

Future Oswestry Meeting held on Thursday 9 January 2020 at 2pm

Oswestry Town Council Guildhall, Oswestry

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome

Attendance Cllr Steve Charmley (Shropshire Council), Cllr Sandy Best (Town Council), Joe Bubb, Hayley Owen and Julie Ruler (SC Economic Growth) Cllr Chris Schofield (Town Council) Adele Nightingale (BID)

2. Apologies

Rob Macey, Arren Roberts, Andy Wigley and Steve Brown

3. Notes of the last meeting

Matters arising and key actions from the last meeting

Cllr Charmley to attend next Council meeting – awaiting invitation **ACTION AR**

Other actions covered on agenda

4. Declarations of interest None

5. Hot topics

- Report on loading Bay use Cllr Steve Charmley reported that a countywide initiative is taking place to sort anomalies on enforcement and this is with SC legal team .The wardens covering Oswestry are focusing on Loading Bay use and are aware of issues.
- Connectivity– Meeting Feedback AN Chris Smith and Ben Walker meeting held and a drop in session seen as a useful way forward. It was agreed that this would include The Growth Hub and hosted at AICO and promoted by BID. Morrisons are being linked in to the event and their connectivity needs relating to their expansion site plans will be raised.
- Agents and Landlord meeting Feedback AN Successful meeting although attendance low. Owner of Dorothy Perkins Mark Vorhant attended and advised plans proposed for property drawn up by DHP. Very interested in HAZ funding. Proposals for property have had social media interests. It was suggested that future tenants be linked with the Growth Hub and support available.

Priority Projects

- Extended survey of empty properties and development of a database Work has been completed as part of the HAZ app it envisaged further work will be needed.
- Indicative masterplan and movement / access strategy – Discussed in full and some amendments suggested to draft issued by Joe Bubb. This needs to be promoted as pulling together of previous work and as a good use of joint funds. Oswestry Town Council need to agree their contribution **ACTION HO** to discuss with AR. Draft

Masterplan brief was discussed and comments were requested. A further copy will be sent to FOG members for comment.

- HAZ application- An application was submitted to Historic England in December and the approval is awaited. The application has been scaled down to include 1 flagship project, with the request that should another area fall short Oswestry may be considered for additional funds. ACTION Julie Ruler to arrange a workshop for FOG members to discuss the HAZ programme and next steps. A simple guide to HAZ following the workshop.

6. Communications Protocol and PR update

Press release issued re HAZ with quotes

It was agreed that following approval another press release should be issued. KIV social media to promote.

Public sector investment in HAZ and the FOG vision a future press release opportunity.

Masterplan promotion and Business Rate relief take up suggested as possible good news

7. Any other business

A meeting is being held with Eurogarages and the condition of the site at Mile End will be discussed. **ACTION** HO

Gateway To Mile End – Concept of a Tree Sculpture discussed and further meeting to agree **ACTION** HO and AR to discuss,

Business Rate Relief **ACTION** H O to check on take up and report back to group. Possible press release and promotion through BID website.

Wayfinding Project to commence in industrial area and compliment Masterplan for town. This will feed into the Masterplan.

Civic Society letter – Cllr Steve Charmley has sent a response to the letter. The role of the Civic Society within the proposed masterplan and HAZ to be discussed further at FOG Workshop.

9. Date of next meeting

13th February 2020 at 2pm Guildhall

12th March 2020 at 2pm Guildhall

9th April 2020 at 2pm Guildhall

7th May2020 at 2pm Guildhall

11th June 2020 at 2pm Guildhall

Please note that meetings are allocated an hour but usually run for two hours due to agenda items