

**ATTENDEES**

**Andrew Fuller (Chair, Independent, voting)**  
**Charlotte Whitaker (Manager, no voting rights)**  
**Nick Boot (Office, voting)**  
**Philip Downer (Independent, voting)**  
**Geoff Evans (Leisure and Tourism, voting)**  
**Ben Curtis (Resident representative, observer, non-voting)**  
**Rick Parish (Independent, voting)**  
**Stephen Cooksey (Councillor, voting)**  
**Emily Ayres (MVDC Representative, observer, non-voting)**  
**Lisa Edwards (Leisure and Tourism, voting)**  
**Gillian Harris (Independent, voting)**

**Jen Dannel (IN ATTENDANCE)**  
**Emma Day (By invitation)**  
**Simon Edge (By invitation)**

		<b>ACTION</b>	<b>TIME</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Item 1 - Welcome and Introductions</b>		
<b>1.1</b>	Andrew opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Apologies had been received from Alan Johnson, Candida Goulden and Metin Huseyin.	<b>INFO</b>	-
<b>2.</b>	<b>Item 2 – Approval of Last Month’s Minutes</b>		
<b>2.1</b>	Minutes were agreed as correct by unanimous vote.	<b>INFO</b>	-
<b>3.</b>	<b>Item 3 – Future High Street Funding Discussion with Simon Edge and Emma Day</b>		
<b>3.1</b>	<p>Simon Edge (SE) and Emma Day (ED) had been asked to attend the meeting to discuss a transform Dorking masterplan. Simon explained that MVDC wants Dorking to be in the same position as Leatherhead the next time there is an ability to apply for Future High Street Funding. In an ideal world they would like to create a map of opportunity, produce a consultation brief for the town and then go to the public with information on what could be achieved, but MVDC have no idea what the appetite for change in the town currently is or if the BID would support it. There isn't a finite pot of money – MVDC always have to partner with others to provide funding for capital projects. The improvements required are significant – lot of demolition work, new hotel, new multi-storey car park, radically changing flow of traffic etc – are we (the town) ready for it? Prepared for it? What is the BID's appetite for it? Can MVDC rely on the BIDs support?</p> <p>PD asked why a parallel activity of Transform Dorking not been done for Dorking? SE believes that Transform Leatherhead was done in response to the funding that went into building the new football stadium for Dorking, but also there was no perceived appetite for change for Dorking. SC disagreed and feels that we have needed change for more than 10 years and MVDC need to commit to funding the masterplan.</p>		

<p>NB asked what happened to the Economic Prosperity Strategy which had been put in place by Robert Jolley? ED explained that 12 projects have been started, but it's not a regeneration scheme – it includes social media training a business directory etc. ED went on to give a bit more background on why Transform Leatherhead was brought about including an 18 month consultation period. MVDC want to test the appetite for transformative change and also need to get all stakeholders involved prepared for the disruption. There is a meeting of the Business Reference Group at Pippbrook in March where MVDC will detail the current appetite for change and she encouraged as many people as possible to attend.</p> <p>CW asked what projects are they looking at? Both Ed and SE said that it is a general stocktake. Obviously the Pippbrook regeneration plan is ready to go, but there needs to be a review of all projects to make sure that whatever is done makes financial sense and create improvement for all people and wider benefit to the wider community. GH asked if the Chip project was to protect Pippbrook House? Yes – but it also covers grounds around it. SC cautioned that building a housing estate in the Pippbrook area would mean losing a large civic community space and also we need a masterplan for the whole town, not just for the Pippbrook space.</p> <p>GH said that businesses in the town are desperate for change and the BID exists because of it. SE – we need the businesses to become advocates for the council's masterplan approach. PD told the meeting that his retail neighbours are enraged that Leatherhead gets everything 'free of charge' and that leatherhead is a special case. CW went on to say that the BID is trying to form a healthy relationship with MVDC, but it needs partnership in return and so far the BID hasn't seen any benefit/oiled wheels, eg parking signage. ED asked that they are provided with a list of projects so that they can dovetail/find commonalties. Regarding parking signage, Surrey County Council are in very serious financial difficulties and Highways prioritise safety over everything. ED's team is very small and have to priorities.</p> <p>RP feels that it is a good idea, but asked if the council would commit to a 5 year masterplan for Dorking. SE said there is appetite for it in the council, but cannot give any guarantees. He can only give assurance that everyone is keen to make it happen.</p> <p>ED then gave a brief explanation setting out MVDCs case for approaching the BID for matched funding for the GRIP2 feasibility study for better access facilities for Dorking Deepdene Station. The station has been identified by GWR as one of the poorest in their region for disabled access facilities and have asked MVDC and SCC to provide £10k each towards the £30k costs for a GRIP2 feasibility study. MVDC have no funding and hence have asked the BID for a contribution. ED explained that the private-public funding ratio is helpful for future funding applications, but that the BID is under no obligation to contribute.</p> <p>GH asked if the cost for a study was actually £30k given that the project might not actually get the go-ahead. Yes – correct. PD asked that this is a just for access facilities – not to link Dorking Deepdene to the main station. Yes – correct. ED explained that it is looking at the long-term rationale for the town – hopefully making it easier to access for all visitors. There is also the opportunity to get publicity for the BID off the back of it. RP said that it</p>		
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	<p>seems illogical, but would it 'oil the wheels' for the BID in the future? Yes, quite possibly.</p> <p>SE/ED left the meeting at 8.45 am.</p> <p>The Board went on to discuss the BID's contribution.</p> <p>AF asked for a show hands in support of matched funding. No-one voted to support. AF then asked for a show of hands against the proposal. It was carried unanimously.</p>		
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Item 3 – BID Update</b></p>		
<p><b>3.1</b></p>	<p>CW gave a BID update:</p> <p><i>Market on West Street</i></p> <p>CW put forward a proposal for holding a monthly Sunday 'flea' market in West St for five months starting in May. The TMP will cost £850/month with an approx. £2-4k installation fee for stalls. CW explained that she hoped that it would be self-funding, but that we can afford to do it and we are hoping that it will consistently drive footfall.</p> <p>PD asked can we not just have a better quality of market once/mth? PD feels that St Martins Walk end of the High St retailers feel that there is a them and us situation – especially as St Martins Walk customers have to pay for parking whereas West St and South St can use Waitrose for free. CW – West St does seem to be the best place for it. PD asked if we could potentially improve the current Friday market that we have each week. CW has tried to contact them. EA feels that there is an appetite for a better quality of market in Dorking – council have met with two providers. GH – it would be good if we could have a market in three places throughout the town, but we are looking at West St as a starting point.</p> <p>PD is keen to have a better market and is happy for the West St market as a first strand, but doesn't want it to be seen that one part of the town is being favoured over another. AF asked CW to re-look at the dates as the August date clashes with the cycle race through the town. The Board were happy for CW to continue to investigate.</p> <p><i>Social Media Training Workshops</i></p> <p>Kathy Kyle will be holding social media training workshops for groups of levy payers at the White Horse Hotel for beginners, intermediate and advanced users. These are taster sessions to garner appetite. It will be communicated to levy payers via email. GE suggested that we get one director to attend each session.</p> <p><i>SPB letter to Businesses</i></p> <p>Sir Paul Beresford has sent a letter to all night-time economy businesses in the town to determine if there is an appetite for longer opening times in the town.</p>		

	<p><i>Loyal Free</i> Report will be sent via email</p> <p><i>Amplia Report</i> Report will be sent via email</p> <p><i>Video</i></p> <p>CW presented the Board with a proposal for three more videos – the prospectus video, the shop local video and the pick-up shoot. There was a slight concern that it might not be summery enough in April, but can the Board sign off a storyboard before going any further? CW – Yes. EA offered to help with data/statistics for the prospectus video.</p>		
<b>4</b>	<b>Item 4 - AOB</b>		
<b>4.1</b>	<p>CW has received one new application for membership from the new manager for St Martins Walk. AF asked for a show of hands. The motion was passed unanimously.</p> <p>BC – can we consider improving our Christmas lights as we are always compared with Reigate and theirs are significantly better than ours.</p> <p>BC – recently attended a Friends of Dorking Chinese New Year dinner and majority of attendees were from Bookham. Can CW please send them copies of the BID business review?</p> <p>EA reminded everyone of the rural summit which is happening at Hartsfeld Manor on 26 February.</p> <p>The chair closed the meeting at 9.35 am.</p>	<b>INFO</b>	-
	<b>NEXT MEETING</b>		
	Next Meeting will be held at 0745h on 26 March 2019 in South St Clinic.	<b>INFO</b>	-