Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee

of Saddleworth Parish Council Held at the Civic Hall, Lee Street, Uppermill on

**Thursday 6th April 2017**

There were present: Cllrs: Rob Knotts

 Keith Lucas

Andrew Fletcher Georgina Brownridge (OMBC)

Lisa MacDonald (DP) Jane Soriente (DP)

Geoff Willerton John McCann (OMBC)

22. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Barbara Beeley and Adele Metcalfe (NPA).

23. The minutes of the meeting held on 9th March were **APPROVED and SIGNED**.

24. **Neighbourhood Plan Timeline**

 It was noted that the project is currently on track with the timeline.

25. **Website page**

 The page is not yet set up. The Clerk will chase Cornerstones on where the work is up to

Cllr Lucas asked whether a search facility could be put onto the Parish Council website. The Clerk said she will ask Cornerstones.

26. **Grant Application**

The application will be completed this week.

27. **Meeting with Stephen Irvine, Oldham Council**

Cllr Knotts summarised the meeting which had been held the previous week as a follow up to the meeting which to place in October to discuss issues about planning application notifications. The most important point raised was that, apart from major strategic planning applications, once the Neighbourhood Plan is approved, Oldham Council may delegate decision on planning applications in Saddleworth to the Parish Council. John McCann stressed that parish councillors would have to have up to date training on planning legislation but the advantage would be that the decisions will be made by people who are familiar with the area.

28. **Meeting with Oldham Council and the Peak Park**

A meeting had been held on 30th March with senior representatives of the Peak Park, Oldham Council, the District Partnership and the Parish Council. The meeting had been very productive and the GMSF proposals for the Fletcher’s site had been discussed at length. Lisa McDonald said that she will circulate the notes from the meeting.

29. **Parish Council and Community Associations Forum**

Cllr Knotts said that the PC/CA Forum will take place later today and that he will be doing a presentation on the Neighbourhood Plan. It was also the intention to then develop a timetable for the workshops for each association, and the following points need to be considered:

* What format will the workshops take;
* What are the expectations from the workshops; and
* What is the structure and content of the workshops.

David Sanderson, a local resident and former member of the British Council is expected to attend tonight’s meeting and is keen to be involved in the project.

Georgina Brownridge had made some suggestions for the workshops in relation to national planning policy framework. Lisa McDonald said that Martin Burroughs in Oldham Council’s Intelligence Unit will help with statistics and she is meeting with him after Easter to discuss what he may be able to provide.

Cllr Knotts referred to the GMSF website which now has detailed mapping information. Georgina Brownridge said that this will be expanded to include, for example, areas of special scientific interest.

Cindy Salisbury has been engaged to provide support on Twitter and Facebook and is preparing an article for the website.

30. **Any Other Business**

Georgina Brownridge is arranging a visit to Bradwell in May to look at their Neighbourhood Plan.

There is a Neighbourhood Plan policy statement on Oldham Council’s website – she will circulate the link.

Andrew Fletcher asked about the timings of the meetings with the communities and stressed the importance of them being open to anyone in each community, not just members of the associations.

31. **Date of next meeting**

 Thursday 27th April at 9:30am at the Civic Hall.