

# **STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **MOORLANDS PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING**

### **Minutes**

**WEDNESDAY 21 JUNE 2017**

PRESENT: Councillor H Sheldon MBE (Chair)  
Councillors A Banks, A Forrester, A Hart, H Jebb and T Riley.

IN  
ATTENDANCE: J Brooks                      Regeneration Officer  
S Hampton                      Member and Community Services Officer  
J Percival                      Finance Business Partner  
J Ratcliffe                      Assistant Accountant  
R Tuffrey                      Principal Regeneration Officer

APOLOGIES: Councillors J Davies, I Lawson, C Pearce and E Wain

1 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR.**

Councillor Sheldon was appointed as Chair and Councillor Forrester appointed as Vice Chair for the Moorlands Partnership Board.

2 **MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th March 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3 **MATTERS DEEMED BY THE CHAIR TO BE URGENT.**

The Chair highlighted to members that there had been a recent review of the constitution of the Moorlands Partnership Board. Officers advised that the operational guide had been amended slightly, the number of meetings per year had increased and the Board would consider a proposal for a more strategic approach to grants later on in the meeting.

4 **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

<b>Agenda No.</b>	<b>Member Declaring Interest</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>
Agenda Item – 7 Kissing Gate, Whitemore and The Trough, Overton Road, Biddulph.	Cllr A. Hart	Other – Knows the land owner, a member of the Peak District National Park Planning Committee, a member of Biddulph Town Council, Chair of Peak Leader and is land owner to the South of
Agenda Item 8 - Approval of Projects - Strategic Projects in Biddulph and any item		

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relating to land or property which falls within the Peak Park.		Biddulph Country Park.
<p>Agenda Item 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stockton Brook Layby.</li> <li>- Memorial to Thomas Hulme in Endon village.</li> <li>- Two village interpretation panels</li> </ul> <p>Agenda Item 8 – relating to railway projects.</p>	Cllr H. Jebb	Other – Member of Endon and Stanley Parish Council and is a Member of the North Staffordshire Railway Company.
<p>Agenda Item 7 - Kissing Gate, Whitmore and The Trough, Overton Road, Biddulph.</p> <p>Agenda Item 8 – relating to railway projects.</p>	Cllr H. Sheldon	Other – Knows the land owner of the Kissing Gate, Whitmore, a member of Biddulph Town Council and husband owns shares in the North Staffordshire Railway.
Agenda Item 8 – relating to railway projects.	Cllr T. Riley	Other – Husband owns shares in the North Staffordshire Railway.

**5 FINANCIAL REVIEW AND SUMMARY OF PROJECT ALLOCATIONS.**

The Board received a report which provided a financial summary of the work of the Moorlands Partnership Board over the last financial year and included financial tables which provided a summary of the allocation of grant funding.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be noted.

**6 CURRENT STATUS OF PROJECTS.**

The Board received a report and presentation on the current status of projects at:-

Bourne Fountain, Cheadle - *Awaiting commencement*

Cheddleton Station Crossing Gates - *Awaiting commencement*

14 Market Place, Leek - *Commencement due June 2017*

Kissing gate, Whitmore - *Works completed and grant paid*

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Kissing gate and railings, Old Forge Dyeworks - *Works completed and grant paid*

18 Deansgate, Leek - *Works on site but not completed satisfactorily and change of contractor*

Gazebo, Whitehough, Ipstones - *Awaiting commencement but some stone repairs completed.*

Barn, Whitehough, Ipstones - *Works complete and grant paid*

High St House, Leek - *Awaiting commencement*

No1 Clerk Bank, Leek - *Works on site but not completed satisfactorily.*

67 Tape Street, Cheadle – *Works due to commence in September*

17 Edward Street, Leek - *Awaiting commencement – some temporary decoration undertaken including new shopfront (not grant aided)*

Derby Street Bollards, Leek – *Works to bollards completed apart from some planters.*

9 – 11 High Street Dilhorn - *Window and door details agreed and approved under the listed building consent awaiting commencement on site.*

Stolen Milepost - *Milepost repairs completed and installed.*

Cheddleton Choir House - *Works currently on site*

Nabwood, Lake Road, Rudyard - *Works completed and grant due to be paid shortly.*

Stockton Brook Layby - *Awaiting commencement*

TE Hulme Memorial – Endon - *Awaiting commencement and a change to the location of the memorial had been agreed.*

Endon and Stanley Interpretation panels - *Awaiting commencement*

The Trough – Biddulph - *Awaiting commencement*

Discussion took place in relation to certain projects not being completed which resulted in grant funding being lost if the funds related to a previous financial year. It was felt that it was important for the monies to be re-allocated to allow the Board to consider other worthy projects.

Members also commented on the excellent standard of work carried out at the Kissing Gate, Whitmore and at Nabwood, Lake Road, Rudyard.

The Board was also informed of the proactive approach that Biddulph Town Council had taken to projects in the area.

**RESOLVED:** 1) That the report be noted.

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2) For a letter to be sent to Cabinet in relation to funding.

### 7 APPROVAL OF PROJECTS.

The Board received a report to seek Member's approval to allocate grant funding from the Moorlands Partnership Board (MPB). In addition to considering a deferred application from the last Board meeting, it was proposed to focus on directing grant aid towards a group of projects that aimed to achieve key strategic objectives. By doing this, it was hoped to optimise the use of grant funding available and maximise its impact for the communities.

Overall, members supported the proposals contained within the report but raised concerns about the entire budget being allocated and the timescales for the projects. Officers explained that the studies and planning fees associated with the reinstatement of the heritage railway may not amount to the total estimated figure of £22,000. The Board would be provided with an update at its meeting in November which would include the current spend at this time.

The Chair updated members on the project taking place at Biddulph Grange Country Park and it was also suggested that the use of the Summer Houses at St Edward's Park, Cheddleton by the public should be more widely publicised.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- a) That members **NOTE** and **APPROVE** the proposed 'one off' change to the approach in grant funding allocation as outlined in para 3.1 to 3.5 of the report.
- b) That Members **APPROVE** a grant up to the sum of £22,000 (exc VAT) towards the reinstatement of the heritage rail line from Leekbrook to Leek.
- c) That Members **APPROVE** a grant up to the sum of £7,300 (inc of VAT) towards the cost of reinstating Leekbrook Station estimated to be in the region of £25,000, subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:
  - That the relevant consents are obtained prior to executing works on site.
  - Detailed estimates are obtained and are priced against an agreed specification
- d) That Members **APPROVE** a grant up to the sum of £4,000 (inc VAT) towards the cost of repairs to Cheddleton Station building estimated to be in the region of £25,000, subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:
  - That the exact scope and details of the schedule of repairs is agreed with officers.
  - Detailed estimates for the works are obtained and are priced against an agreed specification.
- e) That Members **APPROVE** a deferred grant up to the sum of £4,000 (inc of VAT) towards the eligible costs of repairing St Edward's Summer Houses

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estimated to be in the region of £15,000, subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:

- That the scope of works and detailed repairs are carried out in accordance with the specification of works dated Oct 2016 and any variations agreed with the conservation officer.
- Colour schemes to be agreed with the conservation officer.
- A minimum of two detailed estimates are obtained for the works and the grant offer revised accordingly, should the works fall below £8,000.

8 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was none.

The meeting closed at 3.30 pm

\_\_\_\_\_Chairman \_\_\_\_\_Date