

Notes of Business, Employment, Transport & Infrastructure (BETI)
Focus Group



7th January 2016 at Wheal Quoit, 27 Trevaunance Road, St Agnes.

Present: Alan Clark, Roger Radcliffe, Vince Falco, Jamie Roberson (later), Mike Bunt.

Business

Roger had spoken to Stephen Horscroft who was responsible for strategy at the Economic Development Unit at Cornwall Council. Following on from this it was agreed that there was a need to align our plan with the emerging Cornwall Local Plan. (CLP)

For example: The CLP called for 1.2 jobs to be created for every new house developed.

It was agreed that it would be good if our 'plan' shared the same aspirations as the CLP.

Other points discussed were:

- The need to recognise the importance of Truro to our Parish but not to totally rely on it.
- The importance of creating traditional job workspace – especially in the home as the data gathered so far indicates that working from home is becoming more and more important.
- Roger felt there could be a need for a sort of business drop in centre where people working from home would be able to access resources and talk to other people (☺)

Roger had produced some potential business related questions for the questionnaire (See Appendix 1), these would be re-drafted to take on board the views of the group.

Mike supplied a report which detailed Feock's analysis of their business survey / questionnaire. He agreed to also produce, if possible a copy of their questionnaire. Action Mike

Roger to see Jo Pollack with regard to doing his talk to Transition St Agnes. Action Roger

Renewable Energy

There was a discussion on whether one of the aims of the NDP should be to make the Parish Carbon Neutral by encouraging renewable energy. It was noted that Avon's NDP had done this.

It was agreed that we should seek the advice of the Steering Group on these potential projects.

Roger had not yet heard back from Stephen Ford with regard to data available on renewables. Action Roger
Vince to continue his research of how other NDPs handled renewables. Action Vince

Public Transport

Alan was awaiting replies to his questions to the Passenger Transport Unit at C'Hall. Action Alan

He had also produced some draft questions for the questionnaire (see Appendix 1) for discussion, and review by the group.

He hadn't yet researched other Parishes's NDPs approach to Public Transport. Action Alan

Utilities and Communications

Alan has a meeting arranged with Toby Parkins on Monday (11/1/16) to discuss this subject. Action Alan

Vince thought the NDP might be able to set up a system whereby the Parish, as a whole, dealt with the utility companies which could lead to substantial savings.

It was resolved that access to the maps that must be produced by the different utility providers would be very useful. Alan would approach Viv Bidgood of Cormac. Action Alan

Roger agreed to approach John Allen (BEng, PhD) of MIGRID on the subject of local Power Distribution Networks that would better utilise locally produced energy.

Mike felt that the question of mobile phone reception might be important to local businesses with the introduction of modern payment techniques. It was agreed to include this subject in the questionnaire.

Footpaths, Cycle Routes and Bridleways

Due to Jamie being unable to join the meeting until very late he was unable to provide an update on his actions from the last meeting, so, all ongoing.

Action Jamie To approach Sustrans regarding available data.
To produce five draft questions for the questionnaire

He had received a letter detailing how Cornwall Council were using St Agnes in a village pilot project to encourage residents and visitors to cycle and walk more. He agreed to circulate this to the other Focus Group members by email. Action Jamie

Date of next meeting: 6pm, Thursday 28th January 2016.
At Vince's if he hasn't sold his roof!

Appendix 1

St Agnes Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

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Potential Business related questions for the proposed questionnaire:

1. Do you run a business?
2. Are you seeking to start a new business?
3. What does your business / prospective business need to grow, diversify, increase productivity, sales or create new jobs? (Choose from the list below)
 - a. Workspace
 - b. Land
 - c. Finance
 - d. Advice
 - e. Training
 - f. Plant or Equipment
 - g. Developing business collaborations
 - h. High speed Broadband
 - i. Mobile Phone Network reception
 - j. Other – Please specify.

Potential Transport related questions for the proposed questionnaire

- 1) Do you use the current local bus service and if so to which destinations?
- 2) If they were available would you use local buses to other destinations and how much are you prepared to pay for a frequent service?
- 3) If there were buses to a railway hub at Chacewater with trains to Truro, Penzance and interim stations would you use it?
- 4) Would you use a non-profit making local bus provided by the Parish and what would you be prepared to pay for it?
- 5) Where do you live, and do any of the current local bus services come close enough for you to use them?

