Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee

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

Thursday 26th April 2018

There were present: Cllrs: Barbara Beeley (Chair)

Rob Knotts (Vice Chair)

Geoff Bayley

Pam Byrne

Paul Fryer

Georgina Brownridge (OMBC)

Lisa MacDonald (DP)

Andrew Fletcher

Geoff Willerton

**130.** **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. John McCann, Adele Metcalfe (PP) and Jane Soriente.

**131. Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd March 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd March 2018 were **APPROVED** **and SIGNED**.

**132.** **Actions agreed last meeting not included separately on the agenda**

Cllr. Byrne said that she would contact David Sanderson again after the May elections and try to progress work on the Uppermill Neighbourhood Plan (ref. M128). She also informed the meeting that 3 farmers had done a significant amount of work on drafting a plan for Denshaw which she will try to get copies of.

**133.** **Actions from the last meeting**

Cllr. Bayley said that he had done further investigation into the vacant properties in Delph. He had found out that 2 of the properties thought to be vacant were actually a single dwelling, both front doors having been retained to maintain the original appearance of the building; the 2 barns are currently being used as storage and all the other properties, except one, have Council Tax rating bands. The vacant property and the 2 barns could be converted into dwellings. It was **AGREED that Cllr. Bayley write up his findings as a case study which could be used to identify empty and derelict properties in the other villages.**

Andrew Fletcher presented the first draft of the Vision Statement which he had based on the information provided in several successful Neighbourhood Plans. The draft Vision states that it “reflects views expressed by local people” which it was acknowledged is not currently true but which will be once the final plan has been drawn up. The 3 bullet points in the 3rd paragraph may be moved to the glossary in the final plan. A number of minor amendments were suggested and it was **AGREED that these be incorporated into the draft Vision which will then be put on hold and revisited once the detailed plan emerges.**

Cllr. Beeley presented the skeleton plan which she has been working on. She said that she had read through several other plans and picked out the common points from them all and then sorted them into topics and chapters. It was noted that a lot of the information in the skeleton already exists but is not village specific. It was also noted that some of the documents referred to are currently under review and the revised versions need to be referred to in the final plan, not the current ones. Georgina Brownridge said that there is a Peak Park Local Plan in addition to the Management Plan and said that reference to the Transport 2040 Strategy also needs to be included. Cllr Fryer said that himself and Cllr Roman were in the process of updating the Saddleworth flooding plan and this could be included in the Infrastructure section. Andrew Fletcher said that Saddleworth is a “place of many villages” and asked how villages could be persuaded to take ownership of their section(s). He suggested that a housing plan for each village be included. This may help to ensure a successful referendum. Cllr. Knotts said that a further series of community briefings should take place over the next few months to ensure that villages are still on board with the project. It was **AGREED that Cllr Beeley amend the skeleton with the suggestions from the discussion.** Cllr. Knotts said that he will start to gather together the statistical information and Georgina Brownridge said that she will ask Martin Burroughs at Oldham Council to fill in any gaps.

**134. Update from Fletcher’s/Tanner’s Meetings**

A meeting has now been arranged with the Parish Council, Oldham Council, Peak Park and the master planners, IBI, for 8th May.

Cllr. Knotts commented that the meeting already held with Tanners had been good but had reservations following the meeting with Purico. Cllr Beeley said that it is important to keep an open mind until the meeting with IBI has taken place.

**135. Review of Project Timeline**

Cllr Knotts said that the timeline needs to be revised. He said that, although progress would depend on the level of support which can be obtained, the timeline is still achievable given that a skeleton plan now exists.

**136. Survey**

Cllr Knotts said that the work is in progress and will be complete for discussion at the next meeting.

**137. Funding**

Cllr Beeley said that the Parish council had agreed for the release of up to £7,500 from reserves to fund administrative support. She said that she had discussed the issue with Ellie Eccleston, who had not yet responded, and would contact her again.

Cllr Knotts said that the unspent part of the grant has to be repaid, although it may be possible to reapply for it in the new grant period. The amount of grant available to be applied for is not yet known but he felt that a much stronger case needs to be presented to secure grant funding. Lisa McDonald said that the application should be made easier now that a skeleton plan is in place as it demonstrates the progress made. Cllr Knotts said that he will meet with Pam Bailey in the next week to draft the end of grant report.

***Following the meeting, Cllr Knotts received an e-mail from Groundworks (NP Grant awards office) Neighbourhood Planning team confirming that Saddleworth Parish Council  will be able to claim back their underspend in a new grant period.***

**138. Website and Training**

Cllr Beeley said that website is now running and she has given all the names of people to be trained to Cornerstones. She suggested that this be done at the next Strategic Planning Committee but it was noted that this may not be achievable as people may have work commitments. She said that she would ask the nominees for 2 or 3 convenient dates.

**139. Dates and times of next meetings (to be confirmed at Annual Council):**

31st May 2018 29th November 2018

28th June 2018 20th December 2018

26th July 2018 31st January 2019

30th August 2018 28th February 2019

27th September 2018 28th March 2019

25th October 2018 25th April 2019

at 9:30am