

Future Oswestry Group

Notes of Meeting: Thursday 10th October 2024 at 9:30am-11:30am at Oswestry Guildhall

Partners	Oswestry Town Council (OTC)	Shropshire Council (SC)	Oswestry BID	Community Representative
Welcome and apologies	Cllr Duncan Kerr Cllr Olly Rose Arren Roberts	Cllr Rob Macey Cllr Chris Scofield Sam Jones Andy Wigley Peter Gilbertson Joe Bubb	Adele Nightingale	Grum Mitchel
1. Notes of the last meeting	Notes of meeting 11 th September 2024 agreed.			
2. Declarations of interest	None			
3.	<p>Presentation on immediate repairs undertaken and key findings of the Cambrian Railway Building Conservation Management Plan by Peter Gilbertson.</p> <p>UKSPF grant funding of £630,000 has supported urgent repairs including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making safe the ornamental corbels and stringer course • Structural repairs to the roof frame and chimneys • Replacing asbestos roof tiles • Repairing weathered brick and stonework. <p>The structural engineer advised that all ornamental corbels and stringer course be removed for public safety. It was noted that the scaffolding had caught several failed and falling masonry over-hanging Oswald Road. Reproduction replacements have been created and attached alongside repairs to the ornamental frieze.</p> <p>Communications on the Cambrian Railway Building work should highlight the removal of unsafe ornamental masonry and the use of the scaffolding for public safety purposes to be shared.</p> <p>Conservation Management Plan has been prepared which brings together all information on the building into one document, which will guide conservation work and support any grant applications.</p> <p>The report includes details on the building condition and considers end use options. The suggested use for the first floor includes residential units. The options for the ground floor need to be developed further and it was suggested that the masterplan for the building should be developed with a view of the wider area. Options for funding this work to be considered.</p>			
4. Project priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regal <p>OTC in discussion with owners of site, and with two independent cinema operators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambrian Gateway <p>It is anticipated that the Active Travel 5 bid round may be in November this year. Work in preparation of the bid announcement has been started.</p> <p>Discussed how a masterplan for the area could be developed which incorporates the Cambrian Railway building and wider area. Engagement with Railway Trust needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tidy up bus station <p>The painting of the bus station is on hold given the financial circumstances that the Council faces. However, the replacement of lamps is considered a safety issue and the replacement</p>			

	<p>lamps are on order. The replacement of timetable cases, and query re any potential external funding to support the painting works identified will be raised at the next Bus Users Group meeting.</p> <p>Action: Check if SC or the Range is responsible for the overgrown vegetation overhanging the footpath.</p>
5. Governance	<p><i>Matters Arising:</i> MOU accepted at September meeting– to be checked and signed off by partner organisations</p> <p>Each partner organisation to arrange for consideration and sign off – AR/ JB/ AN</p>
6. Update from Shropshire Council's Property and Development Team	<p><i>Matters Arising: AR to speak to SL re potential for acquisition of sites.</i></p> <p>OTC has formally expressed interest in acquiring Festival Square car park. This will be considered by SC within the context of parking and movement.</p>
7. Update from Oswestry Town Council	<p>Update from Arren Roberts:</p> <p>Focus is on Llywd Mansion with funding bids in preparation.</p> <p>OTC has agreed to provide free car parking over Christmas.</p> <p>Number of businesses have expressed interest in the OTC empty buildings grant scheme.</p> <p>OTC to look into alley ownership adjacent to Sports Direct.</p>
8. Update from BID	<p><i>Matters Arising: Purchase order to deliver planters to be actioned FH.</i></p> <p>Update from Adele Nightingale</p> <p>Delivery of planters to Central Car Park and Willow Street to be arranged.</p> <p>Proposed scheme for parking changes at Glovers Meadow to be discussed with businesses.</p> <p>Pub Watch scheme reinstated.</p> <p>Increased presence in town of the Street Rangers has been positively received.</p>
9. Update from Shropshire Council	<p><i>Matters arising:</i></p> <p>SJ to chase up clock.</p> <p>Bollards on Clawdd Du to be installed. AW/RM to contact Andy Wilde to confirm date re installation of bollards</p> <p>Suggested extension of 20mph area was put forward as a motion at the Town Council for all residential and the town centre.</p> <p>Further discussion on moving traffic offences needed.</p> <p>Residents parking update – information has been drafted; however, it is a long way from being ready to circulate. Policy confirmation or changes are yet to be discussed.</p> <p>School Streets – sign to be changed - FH</p>
10. Update from Comms	<p>OTC will be producing its newsletter which will include an update on The Cross.</p> <p>BID is providing a newsletter</p> <p>Action: Details on the Cambrian Railway building to be included in OTC and BID updates, highlighting the health and safety aspect.</p>
9. Engagement	<p>Potentially Transport Community Meeting – highlight extension of the 20mph suggestion.</p> <p>Design Guide report to be presented to November Cabinet at Shropshire Council to be discussed at Council potentially February 2025.</p>

10. Date of next meeting	Thursday 12 th December 9.30am
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