

Shaping Stortford Steering Group

Wednesday 24th March 2021
Zoom conference call | 14:30 - 16.30

MINUTES

Present

Helen Standen	EHC Deputy Chief Exec	HS
Kate Collins	EHC PA (Minutes)	KC
Cllr Colin Woodward	HCC (SSSG Chair)	CBW
Cllr George Cutting	EHC	GC
Cllr Graham McAndrew	EHC	GMc
Cllr Chris Wilson	EHC	CW
Cllr Alastair Ward-Booth	EHC	AWB
James Parker	BS Town Council CEO	JP
Gina Thomas	BID Manager	GT
Ian Hollinrake	HCC	IH
Trevor Brennan	HCC	TB
Derek Twigg	HCC	DT
Paul Dean	BSCF	PDn
Robert Mayo	EHC	RM
Nick Truran	HCC	NT
Matt Cottam	HCC	MC
Deirdre Glasgow	Chair Rhodes Trust	DG
Peter Douglas	Residents Reference Group	PDg

Apologies

None

The meeting was held as a teleconference due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

Minutes ~ 27th January 2021

The Meeting accepted these as accurate and the EHDC website copy will be updated.

2. Matters Arising

All

Item 5 - Matters Arising: HS commented that the Bishop's Stortford Transport Options won't ever be formally adopted by EHC.

Agenda Item 5 – Goods Yard/Car Parks update: HS confirmed that the masterplanning hasn't progressed and the multi-storey car park contract negotiations have now been handed over to Greater Anglia.

Agenda Item 8.1 – Sustainable Travel Support (STS): JP commented that the cycle stands on North Street have been received and are waiting for Ringway to install them. JP mentioned that he has had a response from the Warwick Road Residents Association and that they will be taking legal advice. No further response has been received. Going forwards a site survey may be the next step to work out where the signage is going to be and the costings for this.

3. Highways Camera Trial

Derek Twigg

DT shared his screen with the group detailing the highways camera trial and the data associated with this. IH had a couple of questions, firstly querying the box junction area to be resurfaced on the A1250 around May and whether the ANPR camera's measure speed. DT confirmed that there is no intention of using the camera's for speed monitoring at this time. TB queried the list of possible interventions to implement, would we implement all of them? DT confirmed that HCC would apply for all of the powers and then as cases appeared or issues arose then these can be looked at in order to see how best to resolve. DT is meeting the provider tomorrow to talk about the logistics of how quickly this can work. DT believes that they can run the data for at least 6 months. PD queried whether we are planning to monitor the junction of Apton Road and South Street. DT confirmed that they plan to move this camera up or have a third camera from the provider which will be determined at tomorrow's meeting in order to spread the capture area out. JP mentioned that the junction is locked off by planters currently so cannot be monitored.

Action: DT to share the data/photo's with the group.

4. Highways Update

Trevor Brennan

TB mentioned that he is still consulting on the East and South East Growth and Transport Plans. The consultation closes this weekend and comments are currently being reviewed. Going forward MC will provide updates to Shaping Stortford on any changes following the consultation.

5. Old River Lane & MSCP Northgate End

Rob Mayo

RM went through and updated the group on Northgate End. RM showed three images which were taken last week using a drone camera. RM mentioned that the multi storey car park is progressing well and the contractors are now working on the third floor level. RM updated on the residential block and the quality problems with the concrete. Rydon has issued a press release in the Bishop Stortford Independent with what steps are happening to rectify the works. Rydon have assured that there will be no delay in the timeframe for the project and no additional costs. The wet woodland landscaping is nearly complete and the next step will be the tree and shrub planting which will take place in late April/early May. RM said that the business case review for Old River Lane has been approved by Council and the design, consultation and masterplanning work will now take place following this.

6. Working Group Updates from Lead Members:

6.1 Sustainable Travel Support (STS)

James Parker

JP updated the group on progress made so far. The North/South street route is still with HCC's countryside management service and they are currently working through the detail. The crossing arrangements for Rye Street have still not been resolved and there are two s106 agreements for this. The 3 routes where the feasibility study was commissioned have taken place and are now looking at follow on work where they will look at saving through phasing or stripping out. The cycle stands for North Street are in Ringway depot and awaiting installation.

Action: DT to update JP once he has further clarity from feasibility study.

6.2 South St Pedestrianisation

James Parker

Following on from the detailed study that took place, JP went through and outlined the next steps with the group. JP mentioned that a quote has come through which includes a topographical survey; however there isn't a definite commitment from Highways on this. TB said that Highways will be carrying out an engagement process. PDn mentioned that a member of the Civic Federation has concerns regarding the Portland road and New Town area in respect of Nursery road - local people are using this as a cut through. PDn also mentioned that there was some comments on the Civic Federation's Facebook page regarding the narrowing of the Station road bridge to make it safer for pedestrians noting that for a few days but they have not continued.

Action: JP has circulated PGA report to the group. Can everyone send comments back to JP, copying in MC and TB after the meeting.

6.3 Schools & MPH Assessment

Graham McAndrew

GMc mentioned that we are still awaiting the results of the desktop study regarding the 20mph zones. GMc said that a couple of schools have contacted him and that it will be after Easter before any engagement takes place. IH will find out where this is currently up to and TB said that he will be handing this over to MC going forward.

7. Future of Shaping Stortford

All

HS/GC/JP have been working on a revised terms of reference for Shaping Stortford which HS has recently circulated to the group. HS mentioned that the new terms of reference has been split into a core steering group with additional project reference groups. These groups will then be invited to meetings at different times with their different skill basis and interests. HS mentioned that going forward one of the things that the group will be looking at is its members i.e. to identify those missing from the group who could add value and also making sure members of the group are able to speak on behalf of organisations/partners. HS went on to say that we need to make sure the vision for Shaping Stortford is correct and that people are engaged with what we want to achieve. HS concluded that broadly current members are supportive of the new terms of reference and asks that members have until the next meeting in May to have a look more in-depth at the terms and send any comments in the meantime back to HS.

8. AOB

All

GC wanted to formally thank CBW for all of his hard work and Chairmanship of Shaping Stortford and wishes him every success in the future. This is CBW's last meeting as Chair and the next Chair will be ratified at the next meeting in May. CW mentioned that he would still hope CBW could contribute to Shaping Stortford Steering Group meetings going forward. CBW said he would be happy to do so should SSSG so decide.

Date of Next Meeting
Charringtons House/Zoom
Wednesday 26th May 2021
Mtg Rm. A&B
14.30 - 16.30