

## **BRIGHOUSE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Meeting Room 1, Brighouse Library, HD6 2AF

### **MINUTES**

#### **Present:**

Cllr Howard Blagbrough (Chair)  
David Whitehead (Co-Chair)  
Cllr Sophie Whittaker  
Malcolm Silkstone  
Richard Mitchell  
Colin Gordon  
Carl Wrigley

#### **Also in attendance**

Kate McNicholas  
Duncan Cooper  
Hollie Good  
Zakariya Ali

#### **1 Welcome and Introductions**

All welcomed to the meeting, and introductions made. It was noted that the meeting was not quorate but that the meeting should proceed.

#### **2 Apologies**

Noted from Craig Whittaker MP and Cllr Robinson

#### **3 Declaration of Interests**

No declarations of interest reported.

#### **4 Minutes for Approval**

Agreed that the minutes were an accurate reflection of the meeting.

#### **5 Matters arising**

Regarding proposed alterations to parking and any impact on blue badge parking. The new parking spaces are all available to everyone (charged bays). Noted there had been no disabled parking removed as part of the scheme. The scheme did see the removal of some double yellow Lines from Commercial Street (western end) to create the new parking bays and historically disabled drivers had used that length to park previously. Disabled users are still able to use the new parking bays, free if using a blue badge, so there is effectively no change to the earlier situation. The permanent TRO is now in place, so any changes would need to be started from scratch with a change to the TRO.

Regarding the College equipment Duncan reported that he had spoken with Rebecca Weeks at Calderdale College, and she has confirmed that the equipment is now owned by the College and was indeed left over from KITS. She said it is now out of date, hence the need for the Ind 4.0 kills facility to enable training in contemporary technology to complement the training on the old equipment.

## **6 Non 'Towns Fund' updates**

Noted that as live consultation on the project, this was an update to the Board. Objective is to support better traffic flow, and the project is currently at Outline Business Case. There had been positive contribution from stakeholders. Project also includes river crossing over the canal and public realm works.

Asked what we meant by a quiet road, noted the aim was to reduce speed and improve access for cycles and pedestrians.

The designs show removal of parking bays outside businesses which has been raised as an issue. Also noted that segregated cycle tracks may cause problems for residential parking. To assist, the project team will assess occupancy to understand parking needs and consult with residents and businesses. This includes 3 businesses on Rastrick Common who will be contacted individually.

The proposals for improvements at Brighthouse station are under review. There is a mobility hub proposal and exploring options which could include access restrictions which require business consultation.

The team were asked how slowing down traffic would impact on air quality. It was suggested that improved traffic flow would result in a positive impact on air flow but that more detail on this would be reported back to the Board. There was also concern that in parts of the route, traffic might speed up as traffic flow is slowed down by parked cars at present, while in other areas there is added congestion such as shopping outlets.

## **7 Governance**

The Board considered how to conduct future business as its role changed from one of principally project development to project monitoring. The issue of public engagement was discussed, and while it was felt that opening meetings to the public would not benefit governance, there should be a continued emphasis on public engagement.

Felt that more of a role should be given to sub-groups.

The Board suggested a future review of the frequency of Board meetings.

## **8 Towns Fund update**

The Board noted that there will be an engagement strategy developed, with stakeholder identification underway, including options to reach out to different groups. Time needed to ensure communications and engagement is clear.

Projects are proceeding to RIBA stage 3, with public realm design on target for early March, with planning consent likely August 2023. Construction of public realm would run from November 2023 to April 2025. The Board asked that a simple GANNT chart be drawn up to measure progress.

It was noted that a similar timescale was in place for the Market, with RIBA 3 end of February and planning consent August. The project would require ecological surveys, such as bat surveys, and flood surveys. The development timetable is mindful of the need to consider any impact construction might have on Christmas shopping.

Regarding planning, concern was voiced regarding the likelihood of delegated authority given the scale of development. It was likely that the project would go to planning committee. To mitigate this risk there will be regular contact with planning. Noted there will be toilets for market traders.

The Board again asked for a GANNT chart or similar which is more readily available to understand and scrutinise delivery.

The Board urged the development of the market stay true to the original concept, so it was important that any changes were highlighted. Issue of maintenance was discussed, with current proposals for a wooden roof.

## **9 Communications Update**

The Board stressed the need to keep the momentum going for communications which it felt had been positive and strong. The Board confirmed their confidence in Waverley. The Board stressed the need to coordinate the work of Communications with the Communications Panel and Turner and Townsend. Action -bring communications paper to the next Board meeting.

## **10 Ambition for Towns funding application**

An application for funding to refurbish the subway running from Parsonage Lane to Gooder Street, under the Ludenscheid Link. As the Board was not quorate, it was agreed that the application should be issued to all Board members seeking their views.

## **11 Any Other Business**

It was noted that a meeting would be held with the Environment Agency to discuss the Gala in January.

## **12 Date of next meeting**

21st February 2023