

OTTERY ST MARY REGENERATION WORKING GROUP

Minutes of Meeting held 14th June 2018

1. Present Cllr. Josefina Gori (Chair), Cllr. Peter Faithfull, John White (Secretary), John Campion, Cllr. Glyn Dobson

Jeff Abbott, Cllr. Eli Pang, David Moss, Andy Wade, Cllr. Ian Holmes, Cllr. Paul Bartlett

2. Apologies Cllr. Anne Edwards, Jo Elliott, Cllr. Roger Giles.
3. The Chair welcomed Cllrs. Bartlett, Dobson and Holmes and thanked them for accepting the invitation as their expertise would benefit the discussion regarding item 5 of the agenda and their feed back surely would be welcome by the members.
4. Minutes of the last meeting of 21/04/18 were approved.
5. Matters Arising:

2. Funding opportunities (PF) – not yet available, but will be circulated to members.

3. Response from Business Forum – not yet received.

4. Response from Jo Talbot, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, on the relationship between the NPWG and the Regeneration Group:

“Clearly the projects and actions should come before the NPWG - as in the Regen group should report back their progress because we have to review the NP every 5 years - so we need to know whats going on. This means that the NPWG will have to meet bi annually or something along those lines.”

6. Chair's Report

- The Chair has reported to the Town Council on the Group's progress to date.
- A 2 year lease on the “Old Library” building has now been signed by the Heritage Society and the Town Council. Reports of progress are awaited.
- The formal opening by Mayor Bartlett of the *Poets' Corner* bench took place on Saturday 9th June. The next stage is the creation of Interpretation Boards which is being carried out by the *Men's Shed* project.
- At the Council meeting of April 3rd Mr. Philip Algar suggested that an open event could be held at the Institute, at which local groups could advertise their activities including the Council. The Chairman of the Working Group requested from those present their approval for the Working Group to be part of the event. It was decided that this fell outside the current remit of the group.
- The *Tour of Britain* cycle race will pass through Ottery St Mary and surrounding areas on 3rd September 2018.

7. Project Updates

a) Town Centre Traffic Management Infrastructure.

A sub-group meeting had taken place on 21st May attended by Messrs White, Moss, Wade, Abbott and Campion. The group's initial view is that the emphasis at this time should be on the "big picture" rather than looking for a series of immediate projects. The principal issues are considered to be: HGV traffic flow; parking and a *Public Realm* study for the town centre. Contact must be re-established with the County and District Councils as well as the Town Council. The Local Authorities' contextual, informative and advisory support is fundamental to progress.

However it is **recommended**:

1. that the Town Council approach Devon County Council for a full review of local and wider signing in order to encourage larger vehicles to avoid the town on their way to other destinations. The issue of HGVs travelling from Honiton is particularly identified.
2. That the Town Council approach East Devon District Council requesting a review and rationalisation of local signing within the town.

8. A.O.B

3. North St. Car Parking. GD reported on recent discussions with land agents.
 4. Press and P.R. DM stressed the need to regularly disseminate information on the group's work, in order to keep the community "on board". He undertook to draft a press release.
 5. EP expressed her concern at the amount of litter accumulating in the centre of town.
6. Date of Next Meeting Thursday 20th September 7pm