

Future Oswestry Meeting

Notes of Future Oswestry Group (FOG) meeting held Thursday 10th November 2022 at Oswestry Guildhall.

Partners	Oswestry Town Council (OTC)	Shropshire Council (SC)	Oswestry BID	Community Representatives
Present	Cllr Mike Isherwood (Chair) Cllr Jay Moore (substituting for Cllr Duncan Kerr) Officer: Arren Roberts	Cllr Robert Macey Cllr Chris Schofield Officers: Joe Bubb Rosie Corner Alex Edwards Sam Jones Ffion Horton Hayley Owen	Adele Nightingale Ian Follington	Peter Lloyd Craig Marston
Apologies	Cllr Duncan Kerr	Alice James Ruth Sperring Andy Wigley		
1. Notes of the last meeting	Notes from the meeting held on 29 th September 2022 were agreed. Notes from the workshop held on 13 th October 2022 have been circulated and do not need to be agreed.			
2. Declarations of interest	None.			
3. Future Oswestry Masterplan and stakeholder engagement	<p>Update from Joe Bubb: <i>Members and officers attended the FOG delivery plan workshop on the 13th October in the Guildhall. The prioritisation of projects and cross-cutting principles (Safety, Sustainability, Connectivity, Engagement) were discussed and the session feedback was circulated.</i></p> <p><i>Future Oswestry Plan final edit with consultation results to be included. Suggested amendments and way forward to be discussed. Any updated photos to be shared asap.</i></p> <p><i>Display and promotional materials for proposals emerging from the Connectivity Plan and LCWIP will be made available for any joint engagement activities to be held in the new year. Engagement proposals to be agreed by Future Oswestry.</i></p> <p>Members decided to form a Delivery Plan Working Group which will meet before the December FOG meeting.</p> <p>Members noted that Oswestry and District Civic Society hosted a roundtable talk about neighbourhood planning at the end of October.</p>			
4. Communications and engagement plan	<p>Update from Alice James: <i>I am currently working on the next wave of HSHAZ comms with Sam Jones.</i></p> <p>Alice James (SC), Ruth Sperring (OTC) and John Waine (BID) will be meeting to discuss FOG communications.</p>			
5. Updates on priority projects				

<p>a. Transport and connectivity</p>	<p>Update from Joe Bubb: <i>Works to make Church Street ETRO permanent. Drainage survey results from WSP are still outstanding, however potential solutions are being looked into including an interim solution.</i></p> <p>Alex Edwards (SC) is working directly with Keir to progress designs. Members discussed a range of interim solutions. Issue with hogs moving about in high winds and causing disruption.</p> <p><i>Sports Direct Alley. Update has been requested regarding legal / public right of way considerations.</i></p> <p>Joe Bubb is speaking to Victoria Doran (SC Highway Maintenance Manager) regarding hedge cutting.</p> <p>Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). Oswestry projects are currently going through feasibility studies and optioning with the consultants. Rose Dovey is looking into potential funding (Department for Transport and UK Shared Prosperity Fund).</p>
<p>b. High Street Heritage Action Zone</p>	<p>Update from Sam Jones:</p> <p><i>Capital Grant Programme</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New shop front installed at Liberty Travel</i> • <i>New bus stop outside 39 Church Street.</i> • <i>Work ongoing at 5-9 Cross Street and 39-41 Church Street</i> <p><i>Public Realm</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lights are being installed – the ones on Clawdd Du have been welcomed.</i> • <i>Clawdd Du – meeting held about bins but only one business came. We have followed this up with a letter which states if not heard from them in 10 working days we will assume they no longer require a bin. We will then formulate a plan for this point.</i> • <i>Interpretation panels have been installed</i> <p><i>Other</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Llwyd Mansion is now vacant</i> • <i>We are on track to have spend delivered this financial year</i> • <i>Working with HE to look at standardising evaluation across all schemes</i> • <i>Work is starting on the Shop Front Design Guide</i> • <i>Carried out sessions with 2 schools and will be trialling a Mantle of the Expert education resource with them on 20 Church Street</i> • <i>Working with the Cultural Consortium on next year’s Love Oswestry Programme</i> • <i>Met with the archives team to look at creating a series of historic films on the town</i> • <i>Working with the research group to create a series of historical trails around the town focussing on Medieval, Tudor and Stuarts and Victorian periods.</i> • <i>Claim for Q2 has been submitted</i> • <i>The Love Oswestry event is scheduled for February 2023</i>
<p>c. Road signage project</p>	<p>Update from Joe Bubb: <i>Decluttering road signs. Survey undertaken by the BID is the basis of discussions to remove, adjust and replace road signs. Comprehensive list of signs is needed to inform how these can be undertaken either through the Kier contract or alternative means.</i></p>

	<i>Brown Signs review to amend existing signs including reference to the Heritage Centre. A list of signs requiring correction is needed with number required, current locations and agreed adjustments. Prices for any re-design and replacement for the required number of signs will be provided for ongoing discussions.</i>
d. Co-working space pilot at the Memorial Hall	Update from Tracy Woods: <i>Nothing to update at this time.</i>
e. Capital infrastructure projects	Update from Joe Bubb: <i>Nothing to update at this time.</i>
f. Restore Your Railway bid update	Update from Adele Nightingale: <i>Business case submitted 28/9/22. Feedback expected Dec/Jan.</i>
6. Update from Property and Development Team	Update from Steve Law: <i>Nothing to update at this time.</i>
7. Levelling Up Fund Round 2	Update from Joe Bubb: <i>Nothing to update at this time.</i>
8. Governance	No updates at this time.
9. Any Other Business	Discussion of vision for transport hub at the old Morrisons site. Current lack of public transport to Orthopaedic Hospital.
10. Date of next meeting and agenda items	Thursday 8 th December 2022 FOG Engagement policy

Actions

1	Circulate a Neighbourhood Plan process briefing note to FOG members.	RC
2	Liaise on Church Street resurfacing project.	AR, AE, FH
3	Address hogs issue on Church Street ahead of Christmas events.	AN, AR
4	Comms needed on Llywd Mansion.	SJ, AJ, RS
5	HSHAZ officers group to begin to explore the potential legacy options of the project.	SJ, AR, AN, AW, JB, RC
6	Share <i>Restore Your Railway</i> business case (if permitted).	AN
7	Declarations of Interest process to be considered during governance review and taken to monitoring officer.	AR, JB
8	Approach SC Growth Hub officers about creating an Oswestry pack for potential investors and business.	JB
9	Invite Cllr Dean Carroll (Portfolio Holder - Growth and Regeneration) to December or January FOG meeting (dependant on his availability). Arrange tour of Oswestry to follow meeting.	JB