

## TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

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### MINUTES OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING Held in the Cockcroft Room, Todmorden Town Hall, Bridge Street, Todmorden, on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7:30 pm

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<b>Councillors Present:</b>	Cllrs C Potter [Chair], The Revd G Kent, K White, R Coleman-Taylor, T Roberts, J Williams, S Martin, P Taylor, A Greenwood, L Levick, A Hollis and L Needham.
<b>Absent Councillors:</b>	
<b>Observing Councillors:</b>	Cllr M Taylor until 8.01pm (bus presentation)
<b>Officers:</b>	Susan Miles – Assistant Town Clerk (Minute taker) and Colin Hill
<b>Members of the Public:</b>	3 members of the public attended: Mr C Slater, Mr D Wilson and Mrs S Booth

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2020(D)023	<p><b><u>Item 1 Apologies for Absence</u></b></p> <p>To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Clerk prior to the meeting</p> <p>None</p>
2020(D)024	<p><b><u>Item 2 Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from members on matters to be considered at the meeting. Officers are required to make a formal declaration about council contracts where the employee has a financial interest.</p> <p>Note: Members must generally declare a disclosable pecuniary interest which he or she has in any item on the Agenda. A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest may not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting and must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting. In addition, the Council's Standing Orders require a Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest to leave the room where the meeting is held while any discussion or voting takes place.</p> <p><i>None declared</i></p>
2020(D)025	<p><b><u>Item 3 Public Participation</u></b></p> <p>To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public to make representation on the business of the agenda for the meeting.</p>

Signed Chair: .....

Dated: 26. 2..2020.....

	Note: No resolutions can be under public participation. No representations were raised at this point.
2020(D)026	<p><b><u>Item 4 Minutes</u></b></p> <p>To approve the minutes of the Development Committee meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 (previously circulated).</p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr Hollis and Seconded by Cllr Williams Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:-</b> <i>That the draft minutes of the Development committee meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 be approved as a true record of proceedings and signed by the Chair.</i></p>
2020(D)027	<p><b><u>Item 5 Exclusion of Press and Public – Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960)</u></b></p> <p>To consider and confirm any agenda items that require the exclusion of the Press and Public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 for matters appertaining to confidential or exempt information.</p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr Hollis and Seconded by Cllr Roberts Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:-</b> <i>That the agenda items for the meeting do not require the exclusion of the press and public and that they be allowed to remain for the duration of the meeting.</i></p>
2020(D)028	<p><b><u>ITEM 6 Follow-up Presentation by Brendan Jones of First Group Buses</u></b></p> <p>The chair welcomed Mr Brandon, from First Group, who was going to update members on the current situation with the 589-bus route.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr Jones explained that his role is one of external relations and that he liaises with the local teams to try to provide the best service possible. Mr Jones introduced Darren, the Staff Manager of the Halifax and Todmorden teams. This is because at the last meeting detailed questions were asked about local operations and how the service was run.</li> <li>2. Mr Jones explained that they had listened to comments from educational establishments and the Town Council and had consequently introduced additional services. However, it was still a challenge to reinstate the previous 30-minute frequency and to address concerns about capacity.</li> <li>3. Discussions had taken place with educational establishments and customers, especially parents of children/young people at Blessed Trinity, Todmorden High School and Burnley High School, as the changed journey times had impacted on connections to other services and had resulted in children being left at bus stops where a service was full. This had impacted on attendance at school for the children/young people affected. As a result, First Group will introduce 10 additional round trips a day effective from 23 February 2020. First Group has worked with West Yorkshire Combined Authority to implement this. Mr Jones explained that it was a fine balance between the provision of the required services and commercial need.</li> <li>4. Mr Jones said that there had been comments that the timetables in some bus shelters in Todmorden and Burnley were out of date. He said that First Group had been working on this but, if any more are found, to let him know.</li> </ol>

5. First Group is exploring the possibility of acquiring more double decker buses for the fleet for this financial year. Comments had been received from customers and drivers that some services were at capacity and buses had been unable to stop to pick up more passengers at subsequent stops.

6. Mr Jones explained that they First Group would continue to improve the service provided to achieve the best fit between customer need and commercial viability.

7. Cllr Potter asked:

What percentage of cancelled services have been reinstated?

*Mr Jones said that seven return trips had been reintroduced in December 2019 and ten return trips will be reintroduced from 23 February 2020 – a total of seventeen return trips.*

8. Cllr White expressed thanks to Mr Jones for the reintroduction of weekday peak services in the morning and afternoon and asked:

Could the 40-minute 'out of service time' taken at Todmorden bus station, between trips, be used instead to continue to Portsmouth as there are examples of residents having to walk or take a taxi to Todmorden? The elderly are particularly concerned if they have to stand up if there are no seats available. This would reinstate the 30-minute service on the Burnley side of Todmorden where 6,500 people live, many who depend upon public transport.

*Mr Jones said that this suggestion for the layover had been flagged by driving staff and that it was a reasonable suggestion. However, First Group is looking at further changes in Rochdale which would make delivering this suggestion difficult. However, he said that he understood the issues about connectivity and they would look at the issue of capacity.*

9. Cllr White also mentioned that Saturdays are a concern for Portsmouth residents who currently must catch a bus to Todmorden and then another bus to Burnley to ensure they can have a seat. If a bus is at capacity, customers get left behind. He said that Todmorden residents normally shop in Burnley, not Halifax.

10. Cllr White asked whether the BTI service to Blessed Trinity School would continue to remain in service after April 2020? This was because 24-30 children/young people use this service currently and the removal of this service would require them to walk up to half a mile to catch the bus.

*Mr Jones said that he was not familiar with the BTI service but thought it was probably a contracted service. He said that he would investigate this, but it would be for WYCA to advise.*

11. Cllr White asked what plans are in place to accommodate services on the Tour de Yorkshire day?

*Mr Jones said that he had not seen plans yet and that normally the organising committee invite First Group to work with them to plan. He said that if the race is using the road there may not be an option to offer a service whilst it is happening.*

12. Cllr M Taylor explained that he is a regular user of buses. He had checked, by text, to find out that there were no services to return home after this meeting this evening. He would have to walk or get a taxi which he pays for out of his own pocket as there were no services available. He also said that he has never seen a bus service running that route in the evening although the text response to his enquiry states that a service is running. He has tried getting in touch with WYCA but has never received a response.

*Mr Jones explained that all operators are looking for better ways to keep customers*

*Informed. As many people have smartphones and all buses are tracked, this information could be provided to customers by smartphone and they could see the countdown until the bus will arrive. WYCA are looking to provide this upgrade to service by the end of February 2020. He said that this should be preferable to customers as it should improve customer confidence without having to send texts which they may have to pay extra charges. He asked members to let Colin know of any specific issues and that he would provide the Town Clerk with an email address on which to report them.*

13. Cllr Williams said that many people, including the elderly, do not use a smartphone and that it was unfair that only sections of the population would benefit from this. Many people just consult the timetables in bus shelters and that this was not enough.

*Mr Jones acknowledged that not everyone would be able to receive live timetable information by smartphone but at least it would be better than the current text service.*

14. Cllr Coleman-Taylor said that before the timetable changes in December, customers had almost 100% confidence in the service but that this has reduced significantly. Many elderly people have to use a taxi rather than taking a bus if an appointment was time critical because they felt that they could not rely on the bus turning up or being on time. They were angry because they have to pay for a taxi when they should be able to get there by bus for free.

*Mr Jones said that reliability was very important and agreed that levels of trust had slipped. He said that First Group was fully staffed and that they would work with partners, such as WYCA and Todmorden Town Council to improve confidence levels.*

15. Cllr Coleman-Taylor asked for clarification about when the free service starts for Senior pass holders. If the bus is scheduled for 9.25am but turns up at 9.30am would the customer be entitled to free travel? Many would like to use their bus passes more regularly and it would help alleviate loneliness.

*Mr Jones said that drivers are advised to be tolerant as customers' watches may vary to theirs. He explained that there is a 5-minute leeway with the 9.30am start of free services for senior pass holders.*

16. Cllr White supported Cllr Coleman-Taylor on this issue and said that customers had no second option to First Choice and were totally dependent upon the service they offer. He said that he had notified First Group that timetables in bus shelters were out of date and yet three weeks later they had not been updated. Mrs Booth added that the quality of life for the elderly and the ability to travel to medical appointments and socially engage was crucial. Loneliness was a big issue, particularly so if someone was unable to walk far.

The chair thanked Mr Jones for his presentation.

2020(D)029

**ITEM 7 Housing Needs Assessment**

To provide a written update on progress made in obtaining this grant.

The Town Clerk said that he had agreed the scope of the report and that a headline report would be available in the middle of February and the fuller, more comprehensive report, will be later. He explained that that he had seen a housing needs assessment for another authority and that it had been a 100-page report. When the report is received, the Town Clerk will call an extraordinary meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Sub-Committee. He said that he would update Integrate, the consultants who have worked on the plan.

The Town Clerk advised that officers had been working on the heritage and green spaces registers and that these would be presented at the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan. He said that Cllr Hollis had met with a local architect who had provided some very

	<p>useful information about heritage sites in Todmorden. Both Cllr Hollis and Williams were warmly thanked for their input.</p> <p>Action: All councillors to provide the Assistant Clerk with the details of any heritage and green sites for the registers.</p>																				
2020(D)030	<p><b><u>Item 8 Correspondence</u></b></p> <p>To receive an update on previous items of correspondence considered and agree any further actions required</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Overgrown shrubbery near dangerous bend Centre Vale Baptist Church.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk said that she had chased for updated information about this, but it was still with the Calderdale Inspector.</p> <p>Disappointment was expressed about the response from Highways about the possibility of traffic calming measures.</p> <p>Action: The Assistant Town Clerk to follow up on this to see if something can be done to improve the current situation.</p>																				
2020(D)031	<p><b><u>Item 9 Correspondence received in respect of planning applications previously considered</u></b></p> <p><i>None received</i></p>																				
2020(D)032	<p><b><u>Item 10 Comments on Planning Applications</u></b></p> <p>To submit comments on the planning applications received from Calderdale Council Comments as detailed below were Agreed by Members En Bloc</p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr and Seconded by Cllr Unanimous</i></p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:- That the consultees responses as detailed below be submitted to Calderdale Council En Bloc</u></b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Item no</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Application Number</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Address</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Purpose</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Response</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">10a</td> <td style="text-align: center;">19/01453/LBC</td> <td>69 Ramsden Wood Rd, Walsden, Todmorden, OL14 7UD</td> <td>Replace all windows with double glazed units (Listed Building Consent)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Supported</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">10b</td> <td style="text-align: center;">19/01435/FUL</td> <td>St Joseph's RC Primary School, Wellington Rd, Todmorden, OL14 5HL</td> <td>Replacement of perimeter fencing to Hammerton Terrace and school boundary with St Joseph's RC Church</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Supported</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">10c</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20/00035/FUL</td> <td>Land south of the Old Coach House,</td> <td>Detached dwelling for mixed use as residential, education and health therapies</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Supported</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Item no	Application Number	Address	Purpose	Response	10a	19/01453/LBC	69 Ramsden Wood Rd, Walsden, Todmorden, OL14 7UD	Replace all windows with double glazed units (Listed Building Consent)	Supported	10b	19/01435/FUL	St Joseph's RC Primary School, Wellington Rd, Todmorden, OL14 5HL	Replacement of perimeter fencing to Hammerton Terrace and school boundary with St Joseph's RC Church	Supported	10c	20/00035/FUL	Land south of the Old Coach House,	Detached dwelling for mixed use as residential, education and health therapies	Supported
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Signed Chair: .....

Dated: 26. 2..2020.....

		Debroyd Rd, Todmorden	(revised application to 17/01190/FUL)	
10d	19/01500/HSE	35 Cranberry Avenue, Walsden, Todmorden, OL14 6TW	Two storey side extension and off- street parking to front	Supported provided the surface of the drive/ dropped kerb is permeable
10e	19/01217/HSE	4 California Drive, Todmorden, OL14 6PW	Two storey side extension and single storey front extension	Supported subject to Highways comment on the potential problems with egress to the road.
10f	20/00072/HSE	Strait Hey Farm, Stock Hey Lane, Todmorden, OL14 6HB	Detached ancillary building to form open garage and office	Supported subject to the building not being used as accommodation other than an office.
10g	20/00075/FUL	11 Water St, Todmorden, OL14 5AB	Handrails for assisted disabled access	Supported
10h	20/00007/HSE	Old HALL Barn, Eastwood Lane, Todmorden, OL14 8RU	Single storey rear extension, alterations to window openings at first floor to rear and new window opening at ground floor to side elevation	Not supported because of the size of the extension, the amount of glass involved and the flat roof with railings which would be out of keeping with the aesthetic of the area. This affects at least one neighbouring listed property (which are all in very close proximity) and walkers as this area is very popular. The Committee would like Calderdale Council to report back on the progress with this application.

2020(D)033	<p><b><u>Item 11 Other planning issues for consideration</u></b></p> <p>To consider if there are other planning issues for consideration.</p> <p><i>None received</i></p>
2020(D)034	<p><b><u>Item 12. Todmorden Street Cleaning</u></b></p> <p>To receive written updates about the cleaning of Calder St/Butterworth St including bins and graffiti.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk updated members that she had met with the Street Cleaning team at the beginning of January, and that the next day the cleaners swept Calderdale St and Butterworth St to remove the glass and other debris. The issue of the overflowing bins was reported to Environmental Health. They have investigated and have spoken to the manager of the nightclub to request that the overflowing bin be dealt with and it be regularly emptied. The graffiti has been reported to Calderdale and the Upper Calder Valley Coordinator is aware.</p> <p>Action: The Assistant Town Clerk to let the Street Cleaning Team know that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is broken glass on the road outside Wetherspoons.</li> <li>• A promise was made a while ago to remove the litter from Bramsche Square, but this does not seem to have happened.</li> <li>• Additional cigarette bins are required on either side of the bench outside the toilets on Bramsche Square to ease the cigarette butt issue.</li> <li>• There is refuse on Blind Lane behind the Weavers Pub car park.</li> </ul> <p>Action: The Assistant Town Clerk to thank the street cleaners on behalf of the Council.</p>
	<p><b><u>Item 13 Lidl Site Run Off Flooding Issue and Security Issue</u></b></p> <p>To receive a verbal update regarding any progress made.</p> <p><b>a. Security</b> The Town Clerk reported that there had been no further security issues but that he and Cllr White are meeting with Steven Lee next week.</p> <p><b>b. Flooding</b> A request has been sent to Steven Lee for an update on the expected Section 19 report (due December 2019) and following our letter of 11 December 2019. The Town Clerk and Cllr White are meeting with Steven Lee next week.</p>
2020(D)036	<p><b><u>Item 14 Outstanding Issues Register</u></b></p> <p>To review register of outstanding issues.</p> <p><i>An updated register of outstanding issues was presented and noted by Members</i></p> <p>Cllr Coleman-Taylor expressed concern about Holmcote Bridge as someone has been using an angle grinder to remove stone. She was disappointed with the response from Highways that the bridge was not of immediate concern regarding health and safety and that the damage would be reported to Highways to be dealt with in due course. The Assistant Town Clerk said that the issue had also been reported to the Canals and Rivers Trust and that they are also investigating.</p>

	<p>Action: Assistant Town Clerk to write to Highways to express concern that the issue of stealing stone from the bridge should be addressed.</p> <p>Any further discussion was postponed to the next meeting in view of the time required for Items 16 and 19.</p>
2020(D)037	<p><b><u>Item 15 Footpaths and Obstructions</u></b> To consider any issues surrounding footpaths and obstructions.</p> <p>To be postponed to next meeting in view of time required for items 16 and 19.</p>
2020(D)038	<p><b><u>Item 16 Consultation for A646 Works Including Pedestrianisation of Bridge St</u></b></p> <p>To receive a written update.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that there would be insufficient time to consider the consultation document and that this agenda item be postponed. However, the consultation deadline is 14 February 2020, and this would be missed.</p> <p><i>A MOTION was Proposed by Cllr Greenwood and Seconded by Cllr Martin That the agenda item be postponed because of the short notice and that input to the consultation would be late.</i></p> <p><i>A MOTION was Proposed by Cllr Williams and Seconded by Cllr White that an additional meeting of the Development Committee should be held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 12 February at 7.30pm to address Items 16 and 19 on this agenda.</i></p> <p><i>Cllr Greenwood agreed to the amendment in the motion. Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:-</b> <i>That an additional meeting of the Development Committee will be held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 12 February at 7.30pm to address Items 16 and 19 on this agenda.</i></p>
2020(D)039	<p><b><u>Item 17 Consultation for the Removal of two Phone Boxes in Todmorden</u></b></p> <p>To receive written details of a consultation about the removal of phone boxes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Outside the post office at St Petersgate (Walsden PC01 Rochdale Rd).</li> <li>2. Adjacent to 47 Longfield Way (PC01 Todmorden).</li> </ol> <p>It was mentioned that the phone box in Walsden is probably the only public phone box in the area. Also, the phone box on Longfield Way was opposite Council flats and was probably needed. The set criteria for keeping phone boxes in the consultation document was stated as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The phone box is the only one for 800 metres.</li> <li>b. There are at least 500 properties within one kilometre.</li> <li>c. At least 12 phone calls have been made in the last twelve months.</li> </ol> <p>In the light of these criteria, it was agreed that both phone boxes should be retained and that this should be fed back to the consultation. This is because there is a social need for the phone boxes as there is deprivation in the area.</p>

Signed Chair: .....

Dated: 26. 2..2020.....

2020(D)040	<p><b><u>Item 18 Allotments</u></b> To receive a written update.</p> <p>To be postponed to next meeting in view of time required for items 16 and 19.</p>
2020(D)041	<p><b><u>Item 19 Consultation on Calderdale Local Plan</u></b> To receive a written update.</p> <p>One suggestion was that the Rose St site be used for a hotel rather than building houses. The Town Clerk suggested that the issue needed to be viewed as part of the bigger picture and that there may be thinking behind the proposals that members are unaware of. He went on to say that the decision about the Rose St site would be a policy one and would need to be discussed and agreed by the Full Council. Both he and Cllr White are scheduled to meet Steven Lee next week and they will ask him then for the background to the consultation.</p> <p>It was agreed that this item and that for the A646 Corridor Improvement require comprehensive discussion between all involved.</p> <p>It was mentioned that Todmorden Civic Pride has produced suggestions for improving Todmorden with the £25m fund that is being made available. The Assistant Town Clerk reported that she is arranging for Simon Brierley from Todmorden Civic Pride to attend one of the forthcoming Development Committee meetings.</p> <p>See Item 16 – both Item 19 and Item 16 will be discussed at the additional meeting of the Development Committee on 11 February 2020.</p>
2020(D)042	<p><b><u>Item 20 Items for Discussion for a Future Agenda</u></b> To notify the clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <p>Agenda for 11 February 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation for A646 Works Including Pedestrianisation of Bridge St</li> <li>• Consultation on Calderdale Local Plan</li> </ul> <p>Agenda for 26 February 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allotments</li> <li>• Outstanding issues</li> <li>• Footpaths and obstructions</li> </ul>
2020(D)043	<p><b><u>Item 21 Date of Next Committee Meeting</u></b></p> <p><u>Additional Development Meeting</u> It was noted that this will be on Tuesday 12 February 2020 at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber at the Todmorden Town Hall</p> <p><u>Next Scheduled Meeting</u> The date of the next scheduled committee meeting was noted – Wednesday February 26th, 2020 at 7.30pm, in the Cockcroft Room at Todmorden Town Hall.</p> <p><i>There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.40pm.</i></p>