

Cirencester Parking Demand Project Board

Meeting notes 13 March 2017

Please note these notes are available to the public except any sections shown in yellow which must remain confidential.

Attendees: Councillors: Cllr. Mark Harris, (Chairman), Cllr. Mark MacKenzie-Charrington, Cllr. Chris Hancock and Cllr. Jenny Forde, Officers: Claire Locke, Christine Cushway, Philippa Lowe, Bob McNally and Helen Argo (note taker)

1. Apologies: Cllr. Nick Parsons, Christine Gore

2. Notes of last meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 9 February were approved.

Christine Cushway reported that she has a meeting with Carter Jonas arranged re the Brewery and Forum car parks and she has approached the Police regarding funding a feasibility study as it would be positive for both parties.

Philippa Lowe confirmed a masterplan has been arranged.

The RAU has been approached about doing a survey “Why people don’t walk to work”.

The BT substation with in the Forum car park was discussed – it is not feasible to move it.

Stratton Garage site – Fish Brothers own site but rented to Mitsubishi until August 2017. Discussed possibility of using it as an additional car park site as it in on a flood plain site. Agreed it was too far out for shoppers but it could be for permit holders from Gloucester Street.

3. Public Engagement

It was agreed that there would be two meetings:

Established Stakeholders Group

This would consist of a short presentation on the work we have completed and details of the Waterloo site and invite feedback.

Waterloo Residents and Businesses

This was deemed to be a more difficult meeting as largely people are against it. Philippa Lowe suggested it was an informal session with information boards so that people could speak on a one to one basis.

It was agreed this would be split in to two meetings:

An informal meeting - Mike from CJ Hole who owns the estate agency overlooking the car park has offered to host an informal drop in with the main objectors. Suggested 5-6pm on Friday 24 March/ or Monday 27 March Cllr Harris and Claire Locke agreed to attend. A Formal Public Meeting on Monday 10 April afternoon and early evening - possibly at the community Room in the Bingham Gallery - Bob to do press release to invite everyone who has an interest in it.

4 Mr Peter Noest

Mr Noest contacted Cllr Harris about coming along to the Parking Board meetings. It was agreed that they are not public meetings and if he wants to contribute to the meeting he can do so in Writing. Christine Cushway acknowledged we already have the information he is offering.

A report will go to Cabinet next week. The recommendations are as follows:

That Cabinet agrees to make recommendations to Council to:

- (a) Develop detailed designs and surveys to enable a Full Planning Application to be progressed for a decked car park on the Waterloo site, Cirencester, at the request of Parking Board.
- (b) Allocate up to £225,000 from the Councils Priorities Fund for the necessary work to enable the submission of a full planning application for the site
- (c) Delegate authority for the Strategic Director in consultation with the Car Parking Demand Project Board to procure an Architect to design a suitable scheme to enable submission of a Full Planning Application for development of a decked car park.
- (d) Receive a further report to approve the principles for a detailed planning application and the business case for the development, prior to the Planning Application submission.
- (e) Approve the appointment of consultants, The Environment Partnership to carry out and provide the necessary services to progress a full planning application for a decked car park at the Waterloo, Cirencester.

When the report has been approved by Cabinet the residents and businesses will be invited in to a presentation and to get feedback from them.

Media coverage was mixed – residents of Waterloo not happy but Editorial in the Wilts and Glos Standard was positive. We need to let the residents know why the Waterloo was selected.

Philippa stressed that the planning application will need to evidence the site selection process, set out how the decked car park at the Waterloo fits in with the bigger strategic picture for the town including traffic direction/flow.

The Atkins report will become an addendum to the Parking Strategy so it can be referred to as part of our strategy and for any further applications.

Action: Christine Cushway will circulate a copy of the report to the Board. Cllr. Hancock requested a hard copy.

Cllr Harris thanked the Officers for their commitment to the project.

4. • Text has been deleted to protect confidential information relating to specific negotiations with site owners, site purchase and lease negotiations and financial data which cannot yet be made public.

The BT site was discussed. Carter Jonas has tried to speak to them but at present they are not interested.

A Master Plan of the town is required. A Workshop will be arranged with CDC officers, Town Council officers, Consultants, planners and others to get this project started.

5. Update on other sites

Cirencester Rugby Club – Cllr Harris to meet with the Rugby Club next week, Christine will attend with him.

Could be used as a decant site and afterwards as a car park for season ticket holders. Rugby Club 10 minutes walking distance from Town Centre.

Cirencester College – It was agreed that we would approach Cirencester College again. A discussion took place on how to promote walking to work and walking from a car park just outside town. Points raised were:

- Cycle path
- Loan a bike
- Traffic lights at roundabouts
- Make it easier and pleasant to do so
- Pedometer challenge
- Health benefits

Royal Agricultural University

- Park and ride
- Approach the County Council about the use of buses
- Suggested survey on why people didn't walk to work – will consider the benefits of doing a survey

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Stratton Garage site – Carter Jonas have contacted the owners – would be ideal as a decant site.

St. James's Place - A discussion took place about St James's Place and how they could help with parking and it was agreed they would be invited to a future meeting.

Action: Christine and Claire

Other issues discussed were "intelligent parking" and "parking apps" for the car parks.

6 Communications

Bob said there had been a lively exchange of views on the Standard Website. Although the front page ran a negative story from a Waterloo resident, the editorial was very positive.

A statement that covered all the key points was required to go on the Website. A response to letters was also required with bullet points covering the main issues.

Action: Bob McNally

7. Any Other Business

Someone called Ballymore from Ireland has been in touch with Claire Locke in connection with the staircase at the OMH. Claire replied but hasn't heard back from them yet.

Consultants TEP and officers are meeting with Historic England to discuss the Waterloo site.

Beeches Car Park – will be closed on 20/21st February for resurfacing. Communications is needed to let everyone know.

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 13th March 2017 @ 09.15 a.m. in the Committee Rooms