



Friends of Bradford's Becks

Minutes of meeting on 21st October 2013

Kirkgate Centre, 39A Kirkgate, Shipley, BD18 3EH. 19:00 – 21:00, Room 4.

Coffee and tea available: £4.20 in donations received	Actions
<p>1. Introductions</p> <p>13 present + Jon Golby (guest from Golby + Luck)</p> <p>2. Apologies: Graham Glover, Jamie Brass, Ben Tongue</p>	
<p>3. Adoption of constitution for FoBB. The Trustees of the Aire Rivers Trust have proposed this.</p> <p>Done</p>	
<p>4. Report from signage and interpretation group</p> <p>a. City centre project</p> <p>City positive after 2 meetings, about proposition to mark course of culverted Beck with markers in the pavement. Design brief prepared. Next step to raise £2500 to fund full design. Manufacturers of street furniture might help. Maybe get some LED lighting.</p> <p>b. Way-marking signage</p> <p>Signs outside the city to show people where the becks are. About 20 locations identified. £2500 needed to commission the signs, bid to Aspire-I by end Dec. Jon Golby suggested that Shipley Exchange might be able to incorporate signs as part of their landscaping.</p> <p>c. Photo competition</p> <p>Display entries in Kirkgate Centre. Bradford Photographic Society for help.</p> <p>d. Cycleway interpretation signs. Removed from plans due to money pressures. Jon Golby suggested that Shipley Exchange might be able to incorporate signs as part of their landscaping.</p>	<p>Next step to pitch for funding – Ed</p> <p>Next step is to bid for funds - Rose</p> <p>Steve & Rosa to work up competition</p> <p>To be discussed in signage meeting</p>
<p>5. Discussion on Shipley Exchange planning proposal</p>	

<p>Introduction to the scheme from Jon, set in context of Crossley Evans site, Cardinal site, Shipley Exchange. Description of use of Beck as a landscape feature, access, visibility and sanctuary features. Not known who will own the Beck corridor. Proposing morphological changes in channel, opening out channel in some places.</p> <p>Problems foreseen: litter especially near supermarket. Loss of wildlife habitat will occur. No spawning habitat, needs gravels. CSOs need sorting out. Some members are not keen on any development of the site.</p> <p>Good things: grasslands and butterfly friendly bushes and trees. Fish easement on gauging weir. Introduce some morphological variety in channel, need flood risk assessment.</p> <p>Resolution of meeting: we agreed that there are benefits to the Beck in the designs being proposed. If the development goes ahead, we would request the following mitigation and improvements which would improve the Beck and local ecology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements to in-stream habitats through changes to velocity profiles and bedforms, e.g. by introduction of boulders and groyne deflectors, and creating of gravel and wetland areas. • Improvements to fish passability at weirs and steps through notching or removal of steps and weirs, or creating on "easements" which enable fish to climb or jump the structures. • Survey of all combined sewer and surface water outfalls and working with owners, Yorkshire Water, Bradford Council and Environment Agency to ensure proper functioning of screens and no unauthorised discharges of polluting materials (solids, sediment, chemicals, microbiological species). • Planting of native grasslands and nectar rich bushes and trees to support the existing butterfly populations. • Removal or lowering of the Beck's sidewalls wherever possible with sloping of banks, giving a more natural appearance and increasing visibility and access. 	<p>Barney and Dave Mould to continue to liaise with developer via Jon Golby.</p> <p>Barney authorised to respond to the planning application in these terms on behalf of FOBB.</p>
<p>6. Report from footpath group</p> <p>Walked nearly all paths, preparing a booklet. Next step to finish writing up, then ask people to test.</p>	<p>FP group</p>
<p>7. Report on pollution incidents</p> <p>Since 11th July, just 8 incidents on BB. Septic tank sludge, discharge from CSO, minewater.</p> <p>Discussion on rags discharging from CSOs. Need to understand what we do to help enforcement. Should we set up a monitoring scheme? A request to EA for a briefing on how CSOs are regulated and the options</p>	<p>Stuart to follow up</p>

<p>for monitoring and enforcements has not yet been responded to.</p> <p>Another attempt will be made to trace the Westbrook culvert past blockage to find source of pollution.</p>	Kevin
<p>8. The new Aire and Calder catchment partnership</p> <p>Explained briefly to members.</p>	
<p>9. Becknics and litter picks and other PR</p> <p>Saltaire Festival– didn't get permission to have a stall. Will try harder next year. Barney will be attending the Saltaire Connected event on Tues 29th Oct and will give out leaflets.</p> <p>Becknic was cancelled due to weather. Next year, plan for 6th April and then again 14th Sept.</p> <p>Litter Picks: 23rd March and 11th May.</p>	<p>Eddie, Barney</p> <p>Eddie, Elisabeth</p> <p>Graham</p>
<p>10. Chair's report on other activities</p> <p>Fly-tipping: James Ravenhill of Bradford Uni will do his final year project on this. Kevin walked the Bull Greave Beck with him.</p>	
<p>11. Any other activities we should engage in</p> <p>WI talk in Saltaire?</p> <p>Link to WW1 anniversary?</p>	Rosa to enquire
<p>12. Websites, Facebook, mailing lists</p> <p>About 70 members on FB group. Overlaps with 62 in email list. Website has brought enquires and new members as well.</p>	
<p>13. Minutes of last meeting. Agreed to be an accurate record.</p>	
<p>14. Next meeting – Monday 20th January 2014</p>	