

Shaping Stortford Steering Group

Charringtons House

Wednesday 27th February 2019 | Meeting Rm. A&B | 15:30~17.00

MINUTES

Present	Cllr Gary Jones	EHC Deputy Leader & Chair	GJ
	Helen Standen	EHC Deputy Chief Executive	HS
	James Gardner	EHC Project Manager	JG
	Sally Andrews	EHC Parking Manager	SA
	Sophia Greaves	EHC PA (Minutes)	SG
Present	Cllr Colin Woodward	BS Member	CW
	Patsy Dell	Hertfordshire County Council	PD
	Adam Wood	LEP Representative	AW
	Karen Burton	BID Chair	KB
	Peter Douglas	Resident Reference Group	PD
	Peter Morrow	AECOM Associate Director	PM
	Simon Willison	AECOM Associate Director	SW
Apologies	James Parker	BS Town Council CEO	
	Trevor Brennan	Hertfordshire County Council	

Gary Jones as Chair opened the meeting, introductions were made and apologies noted. The meeting agreed to move the AECOM Bishop's Stortford Parking Strategy presentation to the top of the agenda.

1. AECOM Bishop's Stortford Parking Strategy Presentation

PM from AECOM gave an overview of the presentation, covering the Stage 2 report (Analysis and Consultation), which had been circulated ahead of the meeting, and initial thoughts for Stage 3 (Strategy and Action Plan).

Analysis of Long Stay and Short Stay parking were presented.

- Parking provision for four hours or less (short stay) / all day (long stay)
- Future Housing provision
- Station Parking / Employment Choices
- Charging
- Best Practice considered
- Consultation

GJ mentioned a recent visit to Salisbury, also on the AECOM comparator list, they have over 5,000 parking spaces, which accommodates the visitors to the Cathedral and includes a park and ride.

PD advised Bishop's Stortford railway station is an issue, with costs higher than other places. The Station has good accessibility; however, rail users use the station car park for all day parking.

ACTION: GJ asked AECOM to check carpark capacity included in the report.

Residential development around the station i.e. the Goods Yard, offer typically half a space per dwelling. New developments were generally not allowed to use existing Resident Permit Zones. PD noted, all day parking is clogging up residential roads.

CW mentioned residents had been offering their parking spaces to commuters for a fee, with the residents parking on the roads.

Stage 3: interim findings included:

- Incentivising long stay parking out of town
- Long stay at a higher tariff (e.g.) long stay parking in Jackson Square at a premium, currently £4.40 per day; rising to £6.40 per day with parking to commence at 08.30 to prevent rail users from parking all day
- Season tickets in Grange Paddocks for 10% of spaces, monthly or quarterly, although a space is not guaranteed
- Active signage: knowing where the spaces are and direct drivers accordingly, within 3 to 4 central sites, clearly signposted

Cycle Parking in Link Road Carpark

Motor Cycles parking free in the front spaces; parent and child spaces in the North Gate end, Electric charging spaces with a fee for charging bays to prevent all day parking.

CW suggested the car park signs are positioned further out and to review the impact of charging for street parking. PD also highlighted Airport parking.

SA mentioned lease issues for changes to short stay parking at Jackson Square. AW noted Crown Terrace is within walking distance of the station. SA advised long stay parking in Crown Terrace is not available before 08.30 to discourage rail commuters.

KB raised the question around Town Centre workers parking, and would like to hear suggestions. PD thought a Season ticket scheme as an option with a limited number of tickets issued, or a sticker. CW added a scheme for workers and residents with a differential in the parking fees. GJ mentioned the possibility of parking North and South of town and sharing vehicles.

SA mentioned EHC had recently launched a virtual permit system, which might be used for favourable parking rates for town centre workers.

ACTION: PW from AECOM to look at all suggestions.

AECOM Stage 3 report will be available by the end of next week.

ACTION: Document to be circulated and comments back to Peter Morrow and Simon Willison at AECOM.

2. Minutes ~ Wednesday 9th January 2019

Matters Arising

- HS: Solum will be attending this meeting on the 27th March 2019 to update on the Goods Yard and Empire Cinema.
- The Mill will be attending the April Meeting. CW is the lead contact.
- Waterside Stortford is on today's agenda. However, as JP is not in attendance, this item will be taken forward to the March 2019 agenda.
- JG confirmed the ORL minutes are all online to January 2019.

3. ORL

JG advised the ORL Car Park project had been approved following a Tender process for the scheme. Recommendations will go to East Herts Council on the 5th March 2019. The final two Bidders and the recommended developer has been established, however, unable to share at this meeting, until after a standstill period, around the 6th to 7th March and ten days thereafter the company will receive an award and the announcement made. The £30m funding package for the Arts Centre is also recommended

PD asked EHC to explain to residents and circulate relevant information to all to avoid conflicting messages. GJ advised once the developer is announced the information will be released.

KB mentioned the Independent newspaper regarding a judicial review of the Multi-Storey Car Park. JG advised the procedural elements were addressed in the latest planning application. A Key element is communication about the proposed Arts Centre and Market Square. AW attended a workshop earlier, which focused on reinventing town centres and an Arts quarter, which is seen as a step in the right direction.

4. Sustainable Travel Town

HS informed the meeting of several other towns who are interested in bidding for sustainable town status. Trevor Mason noted Shaping Stortford is in a strong position to go forward with a bid. The town's climate change pressure group are interested in contributing to the Sustainable Travel Town application.

5. Heritage & Shopfronts

The East Herts Retail Frontages: Design and Signage Supplementary Planning Document had been circulated. The document will go out for a 6 week public consultation, assuming EHC gives the final approval next week. PD suggested the Bishop's Stortford Town Centre Planning Framework should be more accessible on the EHC website.

ACTION: HS will check the website for the Planning Framework.

6. AOB

HS: Solum invited to the March meeting to present and update.

AECOM to deliver Phase 3 of the report.

Date of Next Meeting

Charringtons House

Meeting Rooms A & B

Wednesday 27th March 2019

15.30~17.30