

Future Oswestry Meeting

Notes of meeting held Thursday 10th February 2022 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, Joe Bubb, Hayley Owen, Steve Law (SC)

1. Welcome and apologies

Cllr SC welcomed all attending.

Apologies from Andy Morris

2. Notes of the last meeting

Amendment to spelling. Notes of the previous meeting held 6/1/22 were accepted.

3. Declarations of interest

None

4. Communications and Engagement Plan

Update from Andy Morris received.

5. Indicative masterplan and movement / access strategy

Update on the consultation arrangements provided. The suggestions regarding the inclusion of wording regarding active engagement at the project stage has been included. Briefing to OTC Members planned for 23/2/22. Stakeholders invited to previous workshops are invited to the consultation events.

The Masterplan draft was presented to Shropshire Council Cabinet to meet Council protocols regarding consultations. Each partner organisation will have their own individual governances and briefings can be provided to each partner as required.

Invitation from Civic Society to attend a public meeting received.

The workshop proposal suggested by PL was discussed. PL suggested the form of engagement will need to be defined which could include a panel of community representatives. It was agreed to hold a stakeholder workshop after the consultation to share the initial findings from the consultation and comments received and to agree a mechanism for engaging with stakeholders to discuss future project ideas.

The Partnership Agreement and roles will need to be re-visited to include key interests of partners and role of the Community Representatives appointed.

6. Updates on Priority Projects

- a. High Street Heritage Action Zone

Update from Sam Jones

Matters arising: Separate meeting re flagship was arranged.
Number of capital grant applications coming forward. Looking to introduce enhancement and signage grants for small intervention works not included within main grants. This will be going to the HAZ Board for approval.
HAZ Board considering activities to meet financial year spend profile.
Love Oswestry Event led by Cultural Consortium is being promoted.

b. Traffic Regulations Review update

Update from Steve Brown

Matters arising: AN has emailed the draft concepts.

SB reported on county wide activities such as the consultation on the Local Transport Plan 4, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) currently being consulted on and the Bus Service Improvements (bid submitted subject to Government funding).

Action: Need to consider clear messages on activities and be considered as part of the wider Future Oswestry work.

Discussed Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO). AR asked if there was an opportunity to review the solution for Bailey Head.

Church Street to be considered in two phases. With phase 2 to be reviewed following the conclusion of the current TRO consultation relating to loading bays.

Action: SB to provide an update report.

c. Wayfinding including signage for the industrial estate.

Update from Adele Nightingale, BID

Matters Arising: AN sent list and locations of tree foliage requiring trimming to SB. Awaiting dates for foliage trimming from SB.

Shropshire Council to replace lamps with LED lighting in areas identified as poorly lit. Pilot sign has been erected and further signage to be installed.

d. Review of the Taxi Provision

Matters arising:

AR looking at procurement arrangements.

AN to share report following BID Board meeting.

No formal response has been received from Shropshire Council to approach from OTC.

Action: Could a number be put on the number of taxis that no longer operate in Oswestry?

e. Co-working space pilot at the Memorial Hall

Matters Arising: Update and a visit to the facility is to be arranged. Informal visit arranged for 1/2/22

f. Opportunities for roundabouts

Matters arising: SB to chase and update re planting of flowers on the Morrisons roundabout. Still not resolved. This item has been added to the agenda.

g. Capital Infrastructure Projects

Road improvement at Mile End should be completed by Spring 2022 with snagging works and demobilisation of contractors by summer.

Connectivity from the Oswestry Innovation Park across the A5 is being worked on and will feed into the LCWIP consultation.

h. Update from Property and Development Team

Update received from Steve Law, Shropshire Council on Shropshire Council assets.

Action: SL to discuss with Portfolio holder to clarify the position regarding the former Morrisons site and arrange for a press statement.

Options on the use of Castleview as an admin base with set down space is being considered through an Officers assets group.

Action: Updates to be provided to the Future Oswestry group by SL.

OTC interest in acquiring the Regal Building would commit resources which could limit other opportunities. It was suggested that arrangement regarding making space available on Festival Square for events be considered.

7. Governance

As discussed, review to be undertaken following the consultation and include arrangements for future engagement activities.

8. Any other business

Date of May meeting to be re-arranged.

9. Date of next meeting and key topics

Meetings arranged for

Thursday 10th March at 10.30am,

Thursday 14th April at 10.30am.