



Westway Place Construction Liaison Group (CLG) – Meeting 3

Venue: Church of St Peter and St Paul, West Way, Botley, Oxford OX2 9LS

Date: 16 July 6.30 pm

Attendees: Ted Beaver, Mary Gill, Grant Nightingale, Cllr David Kay, Stephen Parkinson, Cllr Alan Stone, Lorna Berrett, Viv Smith, Caroline Potter, Cllr Judy Roberts, Cllr Dudley Hoddinott, Cllr Emily Smith, Arthur Howse, Steve Evans, Caroline Kellner

Project team attendees: David McFarlane, SP Broadway – Chair (DM); Seamus Keane, Mace (SK); Nick Hodgson, Mace (NH); Peter Sandercock, SDC (PS); Craig Millar, SDC (CM); Neil Sillitoe, SDC (NS); Tom Harbottle, SDC (TH)

Apologies: Cllr Debby Hallett

Item 1: Welcome and introductions

1.1. DM opened the meeting, and presented apologies from those who could not attend. Members of the project team and representatives of different organisations introduced themselves.

1.2. DM gave an overview of the previous Construction Liaison Group meeting on 4 June 2018 which provided a general update of the scheme, progress of the temporary retail area, demolition programme, hoarding artwork proposals, and construction traffic routes.

1.3. DM noted that since March residents had received monthly newsletter updates which summarised the construction work for Westway Place.

Item 2: General update since last meeting

2.1. SK thanked all CLG members for attending the meeting, and stressed the importance of the Liaison Group as a forum to engage and resolve issues.

2.2. SK gave an update on the works that had taken place since the meeting in June:

- Botley Baptist Church and Seacourt Hall had been demolished, and moved into their temporary locations.
- The temporary vehicle access off West Way had been completed, and confirmation was being sought from the County Council before officially opening it (date TBC).
- Branches had been relocated, and progress was being made with the fit out of their youth café.
- Chancellors' portacabin had been delivered, and was expected to open within two weeks.

2.3. SK confirmed that Peter King of Savills Property Management was the contact for the tenants and public users of the temporary retail area.

2.4. SK explained that there had been changes to parking restrictions and availability, and this would change in the future in connection with demolition. SK said any changes would be clearly signposted and communicated with residents.

2.5. NH confirmed that the parking restrictions were not enforced on Sundays, and Seacourt Hall and North Hinksey Parish Council were allocated a number of parking spaces. NH said the signs around West Way would be updated as soon as possible, with the revised parking restrictions as follows:

- The maximum length of stay is 1.5 hours, with no return within 2 hours.
- This applied between 6am and 6pm from Monday to Friday, 8am and 4pm on Saturday, with no enforcement on Sunday.

2.6. A CLG member raised the issue of school car parking, as parents often parked their car at West Way to take their children to Botley School. A CLG member said the signage was confusing, and that any further changes needed to be advertised on the signs themselves, not within the monthly update newsletter.

2.7. A CLG member raised the subject of pedestrian access during the construction works, in particular to the Co-op, Chancellors, and Seacourt Hall. Some CLG members took part in a walk around the site after the CLG.

2.8. A CLG member suggested the pedestrian access required a “*more expert eye*”. NS said that the development was “*in a transition phase*” and accepted the points raised.

2.9. A CLG member asked for weekly updates to take place, rather than the monthly updates undertaken. PS said this would be possible.

2.10. NS showed CLG members a plan of the key stages of development in relation to parking availability. A CLG member asked for this to be communicated in a dedicated update, including pedestrian access.

2.11. SK confirmed the closure of Iceland on 10 August. SK added that bike racks would be installed at the temporary retail area very soon.

Item 3: Work in the community

3.1. PS gave an overview of the Community Employment Plan (CEP). PS said the objectives of the CEP were to ensure local people, businesses, and supplies were used where possible, including providing training and apprenticeship schemes.

3.2. PS said the targets for days worked included: 25% by those with an Oxfordshire post code; 10% by those aged 18-25; 3% by apprentices; and 47% of sub-contractor work by companies within 30 miles of the development.

3.3. CM noted SDC's attendance at a CITB event in Witney, where they gave a presentation. PS said as a result a local scaffolder expressed an interest in working at West Way, and was being considered for the scaffolding at Block F.

3.4. PS explained that as part of the CEP, SDC were in contact with Matthew Arnold School, Aspire, Mencap, RAW, and Tap Social, to make all these organisations aware of employment and training opportunities. PS added that there was a meeting arranged for early August to engage with these groups.

3.5. PS added that SDC had contributed raffle prizes to Botley Boys and Girls Football Club's presentation day.

Item 4: Demolition and construction

4.1. CM gave an overview of the works taking place:

- The soft strip of units within the Shopping Centre was underway.
- Asbestos was being removed.
- The Baptist Church had been demolished, and the ensuing works for Block B were set to start in three weeks.
- Piling rigs would be arriving in late August / early September (this will be communicated when an exact date is established).

Item 5: General Questions

5.1. A CLG member asked for contact details to be better advertised, as they were not on the July newsletter.

5.2. A CLG member suggested phone coverage had worsened following the relocation of the mast. SK said this should not be the case, and agreed to look into the quality of the coverage.

5.3. A CLG member asked about the longevity of the temporary crossing. It was confirmed this would be in place for approximately one year.

5.4. A CLG member asked about the use of the second floor of Block F. SK confirmed that the space had not yet been let, but that it was not intended to be a "*free space*". SK added that Block F would likely be completed around October / November 2019.

Item 6: Next steps and future engagement

- 1) The next CLG to be held in August 2018 (Monday 20 August was agreed).
- 2) The next CLG to be held in SDC's offices (above Botley Library).
- 3) Updates to be sent on a weekly basis.