

Shaping Stortford Steering Group

Charringtons House

Wednesday 28th August 2019 | Meeting Rm. A&B | 15:30~17.30

MINUTES

Present	Helen Standen	EHC Deputy Chief Executive	HS
	James Gardner	EHC Project Manager	JG
	Samantha O'Neill	EHC PA - Minutes	SON
	Cllr Colin Woodward	Hertfordshire County Council	CBW
	Cllr Graham McAndrew	EHC	GMc
	Cllr George Cutting	EHC	GC
	James Parker	BS Town Council CEO	JP
	Paul Dean	BSCF - Chairman	PTD
	Gina Thomas	BID Manager	GT
	Peter Douglas	Residents Reference Group	PD
	Trevor Brennan	Hertfordshire County Council	TB

Apologies

Cllr Alistair Ward-Booth	EHC	AWB
Cllr Chris Wilson	EHC	CW
Nicci Statham	BS Chamber President	NS
Karen Burton	BID Chair	KB
Adam Wood	LEP Representative	AW
Sally Andrews	EHC Parking Manager	SA
Kay Mead	EHC Planning Officer	KM
Patsy Dell	Hertfordshire County Council	PD

CBW welcomed all to meeting.

1. Previous Meeting Minutes – 24th July 2019 (All)

CBW and SSSG members reviewed previous meeting minutes which were verified as true and accurate record of meeting held.

GT advised that Gin Independence Day will be the 28/09/19.

2. ORL Minutes (JG)

JG advised that Arts Centre project paused due to Judicial Review - hoping that legal process should be finalised by November 2019.

3. Aecom Reports (JG)

JG advised draft to committee. All 3 reports relating to transport options / parking strategy should be available to new members. SSSG agrees that the report should represent the wishes/desires of the SSSG before being put in the public domain. Exec will be getting update next Tuesday, the 3rd Sept. SSSG agrees that report can be public; JG advised the importance of replacing all references made to "Strategy" with "Study" throughout report before being published.

4. Purple Flag Accreditation (G McA)

G McA gave presentation on the bid being made for Purple Flag accreditation 2023, explaining that this accreditation recognises excellence in the management of town and city centres at night - entertainment areas that achieve the standard will benefit from an improved night time environment and a reputation that offers 'a better night out' to visitors. G McA advised that some short term improvements will include the restaurants that will open imminently and the hotel that will be opening within the next 6 months. SSSG supports the objective of gaining Purple Flag Accreditation for Bishops Stortford.

5. South Street Pedestrianisation (TB)

TB advised that the South Street closure scheme had been revised with 4 scenarios which would be subject to 4 week trial before the formal Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is approved. TB provided the 'Technical Note' handout (also being emailed) stating Scenario 1 will have a greater impact than all other scenarios. Whilst the outputs for this model are important to be used for the next model, this model doesn't factor in capacity / volume of traffic, a 2nd model is needed for this information to be ascertained.

TB advised that for any decision/s to be made on any of the 4 different scenarios, this 1st model is an integral component of the overall process and has to be gone through to have a 2nd model actioned.

TB was asked when the next stage would be completed. TB advised that the agreement to access the modelling for the next stage can take weeks. The head of modelling is dealing with the consultants on this project who will advise the time-scales. SSSG pressed for an answer on this and TB advised approx. 6-8 weeks once the following has been established:

- What is the cost of running the model
- Is there funding available for next model to be run
- All 4 scenarios will need to be modelled

TB advised that once this has been completed he will advise all how this will move forward as a Project Manager will need to be appointed to manage project establishing what infrastructure / signage will then be required for changes to South Street.

6. Cycle Infrastructure Update (G McA)

G McA highlighted that there are inconsistencies with the new developments taking place across Bishops Stortford within the Highway Authorities and EHDC regarding the width of cycle ways. E.g.

- Bishops Stortford North (BSN) – 3 metres wide
- Bishops Stortford South (BSS) – 4 metres wide
- Herts Growth Board (HGB) – 5 metres wide

TB advised that the minimum width for cycle paths is between 2.1 metres up to 4 metres wide and informed SSSG that this area is covered by the remit of the Highway Authority / Planning Authority and therefore the SSSG can only indicate its preferences.

7. STT Vision Statement (All)

CBW ensured all had handout and asked all SSSG members to choose one STT Vision statement from the two submitted for review.

Option 1 – Received 8 votes

*Our vision for Bishop's Stortford is to create a town that embraces new sustainable transport opportunities to benefit the health and wellbeing of our residents **[INSERT BELOW TEXT]** whilst adopting strategies that support the current and future ambitions of our local economy.*

With the inclusion of: *local businesses and those who work in the town*

Option 2 – Received 1 vote

Our Vision for Bishop's Stortford as a Sustainable Travel Town is to be an inclusive place where people want to live, learn, grow, travel and interact as active participants in a culturally vibrant, economically and environmentally sustainable, healthy community

8. Options (HS /All)

HS recommended that the SSSG maintain its momentum and focus on items that can be delivered and suggested that the SSSG should look at items realistically achievable over time period:

- Next 5 years – Actively pursue / lobby
- 5 years – 15 years – future matters for SSSG to review
- Never – identify items on wish list that will never happen

Action: HS / JG offered to do 1st draft of this document to be circulated to all - giving SSSG members 2 weeks to respond.

9. AOB (ALL)

HS / JG & CBW discussed the SSSG Terms of Reference (TOR) which consists of 9 items - CBW had asked the Leader of EHC to review the TOR as the original remit may need updating. SSSG can review the TOR once EHDC have ratified them.

CBW commented that safety rules are needed for Electric Vehicle (EV) private charging as already some were inappropriately trailing domestic wires from windows, across pavements and using domestic extension reels, (in some cases just covered by plastic bags in case of rain).

TB - Trial of Station Road Bridge – modelling is currently being done and TB will bring update back to SSSG.

G McA – solar powered 24 hr service station in Braintree is the 1st of 100 being rolled out across the country - premium charging rates for use at peak times.

G McA – Suggested there are untapped opportunities to generate solar power as photovoltaic panels can be fixed to the roofs of car parks and the arts centre to help meet increased demands given that EV peak re-charging time is between 5pm – 7pm.

AW – Advised that all new build developments in North Herts have EV charging provision and thought EHDC may wish to consider this.

Date of Next Meeting
Charringtons House
Wednesday 25th September 2019
Mtg Rm. A&B
15.30~17.30