

SUBJECT:	Sevenside Whole Place Update
MEETING:	Sevenside Area Committee
DATE:	5th August 2015
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To update members on progress and current issues which relate to the Sevenside area from the Whole Place Team.
- 1.2 To inform and seek member views.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members note the report.

3. WHOLE PLACE REPORT

3.1 Caldicot Linkage Scheme

- 3.1.1 The Caldicot Linkage Scheme received planning consent on 5th May 2015.
- 3.1.2 London & Cambridge Properties, across whose property the main walkway access is located, have agreed to act as 'developer' for the project. However, progress to construction stage has not been as quick as hoped, or expected.
- 3.1.3 A draft legal agreement was issued by MCC to London & Cambridge Properties on 2nd April outlining the terms of release of s106 funding to progress the works. No formal response to the draft terms has been received to date.
- 3.1.4 The landowner re-assures that they remain fully committed to implementing the linkage scheme, although they state that progress has been delayed because of :
 - a. The need to employ consultants to undertake some detailed design work (to supplement the tendering process) and fulfil new CDM responsibilities.
 - b. The need to finalise certain aspects with key stakeholders.
- 3.1.5 Consultant engineers have now been appointed by LCP (w/c 20th July) with the expectation of finalising documents for tender '*within 3 weeks*'. Consultants have been advised to programme tender and construction works to complete by mid-November,

which means an anticipated works commencement date of late September/early October 2015.

- 3.1.6 Although the works will be sequenced, it will inevitably impact upon parking availability in the 'Wesley Buildings/Waitrose Car Park' and the landowner has requested assistance from MCC in the form of a temporary adjustment of the Woodstock Way Car Park arrangements to a short stay basis ie 60/90 minute short stay for the duration of works.
- 3.1.7 Members have prior agreed that a section of the car park be reserved for school staff parking from 1st September 2015, to assist with the forthcoming school redevelopment. Highways have indicated that would have no objection to the remaining car park spaces – 41 in total – being operated on short term basis for a temporary period.
- 3.1.8 ***Members views are sought on this request.***

3.2 Sevenside Programme Board

- 3.2.1 Sevenside Programme Board met on 30th June 2015 and received reports on the following:
- a. **Caldicot School – 21st Century Redevelopment** – Latest Programme reported with temporary buildings arriving in September/October - demolition to follow thereafter. Construction due to commence December.
 - b. **Coastal Communities Fund Application** – An application for funding had been made to help unlock the benefits of the Wales Coast Path. If successful, funding would assist improved visitor signage, interpretation and access - through employment of a project officer and volunteers. A decision was expected shortly.
 - c. **Eisteddfod Proclamation Event** – Reported as a tremendous success with an estimated 4,000 in the town centre and 800 at the castle. Retailers and residents were overwhelmed with the turnout and there was extensive media coverage. National Eisteddfod Organisers claimed it was the best organised 'Proclamation Event' they had experienced. Particular thanks were relayed to Dan Davies, Events Manager.
 - d. **Rockfield Farm and Crick Road Redevelopment Sites** - It was reported that the consultation process had started in May and June. Over 120 people had attended four events held, to date.
 - e. **Caldicot Town Team** (see section 3.3)

The following decisions were agreed:

- a. **Magor & Undy Walkway Station Campaign** – The Board formally agreed to support the campaign.
- b. **Election of new Chairperson** - Town Councillor, Alan Davies, was elected as the new chairperson of the Programme Board

- c. **Caldicot Town Team Funding** - A CTT request for £2k to cover ongoing operational costs was recommended for approval by the Board.
- d. **Review of Severnside Plan and Programme Board** - A proposal to establish a subgroup to review the current operation of the Programme Board and recommend a framework for review of the Plan, was agreed

3.2.2 **Review of Severnside Plan and Programme Board** - The Board agreed that although more delayed than anticipated, there had been significant progress against the seven component elements of the original '*Severnside Total Place Plan*',

3.2.3 However, it was agreed that the Plan needed to be reviewed and amended to recover its relevance as a framework for strategic change and 'Whole Place' planning in Severnside

3.2.4 It was also agreed that the Programme Board review aspects of the '*terms of reference*' of the Board required review if its impact was to be improved.

3.2.5 The sub group will comprise of Town Cllr Alan Davies, Dan Davies, Events Manager, Pastor John Hall, Cllr Frances Taylor, Cllr Dave Evans, Aaron Reeks, Caldicot Town Team. The group will be supported by Colin Phillips, Whole Place Officer.

3.2.6 The remit of the group will be to provide recommendations to the next Programme Board meeting on:

- a. Amendments to the '*terms of reference*' of the Severnside Programme Board.
- b. A process for review of the Severnside Total Place Plan.

3.3 Caldicot Town Team

3.3.1 The Caldicot Town Team have been active in promoting a number of initiatives and projects in recent months with additional interventions planned.

3.3.1. Markets Pilot Project

Two successful pilot markets have been held since April. The first being an Arts & Craft extension to the existing Saturday Market held in April and a 'Spring Market' held in May. Feedback from stall holders, retailers and the public has been positive with additional markets and events being planned.

A Family Fun Day is arranged for Sat 15th August with the possibility of an International Food Market in September/October.

3.3.2 Town Wi-fi

The project has hit some setbacks with Spectrum Internet unable to secure key wayleave agreements from some of the landlords, within the timescales required. Alternative arrangements are being sought to move the project forward.

3.3.3 **Town Centre Directory Map**

The Town Team have secured £5,000 from ASDA to create and install a town centre directory map around the entrance to the store. The map is being designed so that new businesses can be easily added or removed from the map as required, along with a directional arrow for Caldicot Castle.

3.3.4 **Incredible Edible**

The Town Team's, Incredible Edible project launched in April with 3 sites around the town centre being improved - two outside Waitrose and fruit trees planted at Caldicot Police Station.

Melin Homes have awarded £250 and New Grove Trust £1,500 - to invest in raised bedding plots. The project is also looking at other sites at the Leisure Centre and Caldicot Castle. In addition to working to provide a plot for use by disabled residents at the Budden Crescent respite care home.

3.3.5 **Caldicot Visioning Project**

Consultants, Roberts Limbrick, have been appointed to help pull together tender documents for the commission. The draft documents will be available w/c 3/8/15 and will be reviewed by a subgroup of the Town Team which will include a representative from the Town Council. This group will oversee the commission, as it rolls out.

3.3.6 **Coffee Morning**

A successful coffee morning was held on June 10th, at the Town Teams new offices, with over 20 visitors attending. Although small in numbers, many were keen to get involved and good links were made.

3.3.7 **Eisteddfod Proclamation Day** - Caldicot Town Team held a successful tea/coffee stall on the day, with CTT branded cups promoting the team. The Team were instrumental in working with landlords to provide access to the empty shops for use in the town on the day.

3.3.8 **AGM** – The Town Team will be holding its AGM in September (exact date to be agreed). The AGM will receive nominations for Directors, approve accounts and consider matters for the year ahead. This will include a proposal for a wider and more detailed action plan for the town.

4. **REASONS:**

4.1 To promote progress on aims and activity of the Severnside Whole Place Plan.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

5.1 N/A

6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 N/A

7. CONSULTEES:

None

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

n/a

9. AUTHOR: Colin Phillips, Whole Place Officer

10. CONTACT DETAILS:

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