

**Minutes of the Rotherfold Improvement Group (RIG) v2**

**7 p.m. Tuesday 20th October**

**Venue: -Conservative Club, Totnes**

**Attending**

 Richard O’Connell (Chair) Totnes Development Trust Chair

 Ian Bright, Project Manager

 Jonathan Lee Local Resident

 Louis Victory Totnes Trust

 Andy Garner Totnes Chamber of Commerce (chair)

 Wendy Reid Totnes Gardens

 **Apologies:**  Alex Whish, Ed Vidler, David Horsburgh, Sima Cutting

**Review of Minutes from 24th September**

 Minutes were reviewed and approved

**Chairmans Report**

 The chairman welcomed everyone and in particular Andy Garner ( Chair Totnes Chamber of Commerce) and Wendy Reid (Totnes Gardens) who both requested leave to address the meeting to express some concerns that they have with the project.

**Andy Garner**

 The Totnes Chamber of Commerce had serious concerns about the proposed reduction of parking spaces shown on the Rotherfold improvement plan. The seven existing metered spaces would be reduced to five and of these one would be allocated for electric car charging and the other for car share. This only left three spaces for people wishing to ‘pop and shop’. After much discussion it was felt by all parties that a compromise could be agreed upon whereby only one car space would be lost, thus leaving 6. If this proposal is accepted by TCC the RIG will arrange to have the plans redrawn to include the new parking layout.

     1/   The cycle parking would be divided and placed onto the two build outs
        2/   Electric charging point ducting would be installed, but the actual meter installation and

 allocation of a space left until need demanded.
           3/   A shared car space will be allocated

 The Chairman to write to Chamber of Commerce with this proposal.

 **Action : - Richard O’Connell**

**Wendy Reid**

 Wendy wished to address the committee on behalf of Totnes Gardens who were concerned about the unkempt appearance of the Rotherfold flower beds.

 Jonathan Lee also expressed his concern that although a planting plan had been drawn up before the summer, including a costing, the plan had not been implemented. Subsequently the flower beds were now covered in weeds and were being used by dog walkers for benefit of their pets. He suggested that we need to raise a working party to tackle the problem. Wendy offered assistance from Totnes Gardens for this but stated that they were not prepared to take on the Rotherfold gardens on a continuous basis.

 Ian Bright was tasked with liaising with Alex Whish to set a programme in motion.

 (Since the meeting, a plan has been put forward for a group of volunteers to clear the flower beds at 12 noon on Saturday 31st October)

 **Action : - Ian Bright**

**Update on projects**

 Bench Project

 The bench sections are completed and ready for assembly. The final phases will be: -

 **29/30th October** assembly in Peter’s workshop

 **12/13th November** on site installation

Phase 2

 If the TCC approve the new proposal for parking Charlotte Rathbone will be approached to redraw the design of the build outs which will be altered to divide the cycle parking.

 There also needs to be a discussion to determine if the build out areas, which are at present owned by Devon Highways, can be transferred to SHDC. Ian Bright and Louis Victory to consult with Mike Jones highway officer and Peter Rees (Traffic Forum)

 A schedule of work required to obtain quotations is still outstanding.

 **Action: - Ian Bright, Louis Victory**

Funding

 There is approximately £40k to £50k earmarked for the Phase 2 development. Totnes Trust have expressed an interest in seeing the Rotherfold project brought to a conclusion and some more funding is a possibility if the ‘build outs’ could somehow be progressed.

 Application to SHDC for funding is underway. **Action: - Ed Vidler**

 **Rotherfold Events**

 Head in the Clouds

 An event called “Head in the Clouds was put on during the afternoon of Saturday 26th September, organised by the Rotherfold community. The purpose of the event was to raise a donation to the recent refugee crisis.

 The event was very successful and raised a total of £545-52 ( £295-52 net after event costs )

 As the event did not directly involve the RIG the selection of a suitable charity will be left to the organisers.

 Advent Windows

 Jonathan Lee reported that Ellie Stuart, a resident of the Rotherfold, has offered to organise an Advent Window project to coincide with one of the Christmas evening Markets. RIG to be kept updated.

 **Action: - Jonathan Lee**

**Publicity**

 Press release to be organised for the bench installation and Totnes Times informed.

 **Action: - Jonathan Lee**

**Next Meeting**

 **Monday 30th November Con Club 7pm**

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