**SABEF Executive Directors Meeting**

**24th November 2021**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Present (D = Director)** |  |
| James Staughton (D) | St Austell Brewery (Chair) |
| Peter Moody (D) | St Austell Printing Company (Vice Chair) |
| Clive Acraman (D) | Chamber of Commerce |
| Malcolm Brown (D) | St Austell Town Council |
| Anne Chapman (D) | Management Team |
| Ian Chalmers (D) | Phillips Frith |
| Tom French (D) | BID |
| Jenny Moore (D) | St Blaise Town Council |
| Kym O’Mara (D) | St Austell College |
| David Pooley | St Austell Town Council Clerk |
| Ashley Shopland (D) | IMERYS |
| Jacky Swain (D) | CEG |
| Nikki Hotchin | SABEF Project Manager/Note Taker |
| Sara Gwilliams | St Austell Town Council Deputy Clerk |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Apologies** | |
| Peter Guest | Cornwall Councillor – Bugle & Roche division |
| John Watkins | White River Place |
| Dick Cole (D) | LAG/ Cornwall Councillor – St Dennis & St Enoder division |
| Dan James (D) | Eden Project |
| Jordan Rowse (D) | Cornwall Councillor – Bethel & Holmbush division |
| Mike Hawes | Mei Loci – CCF Masterplan (Advisor) |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | **Welcome and Introductions**  J Staughton welcomed everyone in person and those taking part via Microsoft teams. Formal apologies noted. |  |
| 2. | **Notes of the last meeting**  These were agreed.  The branding discussion with Safer St Austell has not progressed. J Staughton to update C Lord for future reference.  The board agreed to the Green and White Gold Festival going ahead on the proposed date of Saturday 25th June 2022. £35k minimum required - funding pending. | JS  All |
| 3. | **Presentation on A391 Link Road**  Steve Gudge (SG) - Cornwall Council, Project Director for St Austell Link, A30 Hayle & A39 Camelford, provided a presentation and update on the progress of the A391 link road development. ([Click the link to view the presentation video in full. )](https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/transport-parking-and-streets/roads-highways-and-pavements/major-highway-schemes/st-austell-to-a30-link-road/)  SG described the map being shown in the video and pointed out the old/new roads. SG added that construction will ensure that the roads do not close and limited short term disruption.  SG highlighted the multi-use tracks for use by cyclists and walkers all the way along the route.  The group discussed the potential increase in house prices for example in Roche due to the development.  £8 million of landscape work is included in the project with planting and 10km of Cornish hedging being added to both sides of the road. 350,000 cubic metres of material will be removed and mostly repurposed as part of the development works.  Timetable:  Any objections to orders have been resolved and withdrawn. Orders received by Dept for Transport (DfT) Lawyers in Sept 21 will be ready within the next 2 weeks, awaiting ministerial decisions and signing. To follow; 6 weeks of advertising and PR plus a judicial review process for any additional objections.  Running parallel, is the full business case for £78.4 million to be approved and submitted by mid-December.  All comes together by DfT with full funding at the point of approval of the business case at which time this will trigger a ‘Commit to Construct’ notice to Alan Griffiths the construction team who have been on site, any land acquisitions and work underway by spring 22.  Landowner permissions have been granted with archaeology work currently underway lasting 15 weeks, running concurrently to the business case above. A report will be produced.  Complementary measures are planned for e.g. Roche and Bugle public realm schemes following local consultation. White River Valley is also planned for development and Holmbush bridge plans to create more headroom by removing 600mm from the road surface – Awaiting NWR approvals and study work expected by Dec 21. Wildflower seed collecting has been underway by Eden for the last 1.5 years, sown and grown on, with collections from heathland all over Cornwall.  Completion expected spring/summer 2024.  A Shopland (AS) asked how long would the Holmbush road be closed as similar work at Par Moor Rd bridge took over 9 months to complete? SG replied approx. 6 months however diversion routes will be challenging especially for HGV’s and envisaged much of the work taking place at night.  J Staughton (JS)/A Chapman (AC); talked about the importance of SABEF working with the project to ensure the ‘Garden Route’ branding is used along the route, as an exemplar for other areas. SG said this could be tricky and will give it some thought. AC asked that SG take this away as a request from SABEF and to be captured here within.  M Brown (MB) raised concerns regarding the use of HGVs across the estate whilst work is undertaken at Holmbush Bridge. SG replied that a small study funded by S106 monies to track HGV activity/movements in the area has been commissioned with a report being sent to Rebecca Lyal. MB acknowledged the response with thanks.  JS thanked SG for his time today and a ‘well done’ for the project thus far. | SG |
| 4. | **Presentation on Wildworks (I am Kevin)**  Emma Hogg – Wildworks Executive Director shared an introductory video [(click the link here to open the video)](https://wildworks.org.uk/#home-video) and went on to describe the nature of the organisation as a National Portfolio Organisation with Arts Council England (ACE) and the background to the project underway with the college – ‘I am Kevin’.  This is a project of joy and celebration which began in Truro although sadly forced to halt following political challenges faced with the location at Pydar place. As an alumni of St Austell college and local resident Emma felt St Austell would be the most fitting place for her to continue the project.  EH is currently exploring space at the college and land within the vicinity of the college for the performances to take place. An expected capacity of 300 per performance is anticipated.  Local engagement and publicity will start to take place with community groups from February/March 22 and performances will take place in the town from August 22. Collaboration is important to the organisation.  Performances will commence from August 2022.  N Hotchin (NH) suggested Wildworks connected with the Green and Whitegold Festival Producer – Cat Radford, as an opportunity to include them in the programme content and as a platform for Wildworks to advertise to a local audience. NH to introduce them via email.  NH to share [www.staustell.co.uk](http://www.staustell.co.uk) with EH for advertising purposes.  EH is happy for email details to be shared as follows; [emma@wildworks.org.uk](mailto:emma@wildworks.org.uk)  Kym O’Mara (KoM) asked the meeting if anyone could help with the ownership of the land to the back of the college? The group were unsure and EH will continue to explore. | NH  NH |
| 5. | **Presentation on Cornwall’s G7 Nature Legacy Project**  Wes Pascoe (WP) – Imerys lead for Cornwall’s G7 Nature Legacy Project provided a presentation. (Please refer to slides attached to the email for the full details).  WP went onto describe the project. Mid Cornwall was sought for this exemplar project, the first of its kind in Cornwall to help recovery and enhance land in a meaningful way.  WP highlighted the difference between 2 images of the tips and pits to demonstrate the work already undertaken by Imerys to green the white works areas with grassland, heathland and planting. One image from 1985 and one from 2019 clearly showed the difference/increase in green areas in the latter year.  Areas on a map showed 4 key project areas identified for the works to take place; Caerloggas tip and heathland, Scarcewater grazing land and Burngullow common. 3 of the sites are full funded and 1 site is match funded by Imerys.  WP talked about a 10% net gain in biodiversity as a result of this project. With an increase from 3 grassland seeds to 15, the introduction of small grazing cattle and wildflowers allowed to grow during spring/summer months.  AC asked about what the public gain is and how is this being communicated? AS replied that publicity is being managed by the Project funders and that PR will take place when the time is right and when the impact of the project is evident. WP replied that song bird species have already increased. They agreed that communicating effectively with the public is needed. AS added that the permissible paths information sheet is being updated and will be available to the public next year.  PM suggested that any good news stories be shared with NH and the team to enable them to share and celebrate it via [www.staustell.co.uk](http://www.staustell.co.uk) and their social media channels. |  |
| 6. | **Chairman’s Announcements**  **SABEF - What is its future role?**  JS asked the group to consider and agree the paper shared prior to the meeting; SABEF – What is its Future Role?  J Swain (JSw) shared how pleased she is that SABEF will continue as it has made such a difference to the town and St Austell and it is important to continue.  JS said that SABEF and St Austell are ahead of the process in many ways compared to other Cornish towns and that Cornwall Council (CC) recognises what SABEF have achieved so far.  MB asked – What contact has been made with CC since the workshop? JS replied that J Rowse (JR) had been in touch with an offer to help. JS to follow this up with JR.  MB offered to ‘help a bit’. MB went on to say that he had added an item to Town Council agenda regarding the pull of resources to SABEF by CC and was subsequently contacted by Simon Mould from CC to arrange to meet to discuss. Date tbc.  It was noted that Community Link Officers (CLO) should be invited to attend the SABEF Executive Board Meetings to ensure that comms is maintained two ways.  MB requested the point; *‘Town Revitalisation Partnership could possibly become a sub-group of SABEF over time’* be removed as not geographically relevant. JS replied that as this was feedback from the workshop it can’t be taken out. The point captures the concerns over duplication of both groups and the uncertainty of the future of the Partnership at the time. P Moody (PM) clarified that the point refers to a recommendation in collaboration with both parties.  MB stated that CC representation is required at this meeting possibly from the Economic Development team. The group suggested that Rachel Galbraith and the Regeneration Officer, (awaiting appointment by the Town Council) be invited to attend the SABEF meetings.  MB said that hybrid meetings should continue to be an option for future meetings. AS shared the Imerys global mandate of; 2 days working from home and 3 days working in the office. A discussion amongst the group took place about the benefits of f2f meetings v online with mixed opinions and feedback. It was agreed to continue to offer hybrid meetings and to take a view on the need for them, meeting by meeting.  The next meeting is March 2022. It was suggested that if interim/adhoc meetings were required then they should be carried out online where possible. The group agreed to amend the paper to include the agreement made to continue with hybrid online/f2f meetings. JS/NH to update the document.  JS added that succession planning will be discussed in the future. | JS  JS/NH |
| 7. | **Town Vitality Partnerships**  **St Austell Revitalisation Partnership**  JS gave an update. £140,000 has been formerly accepted, secured and D Pooley (DP) confirmed the monies have been received.  DP confirmed that recruitment is underway for project support in the form of a Regeneration Officer.  JS proposed a letter of support should be written to CC for their offices to be moved into the Town centre. JS invited comments. A discussion took place regarding the benefits of moving the Council and Town Council to the centre of town. DP commented that he does not need an office he needs a depot for his grounds team. Should he move into town he would need to increase his workforce from 3.5. to 5.5 to accommodate the public visits. DP raised concerns that moving the library to the town centre may ‘kill it’ with parking and garden space so readily accessible currently. DP went onto to stress the need to support the retention of CC jobs in the centre of St Austell would be a better approach. The group agreed. JS to compile a letter to say the same, with full board approval in the first instance.  **St Blazey Vitality Fund**  J Moore reported that the Terms of Reference for the place shaping partnership still need to be developed. The theme of the application is for a feasibility study about how Station Road can be opened up for retail/ business. J Moore confirmed that they have been awarded £10k from the Vitality Fund. | JS |
| 8. | **SABEF Coastal Communities Fund (CCF)**  N Hotchin’s Project Highlight Report had been circulated with the agenda. Main points are highlighted there.  **Update on Phase 1**  Refer to highlight report.  KRES site has recently undergone soil exploratory work around the base of the site. Awaiting a report and follow up meeting to be confirmed. Plans to be drawn up and full risks assessments to be obtained from the artists and contractors. Installation due to begin on 10th Jan 2022.  **Phase 2 – Masterplan**  The next three-year plan continues to be developed in preparation for any possible future funding opportunities.  **Financial update**  The original budget should have finished by March 2021. Now confirmed as finishing March 2022. |  |
| 9. | **Financial report**  IC talked through the annual accounts submitted with the agenda. AC proposed. PM seconded. 6 voting members remaining in attendance at the meeting, approved the accounts for submission. JS wasn’t sure whether meeting was considered quorate so will check constitution. | JS |
| 10. | **Key Messages**  JS asked the group members and organisations to consider financial support for the festival for 2022. | ALL |
| 11. | **Any Other Business**  AC thanked Kym O’Mara, Jessica Fisher and Pyran Fisher and all those involved for the wonderful mural in the underpass at Asda. |  |
| 8. | **Dates of Meetings**  Wednesday 9th March 2022 at 9.30 – 11.30am.  Venue: St Austell College/Microsoft Teams |  |