Minutes of the Economy Committee meeting held on

**Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 7.pm**

# Present:

Cllrs G Jennison, R Knowles, B Wyatt-Millington, K Griffin and G Dixon.

# In attendance:

Mike D’villiers (Baildon Fair Trade Group)

# ECO2324/38 Chair’s opening remarks

Cllr Jennison welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were given around the table. Cllr Jennison noted the great success of Baildon at Christmas and the fact that the road closure went very well. The Chair extended her thanks to Cllr Foster for her hard work put into the closure and mustering the many volunteers who assisted. It was noted that this was the first year that Baildon Town Council had organised the market licence. This year the event will be held on 1st December 2024. Cllr Griffin commented that she will assist on the project this year.

# ECO2324/39 Approve reasons for absence

None

# ECO2324/40 Disclosures of interest

Cllr Dixon disclosed an interest in the Visit Baildon item.

# ECO2324/41 Minutes of the previous meeting

**Resolved to approve the minutes of the Economy Committee meeting of 26th September 2023**

# ECO2324/42 Clerk’s report

The Clerk reported that there has been no applications for the City of Culture start up grants.

The Clerk also reported that it is likely that all committees will start receiving risk assessments on a more regular basis going forward in relation to events and facilities such as Baildon at Christmas and the Northgate Toilets.

# ECO2324/43 Public Participation

Mike D’villiers thanked the committee for his opportunity to speak and gave a brief summary of what the Fair Trade Group do, and what they would like in terms of support from Baildon Town Council. It was noted that Baildon Town Council have supported Fair Trade for many years and use the Fair Trade logo on their publications. Mike advised that there is also support from schools, churches etc but they would like to progress that support with backing from the Council. Mike will attend the next Economy Committee meeting with a full presentation and will send the new Fair Trade logo to the Deputy Clerk in the meantime.

**ECO2324/44 Important Information from Councillors and Staff**

None

# ECO2324/45 To consider current Planning applications on CBMDC website and to agree actions (see planning4Bradford.ECO).

Resolved to make the following comments:

* 24/00073/HOU – Baildon Town Council notes the proposals have been designed in keeping with the existing property, which is a stone built semi of traditional construction. BTC thinks that all materials used will be sympathetic to the existing property, and in particular its attached semi. The plans indicate obscure glass on the new, rear facing, upstairs windows and it is important that this condition is met as they directly face 1 Westmoor Ave, which is in close proximity.
* 24/00082/HOU – No comment.

# ECO2324/46 Visit Baildon

The Chair detailed the background of the Visit Baildon website as well as some of its recent challenges such as Covid. The idea behind the site is to help boost Baildon’s economy. The plan is to now push the website into ‘phase 2’ of its development which will include further promotion, content and a relaunch.

Cllr Dixon advised that a meeting had taken place recently with officers managing the Visit Bradford site which was extremely productive and has played its part in the proposed resolutions. It was noted that there had been various considerations regarding hosting the website and contracting a company to host seemed the sensible idea as they would be able to keep the site as up to date as possible.

Cllr Shaw commented that there are various other villages and towns that have low level free wifi which, when connected to, takes you directly to their ‘visit…’ website. This would not only benefit Baildon with improved communications but also provide data and traffic to the website.

The committee thanked the Clerk for their report and noted the same.

**Resolved:**

* **To delegate to the Clerk the allocation of £4,024 from the Visit Baildon Earmarked Reserve to fund the website and launch event.**
* **To delegate to the Clerk the 2024/25 Visit Baildon Budget (£1,000) to fund the leaflet and other associated costs.**
* **To waive Financial Regulations suspending 10.3 in accordance with 11.1.d to directly appoint Assembly Marketing without competition because of their specialist local knowledge and knowledge of the specific technical and content aspects of the Visit Baildon website.**
* **To delegate to the Clerk the drawing up and signing of a one-year contract with Assembly Marketing to progress the Phase 2 deliverables.**

# ECO2324/47 Leeds Bradford Airport Consultative Committee

Cllr Knowles gave a detailed update on the outcome of the recent ACC meetings.

It was noted that the two live issues and night flights and the development of the new terminal. Work has started on the terminal and is intended to be completed within 2 years. It was noted that there are people who do not wish to see the airport developed on Environmental grounds but generally the economy of locations without airports suffer. It was advised that the airport does intend to be ‘Jet 0’ by 2030 and work is being done on jet fuel to make it cleaner. There are concerns regarding noise pollution on night flights but Baildon rarely suffers from the same and newer aircraft go up quicker and quieter.
Cllr Jennison thanked Cllrs Knowles and Dixon for representing the Council on the Committee.

# ECO2324/48 Highways and Active Travel

Cllrs Jennison, Dixon and Knowles met recently with Simon D’vali (Principal Engineer, Traffic and Highways North) to discuss various issues. These included:

* Pedestrian crossings on Otley Road by Charlestown
* Directional give way signs on the roundabouts at the top of Ladderbanks (priority direction signage currently missing)
* Westgate predestination
* Baildon Road / Station Road junction
* The Straits one way system
* Speed limit on Roundwood Road / Station Road
* Weight limits on Roundwood Road bridge (recently removed)
* Planned repairs to Baildon Road / Otley Road retaining walls
* Advanced notice of resurfacing
* Signage on Otley Road to Baildon Station

Cllr Knowles noted that there is currently no priority directional signage at Kirklands road railway bridge but Simon D’vali has confirmed he will look into this. Cllr Dixon confirmed that there is an active travel scheme currently running which could be suitable for the Kirklands railway bridge project but costings would be required prior to any grant application being submitted.

**Resolved to support the installation of footpath signage to guide pedestrians from Otley Road and Hoyle Court to Baildon Station.**

**Resolved to support safe pedestrian use of Kirklands Road railway bridge by installation of traffic signage (priority direction) and a pavement.**

**Resolved that the Clerk will obtain possible costs from Bradford Council before looking into a possible active travel grant application.**

# ECO2324/49 Friends of Baildon Station

Cllr Knowles provided a brief update on a recent meeting with Northern Rail. The main issues discussed were improving connections to Leeds from Shipley and Guisley and restoring half hourly off-peak from Baildon Station. Northern Rail are looking into these issues. Footpath signage was discussed (as per the above item) and Northern Rail have agreed to pay for this. The committee thanked FOBS for their hard work on these issues and noted that their AGM is to be held on 11th June 2024.

# ECO2324/50 Bradford Bus Station

It was noted that the station had recently closed due to undisclosed reasons. Interconnections are an issue and Baildon Town Council were also never informed!

**Resolved to write to WYCA and BMDC expressing concerns about:**

* **Continued closure of interchange bus station since 5th January 2024.**
* **Lack of information for passengers about where each bus service terminated.**
* **Lack of bus connections to interchange railway station.**
* **Ask for Baildon Town Council to be informed directly about updates relating to the above.**

**ECO2324/51 Northgate Toilets**

Cllr Jennison provided a brief update on the recent Love our Loos meeting and noted that their 2 key recommendations were turning off the hot water for hand washing and reducing the cleaning frequency.

Cllr Dixon confirmed that residential housing and eateries must have hot water but not public toilets.

Resolved:

1. To research stopping the supply of hot water for handwashing.
2. To reducing the number of days the toilets are cleaned on a trial basis.
3. To delegate the provision of a new cleaning contract to the Clerk, including any amendments to cleaning frequency, by 1st April 2024.

**ECO2324/52 Committee Budget**

The committee budget was received and reviewed.

**Resolved:**

* **£2253.54 from Christmas Lights (7001/1) to be placed in an earmarked reserve with the £1880.27 returned from Baildon at Christmas to form a Christmas earmarked reserve.**
* **£1500 from Community Bus (7006) to drop through into general reserves.**
* **£500 from Baildon Station Improvement (7025) to be placed in the Baildon Station earmarked reserve.**

**Resolved to vire the following monies into the Northgate Toilets Water & Sewage budget line (7010/5):**

* **£500 from Switch on Event (7001/2)**
* **£272.24 from Baildon at Christmas (7002)**
* **£50 from Bunting (7005)**
* **£250 from Business Support (7020)**

**ECO2324/53 Promotional Opportunities**

* Baildon Station updates, Visit Baildon Phase 2

**ECO2324/54 Next Meeting Date**

TBD