****

**Project Team Meeting**

**23 November 2015**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Present** |  |
| James Staughton | St Austell Brewery (Chair) |
| Peter Moody | St Austell Printing Company |
| Ian Chalmers | Phillips Frith |
| Jackie Swain | CEG |
| Doug Scrafton | Cornwall Council – Par/ St Blazey Gate; Par Bay Big Local |
| John Kneller | Market House |
| John Hodkin | IMERYS/ Eco-bos |
| Malcolm Brown | St Austell Town Council |
| Sally Foard | Cornwall College |
| Dave Halton | Chamber of Commerce |
| Dick Cole | LAG/ Cornwall Council – St Enoder |
| Anne Chapman | For Steve Double MP |
| Helen Nicholson | St Austell and Mevagissey Community Link Officer, Cornwall Council |
| Tasha Davis | St Blazey/Par/Fowey Community Link Officer, Cornwall Council |
| David Chadwick | China Clay Community Link Officer, Cornwall Council |

**Observer:**

Cllr Nicky Oxenhom, St Austell Town Council

|  |
| --- |
| **Apologies** |
| Fred Jackson | St Blazey Town Team |
| Dan James | Eden Project |
| Tom French | Cornwall Council – St Austell Bay |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Action** |
| **1** | **Notes of the last meeting 23 September 2015**The notes were agreed as an accurate record. Matters arising - Greening project working group has become part of the Clay Town project. The Local Action Group is open for funding from last week.  |  |
| **2** | **Feedback on current Economic Investment opportunities**Eco-communities – JH provided an update. A planning application has been submitted by Cornwall Council for 1500 homes in West Carclaze, with 66% green space. Orascom is still committed to the project and an update to the planning application submitted by the end of the year – Eco-bos will take over the application. The main changes will be to guarantee the future of the Sky Tip and it will be part of a country park/ heritage centre. There will be a partnership to manage this, possibly with the Land Trust. Also the school would be built with the first phase of the building. The project will also be open to self build, and also customised building. Local people could have a preference to buy. Healthcare could also be brought forward. Community provision can be part of the school. Planning consent in place for a solar park which will be constructed in the next 3-6 months – the rental for the solar park would be put into the local community land trust. Employment would be on ESAM site and they are keen to bring this forward. There is going to be more consultation in the next 2-3 months about the proposed changes. It is estimated that job creation will be: 200 in construction, 550 on site, 240 home working.DC commented that, principally as a result of housing growth in the China Clay area rising by 87% in recent years, he and others in the area are opposed to this application. A recommendation has been put to the Policy Advisory Committee of Cornwall Council to remove eco-communities allocation – this was not successful, although it was agreed that the Local Plan will contain more detail and planning specifications will be more aspirational. In due course, there will be a document – planning guidance – to guide the eco-communities development.West Carclaze is a green field site with a restoration obligation on it, not a brown field site. The leisure use of the green area is to be encouraged and there is an increasing use in this area. This helps create an argument for the A30 link. DH queried if there is a difference between the impact of new development which is housing growth in existing villages, compared to a discrete new housing area. DC felt that the pressure is from housing growth in the past without new infrastructure. PM commented that the A30 link is needed for economic growth, opening the area up for investment, not just houses. There is a lot of local opinion against this project, but many of the objections may be addressed in the revised application. SABEF should consider support for this project following the revised application, but it should reflect the valid concerns of local people. FJ submitted a written update: “First off as previously explained as regards the enterprise zone research ,having had many meetings and discussions from across the board it was becoming clear that there did not seem to be the support, appetite or interest from several people that I talked to (and even though I personally believe that it would be a very worthwhile project for Cornwall), however my feeling is that if it has less than 70% support then it is difficult to get off the ground so informed all the people involved that I was putting it on hold and not going further at this time . I then decided to look at Sport, health and wellbeing due to the concerns of the Government and also their medical consultants stating that not enough people were doing sporting and fitness activities which in turn was causing major ill health issues like heart problems and Diabetes (in fact the number of people was dramatically on the decline since the Olympics which were supposed to have been the spring board for more people taking up sport as its main legacy). I believe Cornwall can capitalise on these issues Bearing in mind that Cornwall is the ideal place to invest in a major sporting and fitness, wellbeing programme as it is the only area in Europe that can do all 28 disciplines of the Olympic games within an hour and a half of each other coupled with the environment and lifestyle it is a very suitable project to look at seriously. There are a lot more ideas and detail but too much to put here at present just wanted to update on what I and a few others have been working on and as I was already promoting the proposed building of a Multi Purpose Sports Hall and Community Activities Centre for the St Blazey Football club and researched in great depth many years ago a major sports project for Cornwall, it seemed natural to explore the bigger and wider possibilities around sport ,fitness and wellbeing so researching now, how and what benefits it could bring etc. I have launched a spend millions to save billions campaign which has attracted a lot of interest and support St Blazey Football Club have put in a register of interest re the Par running track for the football club to take over some areas surrounding the track initially which I have been suggesting for quite a while as St Blazey A.F.C. has not got a training pitch. So the club can apply to have a training ground there and apply to the football foundation to fund an all weather facility there which I have been promoting for a long time (long before the running tracks future became an issue). That and other bolt on facilities will help as we are also looking at other options in addition to the all weather facility which will provide and include facilities for several sports and activities and help sustain the running tracks future at the same time.DS reported that there is another group which has registered an interest of the Par running track with community ownership/ and existing users. There are discussions going on between the two groups.Dh commented that an article in the newspaper about investment in athletics said it will be stopping. Reports say that the running track needs £300,000 of investment. DS commented that community ownership could enable grants to be accessed but EU grants may be difficult to access. DC reported that the China Clay Network Panel have agreed to take forward an economic strategy for the China Clay area. The aim would be for this to fit together with the wider area strategy but it would emphasise the local needs.  |  |
| **3** | **St Austell Bay Economic Investment Plan**AC referred to the written progress report (Item 3a). DC was thanked for doing the exec summary. A map has been produced and has also been revised by St Austell Brewery so that it can be set up as Google account which could then be updated. Map still has to be finalised.Matthew Vowels, Cornwall Development Company, submitted an expression of interest to Cornwall Council (CC) for the most recent UK Growth Deal. This was for £400,000 with £100,000 match from CC. This didn’t go forward from CC. Discussion with Sandra Rothwell (LEP) said that this type of funding is difficult to get at the moment. It is clear from discussions with the LEP that SABEF needs to better articulate the request of the area. Big problem is resource to take this forward, but there isn’t any money for a dedicated resource. St Austell Area Ask has been drafted as a result – this a first draft of a vision (refer to item 3b). This is a vision for the area and we must keep in mind the wider area, not just the town. Discussion points about the “Ask”* The aim should be a place where people **choose** to live a work. Employment trends here are that people are retained – quality of life is important. This is something that the area can offer. Kings College has come because of retention of staff.
* Green space is attractive here over some of the other areas of Cornwall.
* Does this vision fit in with the LEP vision? There are some links.
* It needs to fit with CC priorities e.g. Local Plan priorities for employment. Some of the projects are only initial ideas so they shouldn’t be part of this document.
* We need to create demand for a project manager.
* Cornwall Councillors are lobbying internally and this evening there is meeting tonight with CC Leader. There is a suggested meeting with Nigel Blackler which is important too.
* There is a need work with Neighbourhood Plans as well.
* The projects may need to be prioritised, and some quick wins identified

AC to amend the ‘Ask’ documentDiscussion also took place about the dissemination of the Investment Plan – should this be sent out with the ‘Ask’? PM felt that it is important to let people know that SABEF exists, and the plan is work done to date. SABEF presence on line also needs to be improved. It was agreed that the Investment Plan should be sent to stakeholders.AC also agreed to provide a projects progress report for the next meeting.Exhibition proposals – AC referred to the written report (item 3c). It is proposed to hold an event to share the Investment Plan, and to include the general public. Discussion took place about an alternative possibility of having stands at the Cornwall Business Fair on 11th May, Eden Project. This could then be moved to the town and around the area e.g. Par Market. Resources to run this could be an issue.The outcome of the event was discussed. It was felt important that the public know about the Investment Plan; the role of SABEF and the need for LEP or similar resource to take it forward. DH suggested that a website could do this as well. It was agreed to go to the Cornwall Business Fair. This could be followed with an event for the public which could then spread that across the area. AC requested support to put together the exhibition. | HN/AC/TD/DC**AC****HN/ JS****AC****All** |
| **4** | **Update on SABEF website**PM confirmed that 1st Web Consulting are doing the development work for the website. Cornwall College and BID have recently pledged £1000 each. The budget is still £25,000 which is being underwritten by St Austell Brewery and St Austell Print. DH gave a presentation (see attached) – the aim is for the website to be live by summer next year. At present the branding is the St Austell Shield at the moment – this can change. SH commented that this is an exciting project and there are opportunities to use students. The aim is make this commercial through advertising.  |  |
| **5** | **Update on Claytown**Minutes of Claytown will be circulated. Three elements are working well:1. Stoke biennial exhibition – The aim is to have a ceramics exhibition in the alternate year to Stoke during Sept/ Oct. Dan James speaking the Arts Council about possible funding.
2. Education – Miriam Venner held a symposium about the future of ceramics education at Eden recently. Feedback is awaited.
3. Town Centre – big ceramics is the aim. This could link with approaches to the town at the roundabouts. ‘Heligan corner’ requires a design.

The aspirations about clay should be a higher profile in the ASK.  | **AC** |
| **6.** | **Any other business**Town Council is launching a consultation about the possible transfer of services from CC – responses are encouraged. The Chamber of Commerce is holding a Crunchy breakfast on 11 Dec. Small business Saturday – CC is having free car parking in its car parks.  |  |
| **7** | **Pasty Museum, Par Market -** Sam Healy, Cornish Market World and Emma Sixton, SAMSA presentation was given about the proposed Pasty Museum at Par Market. It will be open 7 days a week, including evenings and there will be an emphasis on local produce. SAMS will have a restaurant and be supporting the use of local suppliers. There will also be opportunities for apprentices. Work will start in the new year and it will be open in June/ July. There are links with the Pasty Museum in Mexico and the Mayor from the area is coming in June 2016 to launch it. Par Market will continue to trade for 3 days of the week. Stall holders in the market have had the option to be part of this. Own brand pasty will be developed but other suppliers will be present too. There will be an education/workshop area. SF felt that the involvement of Cornwall College excellence programme would be possible. SABEF is supportive of this project and it will be added to the investment plan list.  |  |