenda. Five key issues were identified on the day and staff are currently drawing up action plans to address these. Actions to take forward the 5 priority projects were also identified and a Board member nominated as a lead member for each of the projects. It is proposed to hold a series of meetings with the lead Board members to brief them on the projects and agree project plans.

7.2 There was a discussion on the value of holding further workshops with stakeholders following the success of the discussions with Adam Cairns, Airedale Hospital and Jonathan Kerr, Craven District Council. It was felt that such an event would be valuable covering a specific policy or project focus and involving 3 or 4 relevant stakeholders.

7.3 It was agreed:

- a) To approve the actions outlined in the report.
- b) To request officer(s) to bring a report on proposals for a second stakeholder workshop to a future meeting of the Board.

8. Review of Board members

8.1 A report on Board membership was circulated with the agenda. The Board were reminded that the constitution allowed for 2 co-opted members. At the Next Steps Workshop Adam Cairns had been invited to become a member of the Airedale Partnership Board for the reasons outlined in the report, but this needed to be formally agreed by the Board at the meeting of the 26th October.

8.2 A further vacancy existed on the Board to be nominated by Bradford Vision. The Board expressed the view that it was important to keep the balance of public and private sector members and with the appointment of Adam Cairns, any further appointments should ideally be from the private sector. It was also agreed that as the Next Steps Workshop highlighted the importance of developing the Airedale brand and developing the tourism offer, strengthening the Board with a member from a branding, marketing or tourism background would be advantageous.

8.3 It was agreed:

- a) To confirm the appointment of Adam Cairns as a co-opted member of the Board
- b) To ask Bradford Vision to forward names for consideration by the Board
- c) To review Board membership at a future meeting to assess whether additional skills or competencies are required.

9. Press coverage

9.1 A list of press coverage on the Airedale masterplan was circulated. The recent coverage of the planning application for Coolgardie farm was highlighted. Officers from the Partnership and the Regeneration department are working with the developer to progress the proposal and make sure it is a success.

9.2 The Board noted the press coverage and the work taking place to support the proposed development on Coolgardie Farm.

10. AOB

ASDA

10.1 Mick Milner has attended a meeting held under the auspices of the Airedale Partnership to discuss the effects of Asda coming to Keighley and to plan how to help businesses in the town centre. A number of actions were agreed by the partners present. Mick had had a subsequent meeting with the Town Council to brief them and get their

support for the proposed action. An application for funding was being made to the Economic Partnership to support this work.

- 10.2** It was agreed that the Partnership would approach Asda, Sainsbury's and Morrisons to set up a meeting to discuss their future plans and how they could work with the Partnership. It was also agreed to consider how support could be given to Shipley and Bingley Town Centres.

Future Board Meetings

- 10.3** Jean McAllister raised the question as to the extent to which the work of the Partnership was recognised by the Council and the process by which its views were considered by the Council, Yorkshire Forward and others. The Board was reminded that the Airedale Partnership was established by Bradford Council in partnership with Yorkshire Forward, the Council approved its constitution and agreed the masterplan and its delivery.
- 10.4** Jean McAllister commented that when the Partnership was first established Council officers attended to discuss issues, policies and projects which impacted on Airedale. These had been useful discussions where the Partnership was able to influence policy and she would welcome this in the future. This was supported by the Board.

Date of Next meeting - 7th December at North Street.