

Future Oswestry Meeting

Notes of meeting held Thursday 6th January 2022 at 12.30pm via TEAMS

Attending:

Oswestry Town Council: Councillor Mike Isherwood & Councillor Duncan Kerr

Shropshire Council: Councillor Steve Charmley & Councillor Rob Macey

Oswestry BID: Adele Nightingale & Ian Follington

Community Representatives: Peter Lloyd & Craig Marston

Officers: Arren Roberts (OTC), Steve Brown, Andy Wigley, Sam Jones, Andy Morris, Joe Bubb, Hayley Owen, (SC)

1. Welcome and apologies

Cllr SC welcomed all attending.

2. Governance

A draft agreement for the Community Representatives had been shared via email for comments relating to role, confidentiality and declarations of interest. PL suggested some additional amendments which were agreed by the group. Agreements to be signed by the Community Representatives and counter signed by the Chair.

Action: Community Representative Agreement agreed by FOG.

3. Notes of the last meeting

Notes of the previous meeting held 11/11/21 were accepted.

Matters arising and key actions from the last Future Oswestry meeting to be picked up in main agenda items.

4. Declarations of interest

None

5. Masterplan and consultation arrangements

Amendments to the report to be made including photos, wording updated on Oswestry Innovation Park and reference the theatre/markets. Deadline for changes 7/1/22.

A sub-group to undertake the planning for the consultation and arrangements to be set up.

Action: Notify JB with comments by 7/1/22 and interest in the sub-group.

A1 display boards to be displayed at key locations such as Library, supermarkets.

Summary sheet to be made available. 6 week consultation from February to mid-March.

In addition to static and drop in sessions, other opportunities will be considered such as market stalls and online discussions. The events will be subject to COVID restrictions. PL suggested opportunities for enable further discussion.

6 Updates on Priority Projects

a) High Street Heritage Action Zone

Update received from Sam Jones:

Quarter 3 claim is in preparation. New initiatives are to be introduced from March including a 90% grants scheme for signage and offer of maintenance grants.

Environmental Associates commissioned for the Public Realm improvements are undertaking the initial design works and implementation work. Tender packages to go out and planning applications have been submitted. Work due to be completed by the end of March. Communications on the designs for the clock structure, archways and gateway to Cae Glas Park to be promoted.

Update from the HSHAZ Board (5/1/22) – flagship strand includes some spend profile for this financial year. As part of the Cultural Audit, this work will also look at options such as a cultural hub option and interest received the Cycling museum opportunity. Options of support for the Llywd Mansion has been discussed at the HSHAZ Board. A meeting for Future Oswestry members on the flagship project was suggested to discuss options and will be arranged, to follow the outcome of discussions with Historic England.

Action: SJ to arrange meeting.

Regarding plans for the former Morrisons site, an options appraisal would be required to support a business case and would need to be discussed in connection with the Masterplan work. A business case would need to be developed to be considered for inclusion within Shropshire Council's capital programme.

b) Traffic Regulations Review update

Steve Brown to circulate a briefing note.

Signage for the 20mph area will include a sign for re-entering the 30 mph area along Willow Street. There has been push back on the use of speed bumps as it could lead to an increase in car emissions.

AN updated on meeting with KA on 23/12/21, concepts to be resent which address the traffic calming.

Action: AN to circulate concepts.

c) Wayfinding including signage for the industrial estate.

Update received from Adele Nightingale, BID:

Signage has now been put into place. The next step of the pilot is to implement further banners.

Discussed gateway signs.

Action: AN to send list and locations of tree foliage requiring trimming to SB.

d) Taxi licence

OTC has asked Shropshire Council formally to re-consider the impact of the policy on taxi provisions and suggested the development of a working group. HO has been in touch with Frances Darling to progress the suggestion.

e) Capital Infrastructure Projects

Details of proposed overnight work on the Mile End junction improvements were added to the web page and promoted by the BID and OTC.

f) Co-working space pilot at the Memorial Hall

Action: Update to be presented and a visit to the facility is to be arranged. JB to coordinate.

7. Communications and Engagement Plan

Communications agenda item to be added to start of the meeting.

8. Any other business

- Rickshaw – **Action:** AR looking at procurement arrangements.
- Night bus service was well supported – **Action:** AN to share report following BID Board meeting.
- Planting of flowers on the Morrisons roundabout opportunity raised. **Action:** SB to chase and update. Discussion on making other roundabout more attractive to be added to the agenda.

9. Dates of future meetings

Action: JB to set up monthly meetings in the diary.