

MINUTES OF THE PENZANCE REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP MEETING
Held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday 15th January 2019 in the Zennor Building, Penwith College

Present: Martin Tucker (Chair)
Jim McKenna (Cornwall Council/Vice-Chair)
Ian Harris (Cornwall Chamber)
Emily Kavanaugh (PZ Chamber of Commerce)
Jessica Morris (Penzance BID)
Simon Elliott (Cornwall Council)
Nigel Davis (PZ Neighbourhood Plan)
Susan Stuart (Neighbourhood Plan)
James Hardy (Cornwall Council)
Nick Hood (Penzance BID)
Sarah Shaw (Penzance Chamber of Commerce)

1. Apologies for absence

Mario Fonk, Cornelius Olivier, Jim McKenna, Tim Dwelly, Nigel Pengelly

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Exclusion of press and public for confidential items

None

4. Minutes of meeting held on 17th December 2018

Signed as a true and accurate record by the Chair. Thanks to JM for taking the minutes.

Matters Arising not covered in the Agenda:

Expo wash-up has been distributed by SSt. Update on drafting status – Katherine Uren of the Community Link Forum is helping SSt to update structure and policies. Re-draft (excluding graphics) will be done by end of January.

Tour of Britain – Regen Board have indicated support for Penzance hosting the tour, in particular the start, and this is contingent on resurfacing the Prom. Rebecca Lyle (Team Leader for Bay-to-Bay Cycle Team) has asked if she can attend the next Regen Board meeting and present to the Board regarding this. **All in agreement; agenda item to be added.** IH – this would lead to extensive PZ television coverage; very positive for the town. Decision will be made in February.

Community Hub (JHa) - building is progressing, will soon be fit for purpose. JM – waiting for update from DC following yesterday's Council meeting.

Perfect Moment item at last meeting has been actioned – MT has passed additional information on to Paula (RFO, PZTC).

Payment to BID being actioned this week.

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Spatial Study (JHa) – no written update yet but lots of discussion.

Future High Street Fund - expression of interest sent off on 3rd January. Kevin Brownridge contacted MT by email on New Years Day with information on this; MT replied thanking him and letting him know a letter has been sent.

Coastal Communities (SSt) – first round is more than 3x subscribed; projects need to be scaled down. Nigel Blackler has looked at the project and the current proposal is to deliver a considerably scaled down version which would leave out the hospitality building, demolish and rebuild the Rank building, improving the running and delivery of freight traffic. This alone is not likely to be a successful bid as it doesn't hit enough key Coastal Communities target areas. Significantly improved public realm to also be included, and Steamship Company to be approached to agree this is contingent on their operating agreement. Possibility of hospitality building being done later with alternative funding sources. Bid to be in by 27th January.

5. Finance Update – (JHa)

(It would be useful for Paula Smith to attend a future meeting as RFO for Town Council.)

Updated financial information handed out to Board. 23 additional commitments now shown. Tour of Britain funds allocated from parking budget. £4,379.51 currently left in Public Realm taking all current commitments into account. MT – is there a figure for Town Centre Hub staffing? JHa – not yet, still under initial discussion. JM – need to be clear on what the role entails and what we expect before salary can be agreed. BID have already pledged £16k for their part of funding the role. **MT – thanks to Paula from the Board for her extensive work on this.** JM – need to be clear on Town Council's financial commitment to staffing the Community Hub. ND – if decision is approved by Finance Committee, it then goes to full Council for approval. ND to liaise with DC regarding raising this with the Finance Committee. There will be 2 open-access computers within the Hub, one to report issues to the Council and one to report issues to the police via 101. This would mean a low-level post only would be needed, to run the Hub office and contribute to BID admin rather than act as a full Town Centre Manager. ND – how far away are we from opening the Hub? JM – currently sorting Wi-Fi and fire safety issues. Should be inhabited by beginning of February but not open to the public until end of February. JHa – public drop-in session being held on 29th January at St John's Hall so information will be available to the public then regarding this. JM to send ND a paper to present to Finance Committee to move this forward.

Action: ND/DC/JM

6. Prioritisation of Future Spending

DC has distributed a paper highlighting suggested priorities for future spend. Discussion took place regarding suggested shortlisted projects. JM has distributed information on town Wi-Fi. Highlighted projects on DC paper – Town Centre signage, town Wi-Fi, pay-on-exit parking, Tour of Britain, PZ Investment Brochure.

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JM – Town Wi-Fi. 2 proposals distributed are top-line proposals and if this went ahead it would have to go to tender. Some companies will use existing infrastructure, most want to put in their own hardware. Statistical footfall monitoring is an additional option (can be done separately but there are significant financial savings to getting both done together). Costs range from £50k to £70k for central business district (currently calculated as BID area). Falmouth have just spent £35k implementing this (without footfall monitoring) and there has been a large uptake despite minimal publicity, very positive feedback from businesses and residents. Positive socio-economic implications. Ongoing maintenance costs are £7-15k per year depending on systems installed. SE – there are Mesh Wi-Fi companies that can offer a heatmap of a greater area for less money, however they don't provide some of the specialist data. IH – DPN's European Project could piggy-back on this (they need evidence for this, which could be taken from the statistical info gathered). JMCK – very supportive of project; are mobiles required to track movements of people? If phones are turned off does this stop tracking? JM – this depends on the sophistication of the system chosen, but if phones are switched on then you can be triangulated and located to the nearest data point. However, it does not breach GDPR laws and information is encrypted so should not be vulnerable. SSt – this would provide some very useful intelligence to help shape the future of the town. Very attractive offer for low-income demographic of local residents but also higher-spending locals. MT – all Board members to read through proposals sent round by JM, then to be raised as a Project at next Board meeting for an update. EK – comparison would be useful between levels of data available from cheaper/more expensive systems. JMCK – car parking changes underpinned this year with £140k of money allocated to PZ; if some of this funding is not needed, there may be a surplus which can be reallocated to projects such as this. JM – Cornwall Digital Fund bid for £20m may also be a possible funding source.

Action: All

IH - Investment Brochure. PZ needs to attract more business in order to attract people in general. A brochure detailing what has already been done in the town and what will be done could be presented to the Cornwall Chamber. SSt – we need to take this up a level and clarify the overall benefits of living/working in Penzance. Graphic design input needed. SSh – better brief needed in order to take this forward. MT – outline draft brief needed for next meeting. DC/IH/SSt/JM to put this together.

Action: DC/IH/SSt/JM

Town Centre Masterplan to be put on shortlist.

JM – Comms also to be added, Trisha Hewitt only contracted until March 2019 and working well at the moment.

Pay-on-exit is going ahead, 50p for first hour of parking currently going through consultation – tbc by end of January. JMCK meeting with Positive Parking at end of January and will be promoting Just Park.

- 7. AOB**
None.

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Date of Next Meeting: 5pm, Monday 25th February 2019.

Martin Tucker
Chairman
January 2019