

Hare Hill House

Presentation to Pennines Township Committee

20 January 2010

By David Harding,

Chair of MoorEnd Development Trust



- Introduction
- Thank you – allowing time for presentation



– The Vision.

- Vibrant centre serving local community
- Valuable resources to promote spirit of enterprise
- Heritage asset – much loved by local community

- Seeking to transform Hare Hill House and Carnegie Library:
 - a vibrant centre that serves the local community;
 - creating a valuable resource that will promote economic regeneration
 - creating a spirit of enterprise and job creation.
- Hare Hill Park, a green flag park - much loved asset
- Hare Hill House integral to Park
- Continued use essential to the continuing success of the park
- Also to develop further the pride residents have in the Littleborough.



– Our Ideas.

- Conference facility, performance and exhibition space
- Café
- Community meeting room
- Office/studio space.

- Our vision for Hare Hill House and the Carnegie Library;
- creation of a venue that will operate as a conference facility, performance and exhibition space;
- a café to serve both the occupants and visitors to the newly refurbished building as well as users of the Park;
- a community meeting room;
- office/studio space for a variety of private and public and third sector users.

- refurbishment proposals for this heritage asset very conscious of ensuring highest specification particularly restoration and information technology
- future running costs every effort to keep to a minimum,.



– Partnership Working

- Trust can deliver:
 - Grants and Loan
- Rochdale MBC can deliver
 - Building and Support
- Together we can deliver
 - Refurbished heritage asset
 - Job creation
 - Performance Space.

Partnership working essential;

Clear in current economic climate, low land values wrecking value uplift, regeneration and economic change less reliant upon property developers and investors.

By working in partnership the Trust and Rochdale MBC can deliver number of key objectives; tackling unemployment - the venue will provide a place for both new and existing enterprises creating up to 50 new jobs provide a performance space, addressing a need identified in the recent CAA assessment.

Trust can lever in some additional resources to deliver this vision but will need the backing of key partners, I would ask you to support the principle of asset transfer to the Trust, you have done it before with the transfer of Butterworth Hall and we have not let you down, Butterworth Hall continues to provide a valuable venue for the local community.



– Achievements so far:

- Working group established
- Structural Survey
- Feasibility Study
- Business Plan
- Community Builders grant application

We have already achieved a lot some of it with your help and assistance:

Established a Project Working Group to drive the project forward.- includes Cllr Peter Evans, Friends of Hare Hill Park; Pennines Township Office.

Secured external financial support to undertake a Structural Survey

Using monies provided by RMBC to road test its Asset Transfer Toolkit, we have commissioned a Feasibility Study that has identified the broad costs of refurbishment and produced a Business Plan that demonstrates the scheme is sustainable in the long term.

Applied to Community Builders for grant aid and been one of the first four projects selected to progress to the next stage.

Begun to explore other grant aid opportunities.

Littleborough Civic Trust have volunteered to produce a Conservation Management Plan for the building.

Begun the process of securing the wider support of the community to save the house for the community.



– Your Support

- Pennines Township Plan
- Asset Transfer Toolkit
- Funding for Feasibility Study

You have included the project within the Pennines Township Plan providing valuable support and evidence that a key stakeholder is on board.

You have taken Asset Transfer seriously and developed a toolkit to help organisations such as ourselves.

You have provided resources that have enabled us to commission the feasibility study.



– Our Record:

- Butterworth Hall
- Tim Bobbin Festival
- Wardle Gateway

Butterworth Hall – successfully run community venue

Tim Bobbin Festival – celebrated the 300 anniversary of this birth in 2008 with a wide range of activities involving all sectors of the community. Committed to run an annula Tim Bobbin Festival.

Wardle Gateway – secured funding to kick start the environmental improvement of the Ashworth Valley. Created new footpath/bridleway link as first phase.

Hare Hill House – over 300 volunteer hours already contributed to taking the project forward



– The Future

- Hard work and dedication
- Tough decisions
- A long haul
- But all worthwhile
- Hare Hill House once again Pride of Place

Under no illusion - a lot of effort is required

Will be some tough decisions, but not afraid to take them

MoorEnd is here for the long term

This project provides the opportunity to create something special

Together we can once again give Hare Hill House a new lease of life a future that benefits us all.



MoorEnd is a Community Regeneration Company limited by guarantee.

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www.moorendtrust.org.uk

Contacts:

Chair: David Harding

Tel. 01706 633768

Project Champion Nick Andrews

Tel. 01706 379252

Our contact details if anyone wants more information.

Thank you for listening.