

Minutes of the Meeting of St. Ives Neighbourhood Plan Transport Topic Group

Date: Wednesday 26th February 2014 at 6.30pm.

Venue: Council Chamber, Guildhall, St Ives

Present: Alan Clegg (Chairperson) (AC)
Geoff Williamson (Secretary) (GW)
Matt Hayter (MH)
Ron Tulley (RT)
Mike Pierce (MP)

1. Apologies for Absence:

2. Declaration of Members Interests: As previous

3. Minutes of last meeting(s):

Minutes of meeting 5th February 2014 accepted as correct and signed by Chairperson.

3a. Matters arising:

AC, MH and GW had attended the Planning Aid workshop on “Turning evidence into policies”. The workshop had looked through other neighbourhood plans focusing on what the different examiners had picked up and commented on, and examples of good and bad policies. Planning Aid had provided a link to listing of other NDPs. AC had now looked at the Thame NDP which had a large section on transport issues. AC would look through other NDPs to identify ones with objectives and policies relevant to the St Ives area. Lucy had sent out an email with things to look at and list of recommended NDPs for issues

AC had received the name of the originator of the transport strategy map and would speak to them to find out more details of the proposed transport measures shown on the map.

4. Timeline proposed by Steering Group

Steering Group had agreed to adjust timeline with new deadline for draft policy options of end-April.

5. Review of the Survey analysis and formulation of policies

Reviewed the relevance of original objectives in light of the survey results.

Survey results indicate that parking, traffic volume/congestion, traffic management and walking/pedestrianisation are the main concerns. Public transport, safety and cycling are of lesser concern to residents. Agreed to focus on the main concerns.

Parking problem is primarily issue related to dealing with the volume of visitor vehicles during the peak season. Other issues relate to residents parking - availability of space, availability of parking for the disabled and costs, parking for trades people and people parking on street rather than in car parks during the off peak season.

Increasing parking space in town through multi-storey car park at station or Park Avenue was suggested in survey but this was considered to be high cost solution to peak season problem that would be under utilised in off-peak times.

Survey supported increase in provision of Park and Ride facilities. The proposed Transportation Hub at St Erth station was supported but concern was whether the capacity of the rail link could be increased to take full advantage of increased parking space at St Erth. Rail may need to be supplemented with enhanced bus service provision during peak season.

Other park and ride sites had been mentioned – Rugby Club, Leisure Centre and Halsetown. Idea of park and ride at the Balnoon end of the Coach Road on a site within the parish was discussed. It was suggested that the turning area outside the Tate might be used as an alternative to Royal Square for mini-bus service pick up and drop off.

Problems related to congestion and volume in town caused mainly by need for access for residents to their property, delivery vehicles, car parks and through traffic. There was no simple solution, need a multi-faceted solution. Minimise / eliminate through traffic by moving visitor parking from downalong area, improving signage to the other parking spaces and restricting access to town centre through a permit entry scheme using barriers as signage alone was ineffective.

Minimising through traffic to town centre/ harbour/downalong was seen as an essential precursor for any serious consideration of pedestrianisation either, full or partial, of the Harbour / Fore Street.

Agreed to look to develop policies options for the following ahead of the next meeting:

- **Local parking space standard for developments (GW)**
- **Entry permit scheme for St Ives town centre (MP)**
- **Cycle routes in the area and facilities for cycle parking/storage in town centre (RT)**
- **Traffic calming and signage (MH)**
- **New Park & ride and Freight Hub near Halsetown (AC)**

6. Any other business

7. Date, time & location for next meeting:

(Tuesday 18th March 2014, 6.30 pm Guildhall, St.Ives)

Now changed to :

Tuesday 25th March 2014, 6.30 pm