



Vale Vision Development Trust Ltd

Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 22 January 2009 at the Vale Vision shop

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

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Minutes and matters arising from the meeting held on 20 November:** agreed to be a true record
Matters arising: (numbering refers to minutes of 20 Nov)
 - 2) M Warwick had not been contacted, and no claims for expenses had been made
3. **Correspondence:**
 - i) Companies House: re annual return - done. The annual report with accounts had to be submitted by 31 Jan; MD gave a copy of the accounts to GW
 - ii) VV Energy group: monthly advice sessions taking place in Dursley library. Currently co-ordinating with Uley 'Go zero' an environmental event to be held in Lister Hall in Feb.
 - iii) Market4learning: request for VV to again take on NVQ 1 day courses for businesses and small organisations; VV bidding jointly with GL11 for this.
 - iv) Kate Moss, Extended Schools co-ordinator: requesting assistance with a survey of learning needs locally
 - v) GRCC: notice of workshops 'Local action' in Jan, Feb.
 - vi) World Jungle: advertisement seeking organiser.
 - vii) VCA, Environmental strategy group: many emails - filed
 - viii) P Walker, landlord: re annual visit - no increase in rent proposed for this year
 - ix) R Harding: re Mid Cotswold tracks & Trails groups, offering help with path maintenance
 - x) Dursley/Bovenden Twinning Association: re loss of town signs, requesting money. New signs have been agreed and wording awaiting confirmation.
4. **Financial report:** Service level agreement payment currently due from SDC; future position regarding this uncertain if/when SDC cuts grants. A bid had been submitted to Magnox for shop/admin - response awaited. GL11 could now be invoiced for remaining £1000 for survey work carried out with VV. Discussion ensued as to how money might be saved: reduction in SH's hours - currently insufficient for volume of work; necessity of maintaining the shop - how does it further the aims of VV, how does it aid funding?
Agreed serious consideration required re funding/cutting costs.
Actions: MD to look at financial implications of not having the shop. GW to investigate grant funding situation
5. **Dursley Town Council:** Discussions had yet to be held with DTC on a possible grant level agreement.
6. **Shop volunteers and workloads:** some concern from members that they were not clear as to tasks to be done by volunteers and requirements of any NVQs being undertaken. Currently no volunteers are working on NVQs. SH tabled notes re tasks for volunteers. **Agreed** to re-assess situation at next meeting.
7. **Dursley Festival:** A meeting of the Town Festival committee to consider the future of the festival was due. Agreed that VV's position as agreed at the August board meeting be re-iterated: that VV support the festival with other events e.g. sculpture trail, big quiz etc, but not be involved in the organisation of the festival itself.
8. **Projects progress:**
 - i) Cycleway: BL reported:
 - The cycleway now appears on outline plans for the Cam industrial sites; a stand alone section from C & D station to Cam could be considered for development.

- Investigations had been made on the section Everside Lane - Gossington via the tunnel under the motorway.
- Maintenance of the cycleway once built now under consideration.
- Uley - Dursley section needed to be looked at.
- Funding: an expression of interest had been submitted to the Rural Development Programme for England - result would be known by the end of the month. A bid could be made to Gloucestershire Environmental Trust

ii) Sculpture Trail:

- re-launch scheduled for 4 July (TBC)
- some activity based money from Awards for All could be used for permanent notices to replace laminated sheets
- SH tabled a summary of current situation re sculptures planned for 2009
- it had been agreed that a playfort in natural materials be sited near parking area (NB shop volunteers could look for appropriate play equipment and bushcraft day providers)
- a working party from Leyhill was due to come and work on waterlogged areas

iii) Breakheart Quarry:

- an expression of interest had been submitted for NDA funding. A joint bid with Glos Wildlife and the trials bikes group had been suggested. A response awaited from Glos Wildlife. 'Breakheart Community Group' could be an organisation separate from VV with no financial obligation for VV, still furthering VV's aims as stated on the long term plan.
- **Agreed** a letter go to NDA notifying a potential bid from 'Breakheart Community Group'

iv) Lister Hall: the club membership had agreed to reconstitute as a charitable organisation with the total freehold of the hall transferred to a charity with trustees from the existing shadow group.

v) Vale Business Forum:

- 3 meetings had been held, the most recent with the focus on Stroud College.
- Attendance from traders was small; a breakfast meeting was being planned with the FSB.
- A small amount of funding had come from SDC.
- Businesses needed to be encouraged to pay for entries on the Vale Business Forum website; bid had been made to Magnox for funding this.
- Next meeting 5 March at Kingshill House, with Sainsbury's. Further meetings planned with St Modwen, SWRDA

9. A G M: Scheduled for 27 April, 7pm at Kingshill House.

10. A O B:

- GW - monthly report to cllrs due.
- LC - publicity needed for new walks programme. **Action LC/CC**
- AB - Stroud Heritage Network meeting to be at Kingshill House shortly
- SH - the energy group would like to display posters in VV window and put articles in the newsletter
- CC - Dursley snickets map now in progress. Help needed to accurately locate footpaths

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 19 February at 7pm in the VV shop.

(Meetings on 3rd Thursday of each month)