



# Vale Vision Development Trust Ltd

## Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 19 March 2009 at the Vale Vision shop

**Present:** Chris Cherry (CC), Linda Cherry (LC), Bob Littleford (BL), Mike Doughty (MD), Hilary Fowles (HF), Andrew Buffery (AB), Geoff Wheeler (GW), Miranda Clifton (MC)

### 1. Apologies: None

2. **Minutes and matters arising from the meeting held on 19 February:** agreed to be a true record after the following amendments: Shirley Hill had not been present; funding from SDC had not been for the sculpture trail, but the Nature Trail at Breakheart and signage; Magnox had allocated £1500 for the Business forum; the bid re the cycleway was made on our behalf by Sustrans.

**Matters arising:** (Numbering refers to minutes of 19 Feb):

- 6) It was agreed that shop volunteers need interesting/useful tasks to carry out. There is admin work that can be done. **Action GW**
- A O B) The shop door lock has been changed and directors regularly in the shop now all have keys.
- A O B) There are 350 bags to distribute; a distribution list is available. Vendors may keep the proceeds. **Action HF (Cam).**

### 3. Correspondence:

- i) SDC: re planning application for shop opposite – **agreed**, no observations
- ii) Dursley Festival: would VV like a stall at Town Festival? **Agreed** could do something related to the sculpture trail; discuss with the committee. **Action LC**

### 4. Financial report:

- MD tabled a written report. Commitments had been significantly reduced and the situation for the future was satisfactory. It was hoped that office costs might be further reduced. A payment from SDC for the service level agreement was due in.
- SDC would pay VV £160 for attending the Town Centre meeting.
- VV still holds money for the town gateway signs. GCC will place an order in the new financial year.
- Cheque signatories needed to be updated. **Agreed** should now be CC, MD, GW. Agreed that Shirley Hill should continue to hold a cheque card as she continues to order stationery on behalf of VV.
- A report to Awards for All on the Sculpture Trail is due. **Action MD**
- AB questioned current relationship with SWRDA – currently little input, and SWRDA will not fund on an on-going basis. Agreed situation could be mentioned at Littlecombe Liaison meeting. **Action AB**
- NB Petty cash should only be used for small expenditure, not income (e.g. for shop local bags, walks books), which should be listed and kept separately. New system needed. **Action MD**

### 5. Vale Vision projects and funding bids:

- (i) It was **agreed** that rather than VV contracting due to reducing funds, further projects from the strategic plan should be embarked upon and new money drawn in. For example, lottery funding was available for 'protecting the built environment'. It was **agreed** that a 'building restoration strategy' be developed. **AB** agreed to lead on this. It would be a topic for discussion at the AGM and it was hoped this new project would attract new people to VV. It was suggested there might be a competition as to which buildings should be included. Grants available from ITV West/Big Lottery to be investigated. **Action GW**
- (ii) A bid had been submitted to the Gannett Foundation for the sculpture trail.
- (iii) GW reported that one year remained of the VV agreement with GL11 on 'Consulting Neighbourhoods', which will bring in £1000.
- (iv) An application had been made for European funding for hosting and recruiting participants in NVQ 2 courses on Health & Safety, Food safety etc.

## 6. Projects progress:

### i) Cycleway:

- BL reported that regarding an approach to Tesco – the Cycleway group would make a formal response to its plans for alterations to the site.
- Useful advice had been forthcoming at the meeting planned with councillors and representatives from all council departments
- The Sustrans bid to RDPE had been unsuccessful.
- The length of the route had been divided up into discrete sections. Sustrans would do further work on the Uley section; the landowner was currently refusing permission.
- Littlecombe section – Bloor homes had begun building work; it was expected that section of the route would be built. Specification not known – to be discussed at the next Littlecombe Liaison meeting.

### ii) Sculpture Trail:

- The launch had been re-scheduled to Sunday 5 July; there would be a bus to take visitors up to the site, also displays re Breakheart Quarry plans.
- A Leyhill work party had erected the new reminiscence signs
- DTC would donate 3 interpretation boards for the trail.
- Stroud access group had responded positively to efforts being made to improve accessibility and had provided advice.

### iii) Breakheart Quarry:

- GW and SH had met with the motorcycle club and the NDA to look at heads of terms for the lease agreement. A revised set was expected. The NDA put an emphasis on community use of the site; motorcycle use would be only for trials. Transfer of the land to the new company would take approx 6 months; the board to include representatives from NDA, N Nibley PC, VV and the motorcycle group.
- It was questioned how legal costs would be covered. Stroud motorcycle group had the funds, but it was **agreed** VV should match fund from grants.

### iv) What's On:

- Payment for printing by Buckstop had been approved and the printing completed.
- A schedule for receipt of copy, printing etc for future issues should be developed. **Action MC**
- A proper record of payments for advertising was under way **Action MC/MD**
- SH had provided information on the costs of printing the WO in house for comparisons to be made. **Action MD**
- (Printing the walks leaflet was a smaller job, using less resources, which could be done in house. A sponsor was being sought. **Action LC**)

7. **Memorandum and articles of the company:** GW tabled the proposed amendments; agreed these be put to the AGM.

## 8. Annual General Meeting:

To be held in the bar at Kingshill House. Doors open at 6.30pm for refreshments, meeting 7pm.  
Agenda – standard with presentation by Chair.

One third of directors retire each year: MC, MD, BL – all agreed to be re-nominated. A letter would go to all members and parish councils asking them to nominate people to the board.

## 9. A O B:

- There had been some problems with a volunteer. The volunteer agreement should be re-visited annually with volunteers. Action CC, GW
- AB enquired as to the whereabouts of the plaques which had been salvaged from the old school building.
- GW about to do the monthly report to town & parish councils – would report on issues covered at this meeting.

## Date of next meeting:

**Thursday 16 April at 7pm in the VV shop.**

(Meetings on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month)