

Cyngor Tref
Rhuddlan
Town Council

Rhuddlan Town Council – Minutes of the Special Active Travel Plan meeting held on 2nd July 2024

Hybrid Meeting

Present:

Cllr Mike Elgin (Chair)
Cllr Val Simmons (Mayor)
Cllr Jackie Burnham (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Mike Kermode
Cllr Arwel Roberts
Cllr Gareth Rowlands
Steve Wilson (Town Clerk)
Ben Wilcox-Jones and Rebecca Musgrove (DCC)
Sophie Lloyd, Thaisa Wells and Patrick Williams (Sustrans via Zoom)

1. Apologies

Cllr Bleddyn Williams
Paul Smith (Assistant Clerk)

2. Declarations of Interest

None given

3. Key Points

Ben Wilcox-Jones gave councillors a summary of work done to date including consultations. He stated that the amount of feedback and quality of the feedback had been very good and has helped them to develop further proposals that will be consulted on. He explained the new proposals which included elements of the previous 6 proposals and reiterated they are only focusing on the school part of the 76-page active travel plan.

Discussions took place regarding lighting and resurfacing the privately owned alleyway, different options for one way traffic routes, the importance of engaging with the school, pupils, parents as well as local residents, use of buses, pedestrian crossings at Abbey Road and Rhyl Road to link up with the new Admiral's Field path and the state of pavements around the school.

A member asked whether the costs involved could be justified because only a small proportion of pupils walk to school and nearly half of pupils do not live in Rhuddlan. Ben explained that the objectives are multi-faceted to include safety and infrastructure improvements in addition to encouraging active travel and would also need education, training and publicity to succeed. He stated it should benefit the area as a whole, Patrick added it is a change of behaviour and how important engagement was in this need to educate people about active travel.

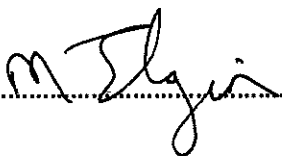
Patrick gave a summary of feedback from the school consultations and stated he will send out the specific pupil feedback out at a later date.

It was generally agreed that the project would not get consensus from everyone but that it must move forward.

Ben explained the next steps which start with a phase 2 consultation in Autumn 2024. This will include classroom sessions at the school, after-school workshops at the school gate and a public consultation in the large room at the Community Centre. It was agreed there must be sufficient staff to allow all residents to participate, that a presentation would be good and maybe other rooms in the Community Centre can be used for that. Publicity will be done using a leaflet drop, stakeholder emails and appropriate press releases. Ben stated they had learnt the lessons from the consultations that took place previously.

Timescales were clarified; after post-Autumn consultations the detailed designs would be done to enable applications for funding in 2025/2026. Construction and implementation of the first phase of active travel improvements would be 2026/2027.

Ben showed that he was clearly committed to delivering this project and that he and the team will take account of relevant feedback.

Signed.......... Cllr Mike Elgin