

## Future Oswestry Meeting

Key actions of meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 2.30pm via Zoom

Notes	Detail	Action
Attendees	Cllr Chris Schofield, OTC Cllr Steve Charmley, SC Cllr Sandy Best, OTC Cllr Robert Macey, SC Ian Follington, BID Adele Nightingale, BID Joe Bubb, SC Sarah Jones, SC Hayley Owen, SC Julie Ruler, SC Andy Wigley, SC Arren Roberts, OTC Simon Cranmer, OTC Steve Brown, SC Andy Evans, SC	
<b>Apologies</b>	James Willocks, SC	
<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	None received	
<b>Priority Projects</b>		
<b>Proposal for review of Town Centre Bus Service</b>	Cllr Steve Mason had proposed a motion to the Oswestry Town Council for FOG to lead on a review of the Oswestry Town Bus Service. Andy Evans expressed that this was an opportune time to review the bus service and explore opportunities to rationalise routes and identify any gaps in provision. Key stakeholders including Bus operators and Bus User Groups would need to be involved in the initial review. It is likely to be undertaken within 12 months to allow sufficient lead in time, stakeholder engagement and consider existing contract details. This work will be supported by the master planning work to consider improvements to local connectivity. Andy Evans to provide a map of the town with overlays of passenger numbers and levels of subsidy and attend a later FOG meeting with details of next steps.	
<b>Town Centre / Economic Recovery Updates</b>	Traffic Regulation Orders Church Street – still problems with loading bays being mis-used. Changes to bollards proposed. Once issue has been resolved feedback from businesses to be sought. Consultation on Bailey Head finished at the end of June. Feedback to be shared. Planter by the George Pub at Bailey Head is falling apart.	S Brown    S Brown to pick up

	Changes to temporary barriers awaiting prototype from Zoe Mortimer.	and respond.
<b>High Streets Heritage Action Zone</b>	<p>HSHAZ contract has now been signed and the award is for £653,080. With match provided by OTC and SC and anticipated match from capital grant recipients, the total project is £1,835,368. This award includes the grant elements and admin costs. The Cultural activities will be separately funded scheme.</p> <p>An opportunity to bid for additional monies to support additional activities in light of Covid was made available. As many of the other HSHAZ areas had previously established forums that have taken on the role of the Cultural Consortia, the bid submitted included support to facilitate workshops to help bring the consortia together and develop their role. The bid also includes costs to undertake initial research activities supported by Shropshire Archives and the Town Council Archivist and to trial new engagement activities which FOG can work with the Consortia to shape. A grant of £10,000 has been approved in principle by Historic England.</p> <p>The Cultural Programme will be a separately funded scheme which the Cultural Consortium will apply directly to Historic England.</p> <p>HSHAZ Project Officer appointed and anticipated to start in mid-October who has experience of HE grants and delivery of community engagement activities. The application process had been very competitive with 20 applications received.</p> <p>Conservation assessment of streets has been undertaken.</p> <p>Discussed HSHAZ criteria for grants (including HE referral process) and local criteria and considerations. It was noted that as part of the Repurposing grants, an element of match includes Section 106 funding which will need to support to affordable housing scheme.</p> <p>Draft proposals for the HAZ Project Board and governance arrangements including representatives from FOG and the Cultural Consortium (once developed) were shared with proposed timeline for issuing grant applications and appraisal. The HE guidance sets out the process for referrals to HE and declarations of interest.</p> <p>Paper for Oswestry Town Council to be prepared regarding sign-off of OTC contributions.</p> <p>Register of interest from businesses who have expressed an interest in grants has been established and updated.</p>	<p>Guidance / decision process to be formally signed off by FOG prior to issue</p> <p>AR</p>
<b>Wayfinding</b>	<p>Mile Oak consultation has ended. Yellow lines to be painted.</p> <p>Footfall figures to be updated monthly for FOG.</p> <p>Query re ownership of the verge for sign</p>	<p>S Brown</p> <p>AN</p>

	Current focus is on the Business Park, however wayfinding for the Town centre will be linked with the master planning work.	
<b>Indicative masterplan and movement / access strategy</b>	<p>Summary of tender and examples of case studies by appointed consultants have been shared with FOG members.</p> <p>Site visit and desktop research is being undertaken supported by calls with officers / partners.</p> <p>Introductory session for OTC Members being held later this evening.</p> <p>Stakeholder engagement workshops to be set up. Wider engagement being considered but will be subject to Covid restrictions.</p> <p>Route plan showing master planning activities and HSHAZ timelines to be shared with FOG.</p>	JB
<b>Governance</b>	Initial draft to come back to FOG to incorporate HSHAZ governance proposals.	TOR to be signed off by FOG
<b>Communications and Engagement Plan</b>	<p>Andy Morris in the SC Communications Team will be supporting Oswestry activities and will be invited to meetings to feedback on the development of the communications plan combining FOG, master planning and HSHAZ activities.</p> <p>This will include the refresh of the web pages and ways that key stakeholder groups can engage and communicate with FOG.</p>	JB
<b>AOB</b>	<p>Mile End Existing Services – state of area to be raised with Estates team</p> <p>Electric vehicle charging points in OTC car park to be installed next month.</p> <p>With the Pubs re-opening and pavement licences being granted, option to move taxi space on Festival Square could be considered.</p> <p>Walkabout to review TRO suggested.</p> <p>Work is in progress to support businesses as Covid continues through Recovery sub-groups involving partners.</p>	Cllr SC
<b>Date of next meeting</b>	Meeting to be arranged in October	JB