AGENDA : ATT MEETING Thursday 11th January 2018
7.15pm Abergavenny Community Centre

1. Active Travel submission: urgent action required.
2. Pedestrian/ cyclist bridge consultation January 8th outcomes/feedback?
3. Public realm improvements (Frogmore/Lion St) update + Morrisons link?
5. Wassailing at the Orchard 20th Jan + update JUST FOOD and Agri-Urban + Farmers markets.
6. Abergavenny Futures Exhibition: + invite from MCC planners + input to Town Hall Planning Committee?
7. Castle Street Car park/Hen + Chicks/Post Office site futures.
8. A project for reducing plastics?
9. A.O.B + next meeting

Present: Dick Cole, Freddy Edmonds, Jack Thurston, Patrick Hannay, Richard Lewis
Simon Bilsborough, Stephen Harris:
Apologies: Anthea Fairey, Francis Buxton, Gethin Jenkins,
MINUTES OF MEETING ARE IN YELLOW
Active Travel Act: Pedestrian submissions

• Deadline only 5 days away!!!
• No submissions from ATT members......yet
• URGENT: this is our only chance to get funding
• What we need: good clear photos of current problem (ideally all in one shot) sent to PH if walking to Jack if cycling; put where it is, brief sentence summarising problem and what needs to happen to improve it.
• Jack Thurston (ACG) explained background and framework to Act Travel Act and the current need to meet submission deadline 16th January!

• Submissions that wish to get funded need to relate to the prioritised walking and cycling routes already proscribed by MCC analysis. Jack will forward maps/docs again for PH.

• That doesn’t mean that critiques or additions to that analysis cannot be made. Many observations/critiques were made at this meeting. PH to add to ATT submission.

• Abergavenny Cycling group will be putting in a detailed submission, with also a proposal for a 20mph speed limit for in town.

• ATT needs a Pedestrian Tsar. Volunteer please?

• Freddy brought suggestions from Toddlers group Mums. PH to add to ATT submission. PH showed five examples of Pedestrian/Cycling improvements.

• Photographs are crucial. Making the evidence visual is critical. Any late suggestions from ATT members to be sent urgently to PH and Jack.

• WE ONLY HAVE FOUR DAYS LEFT!
Lower Castle Street: Proposal to make single shared surface with rumble strip at junction.

Tough rumble strip at start to slow traffic.

This junction will eventually need traffic lights for pedestrians to cross safely.
Monk Street/Lion Street Junction: make cyclist/pedestrian traffic light crossing to aid east/west movement: move lights from near St Marys to new location.

New pedestrian/cyclist crossing with lights

There will be a contra flow cycle route here

Lion St pavement to Morrisons

These lights to be moved to Monk St/Lion Street junction
Sort out Bridge Inn crossing to make sense of bridge investment: alter roundabout to traffic light junction

Noted that at new bridge consultation re-configuring of Merthyr road approach to Waitrose roundabout to accommodate good cycle link from Bridge to Sustrans route 46 not visible.

A lot could be done with road surface colour and lines to aid this cyclists/ pedestrian crossing currently. In the end needs to be a traffic light junction not a roundabout.
Alter five lane nonsense near Waitrose. Widen pavements; create cycle paths: Create tree line boulevard: reduce the road and enact 20mph speed limit.

Road originally designed for massive retail park and out of town industrial units, but now housing and level of traffic does not justify such a huge road.
Station Road/ Monmouth road junction: cycle route traffic light crossing from Station to Meadow cycle route to new bridge and Llanfoist + beyond: Note this is not on MCC active travel act map. Needs adding.

Create two way cycle route up this ridiculously wide station road.

Private owner: but approach for cycle access

Possible route for cycle path to be negotiated
Union Road East: create one way contra flow route for bikes coming into town from Hospital/ Brecon road. Put mirror at junction to aid seeing traffic coming up Merthyr road from bridge.
Bridge consultation Llanfoist Village Hall:
8th January: Did anyone go?

• Yes very well attended: very large positive response from public attending.
• Curious new diagonal shingles added to glu-lam beams. Surely would not withstand floodwater force.
• Once bridge in place better cyclist connections should follow to existing network.
• NRW may still object:
• Curious slight change in angle: more right angles to bank. WHY?

This is a cattle grid
McCarthy & Stone Tudor St project consultation
December 2017 @ Abergavenny Community Centre

How many went? How many commented?

All at meeting had attended consultation: good turn out but were they listening?
McCarthy & Stone Tudor Street elevation as shown at consultation

Some had concern too much brick in elevations, but then surgery and employment centre adjacent are brick. Will need a very careful selection of good quality brick if to be successful.
McCarthy & Stone: Baker Street / Tudor Street junction
Area inside blue dotted line to dug out of site to create level ground floor with Tudor Street. Red dotted line is a wheelchair ramp. Back of site almost a storey height above Tudor Street.

These residents don't get a jolly view being down below car park level and facing north!
McCarthy & Stone advantage of a flat roof?

A Community Well-being room and a large outdoor terrace on top floor, with magnificent view over Linda Vista to the Blorenge: Could it be open to the public?
Some thoughts on McCarthy & Stone submission

- Considerable input by MCC planners improves submission.
- Too much obsession by developer’s architects with ‘fitting in’.
- Desperate to prove that four storeys is OK. What about rear of site?
- Critics obsessed with pitched roofs as only solution but that adds height.
- Any benefits of a flat roofed scheme? Yes see previous slide. No sign of using flat roofs for renewables (PVs) or rooflights.
- Georgian precedents which have flat parapets are loved, so why objection to no pitch (see next slides)?
- Somewhat spurious argument to justify four storeys quoting precedent Frogmore St.
- Too much focus on Tudor Street elevation only instead of looking at lane.
- Conservative approach leaves ‘backlands’ unthought about. Just parking.
- Digging out a lot of the site (archaeology?) so why not put car park underground with garden on top? Town centre site, so walking possible and why not electric cars provided by McCarthy and Stone to residents rechargeable on site. Then make proper back street.
No pitched roof: is it always horrible; so what’s the problem?
Abergavenny flat parapet with pediment

1845
McArthy & Stone consultation: observations on process

- December consultation at Abergavenny Community centre reasonably well attended. Many ATT members had been.
- Scheme too well developed in detail; clearly not open to much change at this late stage. Only looking for support.
- Consultation with Planners had begun May 2017! *(check)*
- Not really the proper Pre- App process. Should have been strategic site options on show not complete scheme.
- If they **do not** get permission they will **not** purchase site.
- Not willing to go to the Design Commission for Wales currently.
- Aber Civic Society have submitted comment to planners
Lion Street/ Market Street/ Morrisons connection
quality of public realm and pedestrian route through
Morrison’s site to Bailey Park

No sign of north south pedestrian route across site on image:

Still very unclear what has been resolved here; URGENT TO RESOLVE
Morrison’s latest surface detail dwg not as yet approved by planners.

- Pedestrian crossings?
- Tarmac???
- Added trees?

No sign of surface materials to connect Morrisons site to Market Street nor raised table/ nor bus laybye
Morrisons/ Market Street: work progress

Tarmac already laid here on Morrison’s site

Work on Lion St public realm works starts next week!
Hopefully urgent on site meeting between all parties will resolve issue this or next week

Griffiths already installed in Horsington Yard
This is how many signs will pepper the Morrison’s site, but the graphics and dimensions are relatively restrained. 5 metre totem rejected by planners.
One of Morrison’s sign submissions to planners note regulation on parking. Still some doubt as to what exactly has been agreed with MCC. There is also a sign for an electric car-charging point.

But no PV’s to aid charging them on large flat roof!
Newbridge House proposal: a tougher response from the Town Council Planning Committee using advice from DCfW and Civic Society. They have re-submitted drawings with virtually no significant changes despite heavy criticism of scheme.
Newbridge House, Tudor St: Latest floor plan: poor quality floor plans to flats. Sitting/kitchen are as same for 1 bed as for 2 bed!
Wassailing event 20\textsuperscript{th} January 4.00pm onwards down at the Community Orchard

Volunteers from 2.00pm onwards.......... Also help needed this weekend 13\textsuperscript{th} Jan to prepare
Laurie Jones Community Orchard

- Rethink of Orchard signboard display following copse trouble.
- Work with King Henry VIII pupils ongoing. IE beds moved to Abergavenny Community centre.
- Safety concerns around new pond.
- New bench either stolen or burnt.
- Stakes strewn all over Orchard
- Picnic table to be retrieved from stream
- Need to counter but with positive response
Agri Urban update

• John Prosser/ Deserie Mansfield..... “an Action Plan (as requested by the EU agri-urban system) is being put together/finalised by Deserie Mansfield. I have heard that an international project between here and Belgium around local food distribution may materialise.” *Pam Mason*.

• Needs checking. Who is attending meeting 16\textsuperscript{th} January; Town Council chamber 7.00pm?

JUST FOOD update

Food Manifesto launch cancelled at Christmas Food Festival due to weather conditions. Further launch date sought. Next meeting 17\textsuperscript{th} January 8.00pm @ Ruth/Harry’s
Public realm Frogmore/Lion St update

• Collaborative engagement with MCC Highways; lead by TA’s Enhance Environment group:
• Councillors and stakeholder’s full backing at Town Hall meeting 22nd December but still much to resolve.
• Further meeting on detailed resolution 5th January with Highways.
• Information for Traders and taxis plus sort -out with bus companies ongoing preparation.
• Lion Street phase from Morrisons to near Wetherspoons. Due to start January 2018.
• Next phase Eastern end of Frogmore St to Whitehorse lane March – June 2018.
• 2019 phase ,rest of Frogmore to Memorial and Lion Street east to Monk Street.
Frogmore Street improvements

Substantial bollards to mark major pedestrian cross routes

Disabled and Taxi parking bays on either side of resin bonded carriageway. Exact numbers to be negotiated in next phase

Pavement extended to embrace war memorial; detail to be negotiated next phase

Resin bonded single carriageway sections. Rest of surface Pennant stone pavions and sets

New disabled parking bays

Single surface pennant stone extended from High Street; no resin bonded carriageway. Loading 4.00 pm - 11.00 am next day; but not in narrowest section

Possible future scheme for Cinema Triangle, providing additional parking spaces

This part seeking funds now; possible start Spring 2019

No traffic coming from Lion Street

Current phase of works

EXTENDED TABLE

Only this part of Frogmore 2018 phase
Lion Street improvements

- Inadequate width for cyclist/pedestrians
- New east-bound bus stop?
- New raised surface linking Market Street to Morrisons
- Morrisons car park 180 spaces
- Later phase 2019/2020
- Improved crossing
- Contra-flow cycle route
- Better pedestrian access to Morrisons
- New additional Taxi stands
- Turn round for Taxis and all cars. Disabled bays added to car park
- Pedestrian access to Morrisons
- This section in 2019 phase of works
Abergavenny Futures  a possible ATT exhibition in late spring to explore with the public, responses to the LDP and our future visions.

• SOME STARTING POINTS/QUESTIONS
  • Too much a place to get old?
  • Very little done to house younger people and offer employment.
  • No space to attract starter businesses
  • Housing market will not provide for those who need housing; need for alternative routes.
  • Hospital changes may have major impact on town economy.
  • More expansion of Abergavenny / Llanfoist or a new town at Raglan?
  • Dormitory town or live and work town?
  • Can we expand horticulture as an attractive local employment opportunity.
  • How productive is local farming land?
Maindiff Court future?
Maindiff plus?....... Or land not needed for more housing/development? Alternative convert into a small business park and education centre
Maindiff site itself
Starter business sites at the back of Bailey’s DIY on Brecon Road. Need to investigate current ownership and status of ex-railway workshops (no doubt listed).
The workshops back onto private gardens and houses.
Engagement with MCC planners

• Invitation to monthly meetings with Ben Terry Urban Designer and Landscape Architect on MCC planners team to look at future sites.
• A promising development.
Fighting the rising tide of plastic

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-mid-wales-42395048

Aberporth is a popular tourist destination in the summer months

A Welsh coastal village is fighting the rising tide of plastic.

Aberporth, a former fishing village in Ceredigion with a population of 1,100, has launched a crusade against single-use plastic products.

The village's general store is selling milk in glass bottles and a pub has replaced plastic drinking straws with paper ones.

A series of fund-raising activities is planned to finance a poster campaign aimed at raising awareness.

Residents launched Plastic-free Aberporth as the UK government's Environment Secretary, Michael Gove, issued his four-point plan for tackling plastic waste.

- 'Shame and anger' at plastic ocean pollution
- 'Ghost' fishing gear campaigner recognised
- The giant mass of plastic waste taking over the Caribbean

The Aberporth campaign is being led by local resident Gail Tudor, who took part in a fact-finding tour of the British coastline to see the effect discarded plastics were having on marine life and the shore earlier this year.

• Monmouth TT are drawing up a plan for Monmouth. (being discussed this month). Contact Vivien Mitchell.

• Is anyone prepared to pick up the baton for Abergavenny. FoE members are asking for ATT collaboration.

• Where to start?

Feeling of meeting:
Better campaign focus for coastal towns:
Don't go in for negative activism. ATT already very stretched in terms of volunteer commitments. Too big an issue to tackle effectively. Better to act nationally.
Farmers Markets/Local produce

- **Grosmont** – Saturday **13 January** – 10 till 2 – Wellbeing Market
- **Usk** – Saturday **20 January** – 10 till 1
- **Abergavenny** – Thursday **25 January** – 9.30 to 2.30
- **Usk** – Saturday **3 February** – 10 till 1
- **Grosmont** – Saturday **10 February** – 10 till 2
- **Usk** – Saturday **17 February** – 10 till 1

- **Note** Usk appears to be bi-weekly: any progress on moving the Abergavenny one to a better day and more regular?

Nobody at meeting had any update information on failing Abergavenny Farmer’s market.
PH to ask JUST FOOD group where things had got to, to help progress. *Food Assembly* was better for those in work but even that is struggling for some.
A.O.B


Abergavenny Hub/Town Hall: silence.

• Yes grant form had been submitted by Andy Green. Results awaited.
• Nobody had anymore news on progress for Town Hall Hub.

Meeting ended 9.15pm
NEXT MEETING February Thursday 8th 7.15pm