Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee

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

**Thursday 26th October 2017**

There were present: Cllrs: Barbara Beeley (Chair)

Rob Knotts (Vice Chair)

John McCann (DP)

Geoff Bayley

Pam Byrne

Paul Fryer

Neil Allsopp

Geoff Willerton

Georgina Brownridge (OMBC)

Lisa MacDonald (DP)

**83.** **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Andrew Fletcher and Adele Metcalfe (PP).

**84.** **Minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2017**

Minute 66(a) was amended as follows:

“Georgina Brownridge confirmed that the Neighbourhood Plan timescale ~~will need to~~ **can** be extended ~~as it dependent on both the GMSF and the Oldham Local Plan~~.”

The minutes were then **APPROVED and SIGNED**.

**85.** **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**86.** **Project Round Up**

**Grant Funding / Project Support**

Rob Knotts said that he had spoken to Mrs Appleby regarding grant funding for professional assistance with the project. The maximum funding available if £15,000 (including the £5,925 already awarded). More funding would be available of the Plan was split into different areas, but this would mean re-designating the area (agreement for the current designated area took 2 years). Georgina Brownridge said that splitting into smaller areas would reduce the grant criteria so available funding would be proportionately reduced. Lisa MacDonald said that it may be possible to recruit a graduate trainee but the down side to that would be that they wouldn’t have any experience of planning / neighbourhood planning. There would also be the question of who would may for the post and a job description would be needed.

Lisa MacDonald said that she and Georgina are meeting with Martin Burroughs in Oldham Council’s Business Development Unit to look at the data he has collated for the Local Plan to see if it could be used for the Neighbourhood Plan and/or whether it can be drilled down to meet the Neighbourhood Plan requirements.

Barbara Beeley said that she had spoken to Action Together but that they no longer provide project support. Neil Allsopp asked contact could be made with other councils who have written a Neighbourhood Plan to see if they can assist. Barbara Beeley said that we have contact with Bradwell but they are much smaller and less complex then Saddleworth. Lisa Macdonald and Georgina Brownridge agreed to speak to John Bloor/Jonathan Phillip at Oldham as soon as possible to see if they can provide any assistance. Geoff Willerton said that he would speak to a former colleague who works for DCLG to see if there are other grant monies available which could be applied for.

Lisa MacDonald said that she had met with Sally Hinton from Pennine Prospects and Louise Slater from Oldham Council regarding the LEADER grant funding opportunity it was decided to hold a business engagement event to promote the LEADER funding and also take the opportunity to offer information about the Business Growth Hub, the Oldham Enterprise Fund and the Neighbourhood Plan. The event will take place at the Clough Manor – 8am – 10am on 7 December.

It was suggested that a discussion take place with the Get Oldham Working Team to see if there are any opportunities/advantages in recruiting a graduate trainee to give professional support. Georgina said that she would ask Ellie Eccleston at Get Oldham Working to contact Barbara Beeley about available options.

**Website**

Barbara Beeley said that the website is up and running but that she still needs the contact details from some of the community associations for their nominated person who will be uploading information onto the website. Neil Allsopp said that training would be required. He suggested, and it was **RECOMMENDED** **that the Council be asked to fund this from the underspend on the Councillors’ Training budget.** Barbara Beeley said that she would contact Cornerstones to arrange this as soon as possible. She said that she would circulate the list of missing contact information.

**87. DCLG Consultation Paper – Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places**

Barbara Beeley circulated her first draft of the Council’s response to the paper. The draft was discussed at length and the comments agreed, amended or inserted as appropriate. Barbara Beeley said that she would update the response and recirculate for any further comments prior to it being presented to Council on 27th November for approval prior to submission to DCLG by the 8th December deadline date. It was also agreed that, despite NALC having been selective with the questions they sought responses to, the full document would also be sent to them.

**88. Any Other Business**

Uppermill Community Association are to hold their Neighbourhood Plan meeting on 21st November in the lower hall at the Civic Hall.

Georgina Brownridge asked wat was happening with regard to the surveys. Rob Knotts said that the Dobcross survey is to be rolled out to all the other villages.

There was a brief discussion about Community Land Trusts (CLT). Rob Knotts said that Alan Roughley wants to do a presentation about funding available to parish councils for building homes. He added that land has been offered for the GMSF in Denshaw.

A meeting will be held on 16th November to discuss business and economic development issues for Saddleworth.

The next Fletcher’s / Tanners meeting with the Peak Park will take place on 23rd November.

**89.** **Dates of next meetings**

To be held at 9:30am at Uppermill Civic Hall on:

Thursday 30th November 2017 Thursday 22nd February 2018

Thursday 21st December 2017 Thursday 22nd March 2018

Thursday 25th January 2018 Thursday 26th April 2018

Additional meetings will be called as required.