Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee

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

Thursday 25th April 2019

Present: Parish Councillors: Barbara Beeley (Chair)

Rob Knotts (Vice Chair)

Sam Al-Hamdani

Andrew Fletcher

Georgina Brownridge

Lisa MacDonald

Geoff Willerton

Max Woodvine

**225. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Geoff Bayley (SPC), Paul Fryer (SPC), Val Leach (OMBC), Pam Byrne (OMBC), Adele Metcalfe (PP) and Jane Soriente (DP).

**226. Minutes of the meeting held on 28th March 2019**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th March 2019 were **APPROVED and SIGNED**.

**227.** **Matters arising**

M216 Cllr Beeley asked Georgina Brownridge if she would ask Joanne Blair to resend the maps of the Saddleworth Conservation Areas. Georgina said that she would ask her to circulate them to everyone.

M223 Cllr Beeley said that she had sent a project update to the Saddleworth Independent for publication. The Clerk confirmed that this had been included in the April Newsletter.

**228. Fletcher’s Update**

Lisa MacDonald confirmed that a meeting of the wider group has been arranged for Tuesday 14th May at 10:30am at the Civic Hall.

Cllr Knotts said that he had had a discussion with Alan Chorlton, who represents Tanners, and was hoping that a meeting with him could be arranged in the near future. It was **AGREED that Cllr Knotts ask Alan Chorlton to contact Andrew Fletcher or Lisa MacDonald to arrange a meeting.**

Andrew Fletcher referred to a letter from Lathams which set out the Purico response to the GMSF. He noted that:

* The letter refers to the problems of contamination and dereliction and states that the income from the proposed number of homes would be insufficient to meet the required expenditure, the implication being that, without some public investment, the project would not go ahead. It was noted that information on contamination levels had not been shared. Georgina Brownridge said that she would ask Liz Kershaw if she had any information from the survey carried out in 2010 or 2012;
* The letter states that Purico are not in favour of the road arrangements in the concept plan, in particular the link to Dovestones and the junction improvements at The Clarence;
* The letter also refers to the “Peak District Village” concept, which they are in favour of, but suggests that a “green gap” should be maintained between this and the other proposed developments.

He asked that members thoroughly read the letter prior to the meeting on 14th May.

He then referred to the trees on the site and asked how quickly a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) preferably including all the trees on the site, could be approved. Georgina Brownridge said that she would speak to Ben Caine, the officer at Oldham Council.

Cllr Knotts asked whether any government funding is available for the development of brown field sites.

**229. Project Timeline**

Cllr Al-Hamdani said that he has now taken over the website from Cornerstones. He said that some amendments are needed to the layout and that the content for the main pages needs to be agreed and uploaded. Cllr Beeley said that she would sort the content out with him. Cllr Knotts said that he would forward any relevant information he has for inclusion. It was **AGREED that the content would be circulated for any comments before the next meeting.** Cllr Knotts asked whether any further costs would be incurred. Cllr Al-Hamdani said that there shouldn’t be as he is now doing the required work.

**230. Appointment of Project Manager**

The Clerk said that an article had been submitted to the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce for publication in their electronic and bi-monthly newsletters. Cllr Knotts suggested that it also be posted on social media and the Parish Council website.

**231. Survey Launch**

Cllr Al-Hamdani said that he has incorporated all the changes into the survey and has spoken to Cornerstones about getting it live on the website. He said that he is just waiting for access rights to the website. He also said that he would be prepared to undertake the training for the community association representatives who he has now got the contact details for. Cllr Beeley said that the NP website is not yet live. Cllr Al-Hamdani said that he will sort this out.

Cllr Knotts said that the villages need to be updated on progress with the survey. Cllr Beeley said that she will circulate some information once the website has gone live. She said that she would send the list of village contacts to Cllr Al-Hamdani.

**232. Funding**

Cllr Knotts reiterated that a new funding bid cannot be made until the project manager has been appointed and the project budget has been agreed.

**233. Website Training**

Cllr Al-Hamdani said that he will provide training for the Community Association representatives once the website is live. Andrew Fletcher said that it is important that they understand what information is appropriate for uploading.

**234. Any other business:**

Cllr Beeley thanked everyone on the committee for their invaluable contributions over the past 4 years. She added that she hoped that the current co-optees and volunteer advisors would continue to work with the committee under the new administration. She referred to the work on empty properties which Cllr Bayley had undertaken for Delph and said that she would obtain copies for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan as an example for other villages to copy.

**235. Date and time of next meeting:**

t.b.c. at the Annual General Meeting on 20th May 2019.