Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee

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

Thursday 28th June 2018

There were present: Cllrs: Barbara Beeley (Chair)

Rob Knotts (Vice Chair)

Geoff Bayley

Pam Byrne

Paul Fryer

Lisa MacDonald (OMBC)

Jane Soriente (OMBC)

Georgina Brownridge (OMBC)

Geoff Willerton

Max ?????????? (Saddleworth Youth Council)

Antony Bhunu (Unity Partnership)

Angus MacRea (OMBC)

**149.** **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. P. Byrne, Adele Metcalfe (PP), Andrew Fletcher, and John McCann. Cllr. Beeley welcomed Max to the meeting.

**150. Flooding Issues**

Antony Bhunu gave a detailed overview of the flood management projects he is/has been working on in the Borough and across Greater Manchester. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 had created local lead flood authorities which are responsible for looking after water courses which are not major rivers, those being the responsibility of the Environment Agency. Local landowners retain responsibility for the maintenance and repair of water courses and Antony’s team identify solutions when flooding occurs and advise the riparian owners. It is recognised that flooding will happen in the future but initiatives such as “Slow the Flow” create schemes in uplands areas, mainly the planting of trees and vegetation, to slow the flow of water to levels which the drainage systems can cope with. He explained a number of scheme for which funding had either been agreed or for which funding applications have been made. He said that monthly meeting are held with United Utilities, the Environment Agency and Oldham Council to develop schemes and that Liverpool City Council is also working with them on “Slow the Flow” as all run off water will eventually enter the River Mersey. He is also involved in the “Moors for the Future” project with the Peak Park and RSPB.

Angus MacRea explained that his remit is to look at all planning applications submitted to Oldham Council. There are known areas which are prone to flooding, including Saddleworth, and all applications for 10 or more houses or which exceed a certain area must include a strategic drainage plan which may include, for example, garden ponds or underground water retention tanks. The Planning Department will impose conditions on planning applications which may include drainage plans.

Cllr. Beeley thanked Antony and Angus for their interesting presentation.

**151. Minutes of the meeting held on 31st May 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st May 2018 were **APPROVED** **and SIGNED**.

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

Cllr. Fryer circulated the latest draft of his paper on Making Saddleworth Climate Ready and said he would do a further update for the next meeting.

Cllr. Beeley said that she and Cllr. Knotts had met with the Youth Council as a consequence of which Max had volunteered to be their representative on the Strategic Planning Committee. She said that meetings with the students at Saddleworth School will take place on 9th and 10th July and commented that Mr. Milburn, the headmaster, is very keen to have the students involved and one of his staff, r. Twigg, will co-ordinate the meetings. Max said that he will report back to the next committee meeting. Cllr. Beeley suggested that, once the meetings with the secondary school have taken place, meetings with the older students at Saddleworth primary schools could be arranged.

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

There had been no further discussions since the last meeting. Georgina Brownridge said that her team are currently getting ready for the next draft of the GMSF and would check to see if IBI have completed their masterplan for the site. Liz Dryden-Stuart is currently working on the policy wording. She added that BDP have been commissioned by the GMSF team to take all masterplans submitted and reformat them so they are all consistent throughout the document. The next draft is due by late July. She said that the next consultation on the Local Plan will take place in the Autumn.

**154. Survey**

Cllr Knotts said that he still needed to update the survey following suggestions made by Georgina at the last meeting. Once updated it will be put on the Neighbourhood Plan website and hard copies will be provided in libraries, doctors’ surgeries, etc. Lisa MacDonald said that she would send him her “Where Can I Find” document which would give a list of places suitable for leaving the survey for the public to pick up. She said that she would also send the survey out through her contacts list. Cllr. Knotts said that he will complete the work for the next meeting so that it can go out by the end of July. Georgina Brownridge reminded the meeting that GDPR permission were needed. Pam Bailey said that she has already drafted them together with a consent form. Cllr. Knotts said that Georgina’s feedback had been very helpful and added that some of the questions may need to be taken out and used for the proposed parallel document which will contain all issues not direcly related to the Neighbourhood Plan. Lisa MacDonald said that Oldham are currently working on their District Plan, Older Peoples’ Strategy and the Plastic Free Oldham initiative. Cllr. Beeley said that Cllr. Fryer is the plastics champion for the parish and he agreed to send Lisa his current list of ideas.

**155. Funding**

Cllr Knotts informed the meeting of the discussion he had had with Deb Appleby from DCLG and said that, although she was sympathetic, she could take no action under the current legislation. He said that he had written to Debbie Abrahams MP to ask for her support and it was **AGREED that a copy be sent to LALC and NALC.** He added that an application for funding for the current year needs to be submitted.

**156. Regeneration of Denshaw**

There was no further update. It is expected that the plans will be submitted to the GMSF call for sites.

**157. Any Other Business**

Cllr Bayley said that he has identified 2 more unoccupied properties in Delph which he will investigate and write up for the next meeting. Georgina Brownridge said that Tim English is currently working on Oldham’s Housing Strategy and will attend a future meeting. She said that if the strategy does not include vacant properties a separate strategy will be required. Cllr. Beeley said that the Neighbourhood Plan could include a vacant property strategy with a case study.

Cllr Knotts said that he will contact InSaddleworth to discuss their involvement in the project.

Cllr. Beeley said that she has been unable to contact Ellie Eccleston at Oldham Council. Lisa MacDonald said that she will check that she is still there and, if not, will speak to Jonathan Phillips, her line manager, about support for the project.

**158. Dates and times of next meetings:**

**19th July 2018**  31st January 2019

30th August 2018 28th February 2019

27th September 2018 28th March 2019

25th October 2018 25th April 2019

29th November 2018

20th December 2018

at 9:30am