

Subject: Socio-Economic Impact Task Group Meeting

Author: Lisa Marshall

Date: 3rd December 2014

Location: Gwynedd Council Offices, Dolgellau

Present: Lisa Marshall (GC)
Peter Cole (FFC)
Phil Parker (FFC)
Hugh Harrison (FFC)

Apologies: Cefin Edwards (GC)
Margaret Jones (GC)
Louise Hughes (GC)
Sylvia Stephenson (FFC)
Louise Pennington (NRW)

Copy: Fairbourne Project Board

Item No	Action	By who	Date
1	Apologies received from Cefin Edwards, Margaret Jones, Louise Hughes, Sylvia Stephenson and Louise Pennington.		
2	<p>Evidence from local businesses that they are having orders and contracts cancelled for work to be undertaken locally as residents and homeowners are not investing so heavily in their homes in light of the adverse comments in the media.</p> <p>FFC stated that it would be really helpful if GC could draft a letter stating the actual facts about the SMP and referring to the letter which will be printed by the Cambrian News, stating the 40 year position for the village and referring to the Planning Advice Note (produced by Nia Davies – GC for the Property Values Task/Finish Group). This could then be circulated by FFC to those companies who have previously written to FFC stating they have had orders/contracts cancelled in view of the erroneous information in the press.</p> <p>This task will now be completed as part of the <i>Research in to the effect SMP2 has had and will have on the economy and people of Fairbourne</i>. Funding for this project has been requested from WG – awaiting result.</p>	LM	Update at next meeting
3	The Cost of Care: Following the factsheet produced by Margaret Jones from GC Social Services and the recent Public Information Event, the message of 'being entitled to <i>what you need</i> ' is largely understood.	MKJ	By next meeting

	<p>However, in the recent event the query was raised as to what happens if you can't sell your house to pay for care? (assuming you do not meet the means-tested criteria). Is there a large bill that accrues against your estate and does this debt (c/w interest – what is the interest rate?) transfer to the beneficiaries of your Will, for them to pay? Also, what is the situation if you die in probate?</p> <p>Could Margaret Jones please clarify.</p>		
4	<p>Queries should be raised with those who manage transportation infrastructure as well as utilities companies to discuss their Business Plan/Investment Plan for Fairbourne to ensure that the community continues to be supported and that, eg, roads/power lines etc will continue to be maintained and upgraded. This will be raised at Project Board level in the event that other organisations such as Welsh Water, Network Rail etc are involved as a stakeholder, within the project.</p> <p>GC have a meeting with Network Rail towards the end of September 2014; they will also be invited to the Project Board Meeting.</p> <p>PC referred to FAQ 6 and what HTL actually means for the railway. This has been discussed at Project Board level, however, PC emphasised the requirement for clarification; is HTL a conscious decision arising from the SMP2 or a default position?</p> <p>PC outlined the relevance and importance of the Cambrian Coast Line to the future economic viability of the area.</p> <p>PC has subsequently received a letter from Edwina Hart, via AM Rebecca Evans and also Network Rail direct, in relation to the future funding of the Cambrian Coast Line. These were discussed at the meeting however, it was felt that the item be discussed in greater depth at the Project Board Meeting. All present concurred with this.</p>		
5	<p>Buy to Let Scheme: This was an extremely popular topic of conversation at the recent Public Information Event. Feedback was very positive however, many residents seemed to think that this scheme was already in operation. LM reiterated that it was purely a feasibility project at this stage for which we are awaiting funding to</p>	LM	Ongoing

	<p>deliver.</p> <p>The feasibility project has to be undertaken to ascertain interest in the scheme from both the community and possible organisations who would be interested in investing in such an opportunity. The project would also need to explore options as to how the scheme would operate, the condition of the potential housing stock and their values respectively.</p> <p>An update relating to funding of this project will be available in January 2015.</p>		
6	<p>Date of next meeting: at Dolgellau offices; <i>time to be confirmed.</i></p>		