

Neighbourhood Plan meeting, 29th June 2021

Claire Upton Brown

Richard Lewis

Emm Cully

Katherine

Carole Rogers

Ann Page

Carolien Rackham

Steve Shepherd

Nev Penman

Agenda

Town Centre – finalise ideas from the group

Consultation Event, 24th July

TETC Meeting

Waterside transport Consultation

Town Centre

We ran through the document that we've gradually been working on. One of the issues that was stressed by some of the team was the parking issue which is more of a problem for new builds which are being built without parking in the town centre. We don't have the transport network to support these being built without parking.

There was then an additional discussion about public transport in the area and how we need to push for more transport alternatives to the car. There was some discussion about whether the dual carriageway and the artery roads which stop pedestrians and cyclists from moving freely around the town centre and immediate area are being looked at in the highways and Waterside Transport consultations at the moment. They are being looked at as part of a wider group of initiatives being considered.

We discussed access to the forest and other local towns and how the public transport network has been cut back. Cycling is considered dangerous and difficult and we need to look at ways that can be improved, while maintaining car access for those that need it. It's an opportunity at the moment with different transport ideas being looked at and the North Totton development and we need to push that.

We talked about small businesses and the idea of a 'lanes' type business area for start ups. Although we can't dictate what shops we get, we may be able to demand that the facilities for small businesses are available. We discussed if Totton is called Shirley on the bus on occasions, or possibly Totton on the bus and how buses in the past have failed on routes directly to the general hospital because of lack of use.

There was some discussion about the height of buildings around the Town Centre, particularly the park and the precinct where it was felt that four storeys would be too high. The precinct might become a wind tunnel and the park might be dwarfed by four storeys. It was previously discussed at the meetings that some of the buildings already around the park and the town centre were higher than two storeys anyway. After some discussion it was agreed by the group that while four storeys would be suitable in some places around the town centre, in those particular positions it would be better if the number of storeys was kept to two or three and didn't go to four.

Consultation Event

We decided we have enough ideas to be able to consult with the public but we need to look at three main areas with them –

Ideas around access around the town centre

What people want to see in the town centre and what that map might look like – are people happy to have the park as a more prominent feature of the town centre

What sort of town centre would people like for their town.

Caroline asked for pictures of interesting town centres so we can put them up and ask people to stick sticky dots against them.

Ann mentioned the projector screen can be used to project the website.

Most members said they would be able to join to help with stewarding and talking to residents. CR and AP to discuss how it might work in light of covid restrictions.

Ann mentioned having a stall on the civic green so that people will be led towards the community centre from the town centre.

Richard agreed to do a poster when CR and AP get back with details.

It may be possible to have a waterside railway consultation at the event with a computer screen?

Town Council Presentation

It was suggested that we wait until after the consultation event to give a presentation to the town council. The next appropriate one is on the 29th September, c.r. to contact Derek Biggs about including the neighbourhood plan on the agenda or is it better to do a separate meeting.