

**MANCHESTER AND PENNINE WATERWAY PARTNERSHIP**  
**Notes of the meeting of The Partnership, @ Marple Library**

**Attended:** Walter Menzies, Fiona Turpin, Nick Smith, Mark Turner, Jon Stopp, Nigel Stevens, Keith Sexton, Graham Birch, Iain Taylor, David Baldacchino, Richard Parry, Dave Champness, Heather Clarke, Frances Done, Judy Jones, Helen Hall, Tayo Adebowale, Stephen Ballard, Tracey Jackson.

**Apologies:** Lynda Jubb, Julie Sharman.

1	<p><b>Chair's welcome and introduction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome to Frances Done and Richard Parry.</li> <li>• Declarations of interest: None declared</li> <li>• Previous minutes – Incorrect figure of £15000 from the Ancoats adoption scheme, should read £1500.</li> <li>• Apologies – as above.</li> </ul>	
2	<p><b>News / updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rochdale canal, northern end. Art installations along the towpath, 1 installed in past couple days at Mytholmroyd. 2 more are planned in the very near future, 1 at Luddenden Foot and 1 at Hebden Bridge.</li> <li>• Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September there is a cruise along the Rochdale canal. A chance to look at the works followed by a BBQ in Hebden Bridge.</li> <li>• Pennine Prospects annual conference on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October at Rochdale Town Hall. Walter will be speaking. For more information see the website: <a href="http://www.pennineprospects.co.uk/news/pennine-prospects-october-conference-will-explore-the-landscape-of-opportunity-that-is-the-south-pennines">http://www.pennineprospects.co.uk/news/pennine-prospects-october-conference-will-explore-the-landscape-of-opportunity-that-is-the-south-pennines</a></li> <li>• Walk and Ride festival is coming up with events across South Pennine, more details can be found on the website: <a href="http://www.walkandridefestival.co.uk/">http://www.walkandridefestival.co.uk/</a></li> <li>• Rochdale canal festival (now known as the South Pennine Ring festival). Good summer, good events, lots of interest. Pleased to say we have underspent on the budget and have been able to spend this on a joint venture with a fishing organisation in Heywood, they have run 3 events so far with around 60 kids, to do some fishing. We also managed to get local supplier to provide fishing rods and certificates. We are now trying to get them to take on an adoption.</li> <li>• Filming on the Rochdale and HNC. Later today Timothy West and Prunella Scales are on the Rochdale canal filming a journey. Going through SVC tomorrow.</li> <li>• Keith attended the national conference. Manchester visioning workshop, linked to Piccadilly undercroft, interesting artists with ideas for festivals. A proposal come up with in the end that we pull together a small steering group who are high profile in the city centre, and look at small pilot projects.</li> <li>• HNC Society are now formally taking Community Adoptions forward. Meeting next Tuesday with Trust volunteer co-ordinator. Looking to set up along the 3 different character areas. Looking at setting up network linked community adoptions. There have been increased difficulties with linking with local authorities due to cut backs, it has diminished over last 5 years. Timothy West and Prunella Scales are long standing patrons of the society. Graham will be the lead on planning.</li> <li>• Bridgewater Canal Company has earmarked £1.2m for towpath improvements, working in conjunction with the Trust.</li> <li>• Upcoming Northern Canals Association meeting in Huddersfield, details to follow.</li> <li>• Transshipment warehouse - focal point of the canal, not in operational use, is empty but we would like to see it in use again. A group have come to us because they have an interest and business case for a multiuse venue. We are going to get involved as we want the warehouse to have a future, if any the partnership would like to get involved, we are meeting them tomorrow. Will be keeping the dock there. Make it an agenda item next time and have our meeting at Whaley Bridge. Town council has meeting rooms. – TJ to look into and book.</li> </ul>	TJ

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News items – would be great if we could have a newsletter for website – Everybody was asked to send 2 sentences to TJ to produce newsletter and upload to website.</li> <li>• United Utilities met with Richard Mercer to discuss the legacy of reservoirs and what might be required before transfer back to the Trust. Hydro-schemes – talked about making it work, the cost of connecting to electricity, Hurleston water treatment works is close to the canal, it may work there. Looked at quality of run off from fields into the canal, and working with land owners.</li> <li>• New Islington development is moving along – lovely family houses.</li> <li>• Walter had a useful session with the HNC Society with an induction to the Huddersfield Narrow.</li> <li>• Marple Wharf meeting with Civic Society is coming up.</li> <li>• Continuing to build on our relationship with Liverpool University. Recently had a very good meeting with Heather Clarke.</li> <li>• European Structural Funds - money will be spent in Central Manchester. Need some advanced ideas for the Rochdale canal. Suggested a separate discussion about what we want and how to push it forward.</li> <li>• Steven Hardy is working on a PR Communication toolkit. Helen will present this to the partnership at the next meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>TJ</p> <p>HH</p>
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>M&amp;P Manifesto – progress and next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iain Taylor has taken the lead on this but was a culmination of team effort. A lot of what we wanted to achieve with the document we have achieved. We did take on board what people wanted and picked up on good ideas stakeholders gave us. This will be fed into our Waterway Plan. Jo's stunning poem on back page is a statement of intent. Thanks to everyone who got stuck in.</li> <li>• We need to look at keeping the document current, have we thought of timing when we will review it? Timing is everything. We've established the plan, and around an annual event we can find our way forward. This is a living document, we wanted to achieve that, and to continue to gather ideas and what people want.</li> <li>• The theme is communication – suggested a separate session on how to proceed. It's been a long process and we need to follow it through. And start planning our next annual event. Question of if there will be a new document?</li> <li>• We wanted people to imbed their ideas with us. When they are thinking about investment. Message is pick it up, imbed into your work as much as you can and come back in 12 months with your thoughts.</li> <li>• Part of our strategic plan is the action plan which highlights short term and long term priorities. List in the back of the manifesto lists our strategic priorities, we need to keep this updated.</li> <li>• Manifesto PDF to be emailed to attendees, but also send to those who didn't attend? 2 different communications. Those who attended are already converted, we need to reach out to the others. Walter will draft the first letter to send to the attendees.</li> <li>• Could we catch a wider audience, eg library next to the canal? Will pick this up at the communication meeting.</li> <li>• How do we go about capturing people's reactions and feedback? How do we respond?</li> </ul>	<p>WM</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Partnership Declaration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's important we describe to the outside who we are and what we do, explain how the partnership fits together, that it does serve a purpose and has a simple statement. More important in precise words the momentum we have here is what is driving the trust. How it is applied and operates is important. If everybody is happy with declaration, we can put it to bed.</li> <li>• Partnerships are the key to the transformation of BW to the Trust. They are about sub-regional leadership and enthusiasm. Each Partnership is different and is fundamental to the future of the trust. The Trustees want everyone to realise how important the partnership is. We have to make sure that enough support is provided to the partnership to help them achieve their jobs.</li> <li>• The document defines to the staff in the Trust what the partnership is about. Helps</li> </ul>	

	<p>them to understand what we do and how they can work with us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have a good governance structure and are confident it will work, and to summarise in a document is great.</li> <li>• The governance structure is very fresh, this means the partnership can work in the background without getting bogged down with the day to day running of it.</li> <li>• Our partnership works so well because of the Trust staff we are working with. Structure is right and the individuals are right too.</li> <li>• The added value of the partnerships is visible already and we are seeing results.</li> </ul>	
5	<p><b>M&amp;P Plan – progress, discussion and next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Today we are hoping to make some progress. Presentation was shown to the partnership and is also available to view on the Extranet.</li> <li>• Draft manifesto was to invite and engage stakeholders we revised this into the actual document. Waterway plan sits underneath that. Use this to engage funding bodies, policy makers. To help us submit future funding bids.</li> <li>• Action plan is to be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the enterprise team and Waterway Manager and report back to the partnership. Next year at our outburst we'll have a list of things achieved. When we have drafted the action plan this is circulated internally so that they can look at how we can deliver that.</li> <li>• Since the last meeting when we ran through the template which has been set up for our partnership. What is the likely submission from the trust is it 100%? Do we need other partners? Template has been amended to show this.</li> <li>• There are the projects we know about and projects that are emerging, Atlantic Gateway for instance, that will be interesting in thinking about how we join up with other partnership areas. We don't want to miss the opportunity. There is a clear role for Manchester. A way of reinforcing our message.</li> <li>• May be useful to have a contextual map showing us joined up. Those are the type of maps people want to see. May be useful to see how the neighbouring partnerships are doing with their plans and see how we join up with them. We have tried to capture where their priorities boundary ours.</li> <li>• 3 areas – people, places and prosperity. 3 overarching themes under people – Firstly looking at how waterways can change engagement and perception of those who live along our waterways, 2<sup>nd</sup> to make them relevant and inclusive to everyone in the community, 3<sup>rd</sup> utilise our canals to raise health and wellbeing. Identified 3 or 4 key priorities. We need to identify if our actions contribute to our overall objectives.</li> <li>• Strategic priorities – it's about broadening public perception, public ownership, widening the volunteer base, improving awareness and changing perceptions.</li> <li>• Map the actions and try to cover a number of objectives eg, Rochdale 9 will cross match across a number of objectives. Those are the ones which will have the most impact and we should be looking at prioritising. There are some in there which are small and we need to think about how we handle those, however, we don't want to lose any of them.</li> <li>• What's going to work in Manchester is not going to work in some other areas. For each of our character areas we will highlight which are specific to that area. We need a link from the plan back to our manifesto.</li> <li>• The key point is to make sure things in our manifesto are actioned.</li> <li>• Once our action plan is drafted, we'll go back again over our list of projects. Aim to do a summary public doc to show our action plan. When we achieve a project we can communicate that we have achieved one of our strategic projects.</li> <li>• People – we want to see other people, not just the usual suspects. The plan touches on this but not enough. Need to get the wider communities engaged, diversity along the canal is enormous, but young people are more engaged and it's about encapsulating that.</li> <li>• Adoptions – this is something we are already doing and the partnership don't need to get involved. Each community is bound to be different but need to find a common formula.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prosperity – there are 3 partnership wide objectives: 1<sup>st</sup> how can we contribute to the environment, 2<sup>nd</sup> focusing how we can help drive local urban economies, 3<sup>rd</sup> creating environments which attract investment. During scrutiny groups, bring in specialists from central teams. When looking at these, need look at how it benefits the partners.</li> <li>Put updated version of the plan on the Extranet.</li> <li>The group agreed to hold a scrutiny session, 1 day, to tackle the sections. In the meantime could each member go through and we can look at one comprehensive list. Send to comments to Heather or David. Arrange 1 day in a couple of weeks, back to back session.</li> </ul>	<p>TJ HC</p>
6	<p><b>Waterway Manager's / Enterprise / Communications / Property reports:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enterprise update – a significant sum of money has been put forward for the Ashton Canal, just short of £2m. Enterprise team are meeting with TfGM tomorrow who are the recipients of the money. £30m pot available for the major cities across the country. Approx. £10m investment over our waterways. This will give us an opportunity to demonstrate major schemes to time to budget and an opportunity to establish our reputation. Map to be uploaded to the extranet showing what it will be spent on. Mainly about cycling and will be improving access points, but will also be walkers, boaters and anglers who will benefit from this. This will be high profile, establishes our relationship with Dept for Transport and TfGM. This is the first wave. There will be a second wave. Which means, if we get this right now, it will benefit us in the future. Will improve relationships with local authorities. Huge opportunity for the Trust. One of the achievements is that we are talking about washwall improvements. Towpath surfacing – if it is noisy eg gravel, you can hear the cycle coming. Enterprise team will raise the point tomorrow regarding increased usage and impact and how they are going to monitor it. Dept for Transport may have some actions which we need to deliver to help us go on to 2<sup>nd</sup> wave. Enterprise team to report back on this next time.</li> <li>Media evaluation – it's been a really good month, the previous month was concentrated on the breach, last month was more varied. Interviews – Principal Engineer is being interviewed now on Radio 4 regarding the google tracker we've been involved with. Some good stories upcoming – HLF bid, Slaithwaite reservoir. Conservative party conference next month – will be a good opportunity to raise awareness of what we have been doing around Manchester.</li> </ul>	<p>NS</p>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Heritage Team</b></li> <li>To be discussed at our next meeting.</li> </ul>	
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Marple Wharf</b></li> <li>Jeremy Harrison made a presentation to the group.</li> <li>We are at the point where, after meeting with the Civic society and seeing their proposals, we are ready to meet with Stockport council.</li> <li>Partnership agreed they think our scheme is viable and approved the recommended approach moving forward.</li> <li>Marple Vision Partnership has been set up to help make Marple a place to visit.</li> </ul>	
9	<p><b>Forthcoming events:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	
	<p><b>AOB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water shortage – became very dry at one point during summer and we had to manage our water resources carefully.</li> <li>Recycling plant Salford – being dealt with with the environ agency. They are a sub tenant. It is owned by the Trust. The tenant has not managed it but is now being closely monitored.</li> <li>Heritage – 2 or 3 sites in Manchester and Pennine where we would value the Partnership's input with local councils eg we have a listed bridge which keeps getting bashed. Proper discussion to be held at the next meeting. Shaw wood bridge Rochdale listed, we don't want to put the parapet back until council highways put in some traffic management to protect it. Transshipment warehouse. Marple aqueduct –</li> </ul>	

	suicide, no rail on the offside, do we go to English heritage and ask to put a rail up there? JJ to do a note on each of those and send to partnership. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Richard pleased to have been involved today.</li></ul>	<b>JJ</b>
	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 24 October 2013 – Whaleybridge (venue to be confirmed)</b>	