

Cirencester Parking Demand Project Board

Meeting notes 25 March 2019

Attendees: Councillors: Cllr. Mark Harris, (Chairman), Cllr. Chris Hancock, Cllr. Mark MacKenzie-Charrington, Cllr. Tony Berry, Cllr. Jenny Forde, Cllr. Joe Harris and Officers: Claire Locke, Christine Cushway, Andy Dike, Carl Jones, Bob McNally and Helen Argo (note taker)

1 Apologies: Jenny Poole, Bhavna Patel.

2 Notes of the Last meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 25 February were approved.

Any further matters arising will be addressed during the meeting.

3 OMH

The planning application went to Planning Committee on 13 March and was approved; it is now with the Secretary of State and may take several weeks before it is signed off. The final stage of the rerouting of the electrical cables is currently being carried out. We will have to apply for a bat licence prior to demolition commencing; and we also need to carry out a site survey ASAP to understand the number of nesting birds within the building.

CDC met with the contractors, and we raised a number of issues, including costs and the need to close the car park completely during the demolition stage. It was felt that unless we can resolve these issues then we may have to engage a new contractor.

Cllr Joe Harris said the neighbouring residents need to be kept up to date.

4 Rugby Club

All the legal documents are signed. We are waiting for the copy of the covenant from Chester Masters and the letter of consent. The planning consultants have been instructed to prepare the planning application. In consultation with local residents, noise, air quality and light assessments will be carried out. A traffic assessment is underway. It was agreed to have a follow-up meeting with residents during the first week of June and we will invite a transport consultant to answer public questions. Following this meeting we will submit the planning application. The traffic lights at Whiteway are currently being upgraded.

5 Waterloo

Soil Inspection

Three test pits were dug to assess the archaeology prior to the drilling of the 20 metre deep boreholes. The work should be completed by 27 March. One of the pits revealed possible significant archaeological remains. Historic England will require additional information and a geophysical survey of the whole car park is to be undertaken in the coming weeks. The geo-archaeology results from the soil samples, the field work results from the test pits and the geophysical survey results will all be passed to Historic England in the coming weeks,. This will inform whether additional archaeological work is required.

Further advice from Historic England will be via a paid for extended pre-application advice service.

Layout and Massing.

The Project Board considered three initial design options for the proposed car park which were prepared by Stripe Consultants.

Option 1 574 spaces

Option 2 487 spaces

Option 3 482 spaces

After much debate it was agreed we would ask Stripe to prepare an Option 4 based on Option 1 but scaled back at the upper-most tier on the north side of the car park. We agreed to ask Stripe along to the next meeting if available. It was felt that a minimum number of spaces would be required to build a business case. We need to agree the core design before the architects' competition can proceed beyond the initial short-listing stage.

Design Competition

We have a long list of 100 architects. This will be reduced to a medium list of architects with some car park and external wrap design experience. . It will then be further reduced to a shortlist of max. 5 practices that will each come up with a concept design for the external wrap. They will be asked to make a presentation and then reduced to 3 – the public will then be involved in choosing two finalists and the Council will have the final decision.

Public Drop in – decided to schedule this after the 2 May local elections.

6 Any other updates

Christine Cushway asked the Board if it was still their intention to provide hand car washing facilities at the new Waterloo –we agreed to keep it as an optional item –drainage will need to be considered if this service is to be offered.

7 Project Risks

Carl updated the log.

8 Communications

Bob McNally has taken photos of the exterior of OMH for the records. He has tidied up the website and put the different projects in sections and also posted the public presentations on the website. He has been promoting "Enroute Parking" on social media. The car park at Magesbury Road is currently out of action. He discovered that when households sign up to 'no junk mail' Cotswold News is not being delivered to their addresses – we may have to consider a different delivery system.

9 AOB

Cllr MacKenzie Charrington said he will update the Local Plan Board about this Parking Board meeting.

Cllr Berry asked for an update on the plan to install temporary decking at another Cirencester car park during the Waterloo development, Claire Locke will update him.

Cllr Joe Harris said that councillors were not being informed on decisions being made generally within the Council. The Members' briefing email is no longer produced, and it would be useful to receive it again.

Carl Jones agreed to produce a note to update the Town Council on progress with the car parking project.

10 Date of the next meeting: Monday 15 April 2019 2pm Committee Rooms.