

## **Minutes of the 40th meeting of the Board of the Aire Rivers Trust on 29/11/2017 at the Kirkgate Centre, Shipley**

### **In Attendance:**

G Roberts (Chair)  
J Whaley (Secretary)  
K Sunderland  
B Lerner  
D Brazendale  
W Robinson  
D Vine

R Kipling (EA)

Apologies were received from Barbara Edwards and R Hellowell (Observer)

### **Minutes of the meeting of 20/09/2017**

The minutes were agreed as a fair record of proceedings. There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

## **2. Chair's Report**

### **DNAire**

GR confirmed formal authorisation from HLF to start the development phase with a budget of c. £100k to be expended over the next 16 months. HLF expected EA and ART to jointly lead the delivery phase. Discussion was underway with EA regarding the limitations on ART's ability to fund expenditure ahead of HLF payments.

It had been agreed that Keith Davey (EA) would lead the project and carry out the work on fish passage. ART would lead on community engagement and the development of the Activity Plan to which end the appointment of a Project Officer was already in hand. ART would be taking office space to accommodate that post and another post relating to stewardship (see 4. below). Bradford Council were trying to find same in one of their buildings.

### **Natural Flood Management (NFM)**

GR had been asked in his role on ACCP to chair a group helping to produce a bid (£1.8m) to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority which would fund NFM on the Aire and Calder. The outline bid had been approved and identified Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT) as the partner for a £500k extension to the Upper Aire Project. The National Trust would lead major projects on the Calder.

## **ACCP**

GR reported on progress via the Catchment Improvement Lead on the major pieces of work for which YWT were commissioned including improvement of the Actionable Plan and getting Catchment Champions in place and up to speed.

### **3. Friends of Bradford's Becks**

#### **Urban Pollution**

BL reported that FoBB had not been invited to the inaugural meeting of a working group organised by Ed Norfolk (Bradford Council) but that subsequent meetings would involve ART together with EA, Yorkshire Water and CBMDC.

#### **Listening Sculpture**

BL advised that the project was now on hold in the light of funding issues but that donors had kindly allowed residual funds to be used on other FoBB projects.

#### **Footpath signage**

A bid to the Co-op for funding fingerposts on the becks west of Bradford had been accepted. No final detail on the award was yet available.

#### **Canal Road Renaturalisation**

BL reported that Bradford Council had commissioned WSP to co-ordinate activities in relation to the project to renaturalise the reach from Poplar Road to Briggate or Shipley station and identify funding sources.

### **4. Bradford Stewardship**

BL reported that the recruitment process was progressing as outlined in the previous minutes and that a shortlist of good candidates had been attracted for the upcoming interview process.

### **5. Invasive Species**

No issues of significance to report.

### **6. Environment Agency Report**

RK updated members on various issues that were relevant to ART

### **7. Finance**

There were no matters raised on JW's finance report circulated previously by email

## **8. Website**

Nothing to report

## **9. ART Priorities**

GR took the opportunity to present a short document on the ART Vision for 2022 and invited members to examine priorities for future achievement to be incorporated within a revised and updated Vision Statement and updated versions of the associated 5 streams of strategic delivery previously identified by the Board.

## **10. Date of next meeting**

TBA. No programme of meetings was agreed.