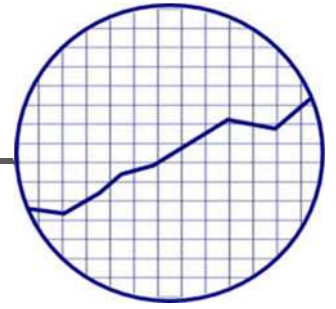


Meeting Notes



Economic Development in South East Cornwall

26 March 2024 7pm by Zoom

Hosted by Menheniot Parish Council for South East Cornwall Community Area Partnership

Our theme for this meeting will be

How do we prepare to encourage our stakeholders to engage with the CC consultation to develop a new economic strategy? This means identifying the current and potential business leaders and influencers in our parishes, and agreeing a way in which we can persuade them to participate in the consultation. Individual Neighbourhood Plans (or vision statements) will be our starting point.

SEC ED Summary

This document summarises the Vitality Index for south-east Cornwall and extracts a map from the Department for Business & Trade showing international investors what opportunities there are to invest in south-east England.

https://www.menheniotparish.org.uk/data/uploads/2209_643904217.pdf

	Topic	Links
1	Welcome, Introductions & Apologies	See below
2	Meeting Notes 23 Jan 2024	https://tinyurl.com/3buee26w
3	<p>Updates from meeting David Rodda (CC Economic Growth Manager) (25 Jan 2024) and Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting 27 Feb 2024.</p> <p>AC reported that DR strongly encouraged the EDWG to engage with the consultation, in whatever way the group felt would be most effective. There is no template for responding and at the moment, no briefing available for the consultants commissioned to carry out the work. The OSC meeting accepted the Investment Document and announced the start of the consultation that will eventually replace the CIOS Vision Plan.</p> <p>In the meeting with DR, he emphasised the higher than average numbers of self employed people who did not appear in official statistics - need to find a way to engage with this group.</p> <p>Importance economically of the A38 and the adverse impact of tolls on the Tamar Bridge.</p>	<p>OSC Strategic Economic Investment Document</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/dbk7mn63</p>

	<p>The Town Centre Vitality Index is a common measure for making comparisons across the county. Use it to support your arguments.</p> <p>Unity of message from the SEC CAP important to be consistent in what you say.</p> <p>Call for Sites – make sure your councils take part in order to identify suitable sites for housing and employment. Talk to your business community.</p> <p>Importance of housing driving economic growth, and increase in numbers of people now working from home and running a business. How can you make this easier?</p> <p>Importance of reaching out to small businesses operating at just below the VAT registration level and identifying ways to support their transition to registration.</p> <p>Suggests that each parish carried out a SWOT analysis. (see 7 below)</p> <p>CM & RB: Vitality Index – the numbers don't give a true picture of Saltash.</p> <p>KS: Can we find out how much of the shared prosperity fund has come into south-east Cornwall.</p> <p>CM: can we look at these indices as the effects of deprivation and not a cause? Do they help identify the causes of deprivation?</p> <p>On 20 March 2024, we received a note that DR had been seconded to Truro City Council for 6 months and was no longer in post as CC Economic Growth Manager. No replacement announced yet.</p>	<p>Know Your Area (includes Vitality Index) https://tinyurl.com/3m38tw8v</p> <p>Adam Birchall PowerPoint Call for Sites https://tinyurl.com/hy3jkktw</p> <p>Federation of Small Businesses view https://tinyurl.com/2dybyfy3</p> <p>CC VI FAQs https://tinyurl.com/5n6kv77w</p> <p>CIOS Growth Programme Library https://tinyurl.com/dspxp8kr</p>
4	<p>Summary of key economic objectives from Neighbourhood Plans Looe</p> <p>JL: we have set up a steering group to examine opportunities for business growth in the town. As part of this, we have established a business learning hub next to the library at Millpool.</p> <p>We would like to see changes to make planning consent more flexible when considering change of use so that buildings can be repurposed more easily. We started a consultation with our business community in February. Our neighbourhood plan includes projects to encourage economic development, employment and tourism. We have a continuing problem of developers submitting planning applications that do not support the aims of the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Saltash</p>	<p>Looe Neighbourhood Plan https://tinyurl.com/5yubenkz</p> <p>Saltash Waterside Consultation</p>

	<p>RB: We are identifying strategic priorities in a new business plan for the council. Difficult for town councils to drive the changes we need because of lack of resources.</p> <p>Torpoint GD: is delivering on a 10 year strategy from 2022.</p>	<p>https://tinyurl.com/2a9w96zk</p> <p>Torpoint Strategy https://tinyurl.com/29ds39b6</p>
5	<p>Identifying opportunities linked to the Call for Sites programme that will include housing and employment. KS: because of their local knowledge, town and parish councils are uniquely placed to identify suitable sites, and should take this opportunity to reach out to their business and wider community. AC: Menheniot has already held such meetings with the local branch of the NFU to map out changes in agricultural production and distribution.</p> <p>Call for Sites consultation closes Monday 22 April 2024 An opportunity for members of the EDWG to identify potential sites for housing and employment.</p> <p>CM: always an issue between the need for houses and lack of infrastructure. JL: Concerns about the length of time that properties managed by Cornwall Housing are left empty between tenants: would help local housing needs if this could be speeded up. JS: need to get social and affordable housing sorted out so that local people can live locally to provide the workforce needed to drive growth. CM: disparity between the relative ease of granting planning consent for holiday homes/parks and the higher (sustainable) standards needed for permanent housing.</p>	<p>CC Call for Sites contact https://tinyurl.com/mpmx6t53</p>
6	<p>6 Engaging with small/growing businesses and other stakeholders. AC: Renewable energy (as an industry suitable for Cornwall) ignored by central government. KS: my experience is that CC needs to plan further ahead to provide more renewable energy for when oil supplies are no longer available. We need a professional assessment of what business Cornwall should be attracting nationally and internationally.</p> <p>AC: what is the brief that has been given to the consultants?</p> <p>CT: advise you to focus on south-east Cornwall and not duplicate what other parts of CC are involved in. Information is available if you want it.</p> <p>CM: what is unique and attractive about our area such that investors would choose us and not another part of the county or country.</p>	

	<p>KS: Investors will be attracted to parts of the county that can provide funding; premises; business support. West Cornwall has travel connections; capacity; support networks; mentoring schemes; places where businesses can meet and exchange ideas. Oven-ready projects get funded in the west. We need to learn from them how they became successful.</p> <p>AC: How to engage effectively? Workshops? Business hubs? Public meetings?</p> <p>KS: businesses with potential do not have the capacity to attend meetings. ECTA has 500 members and understands the problems facing small businesses. Suggests a small survey of 2-3 simple questions that councillors (and councils) ask of their community – not one big meeting that everyone is invited to. <i>Ask: what are the barriers to business growth?</i></p> <p>SM: our Chambers of Commerce do not include all businesses – we need to reach out and get out to speak with them, not just the shops in Fore Street.</p> <p>KS: CC can provide lists of people paying business rates as a starting point. This will not include people working from home or a van. Emphasises the need to meet people personally.</p> <p>AC: Currently talking with the Federation of Small Businesses, but also aware that many small businesses do not join formal groups like the FSB.</p> <p>JS: can every CAP member carry out a SWOT analysis?</p>	
7	<p>Summary of actions</p> <p>Form a project group to agree questions and promote them to SEC CAP members.</p> <p>Promote the Call for Sites</p> <p>SWOT analysis</p> <p>AC will link up with Transport Group and coordinate actions</p>	
8	Date of next meeting TBA	

Attending

Cllr Adrian Cole – Menheniot Parish Council
 Cllr David Heard – Lanreath Parish Council
 Cllr Gary Davies – Torpoint Town Council
 Cllr James Lundy – Looe Town Council
 Cllr Jill Spicer - St Martin by Looe Parish Council
 Cllr Kevin Shovelton – St Keyne & Trewidland Parish Council
 Cllr Richard Bickford – Saltash Town Council
 Cllr Sarah Martin – Saltash Town Council
 Cllr Sean Jackson – Dobwalls Parish Council
 Kim Spicer - SECTA

Apologies

Cornwall Cllr Jane Pascoe – Member for Liskeard South & Dobwalls and Chair of SEC CAP

Cornwall Cllr Kate Ewert - Member for Rame Peninsula & St Germans

Cllr Simon Cassidy – Liskeard Town Council

Also in attendance

John Hesketh – Clerk to Menheniot Parish Council

Catherine Thompson – Community Link Officer CAP

Abbreviations

CAP Community Area Partnership

CC Cornwall Council

CLP Cornwall Local Plan

ED Economic Development

LEP Local Enterprise Partnership

NDP Neighbourhood Development Plan

OFLOG Office for Local Government

OSC Economic Growth & Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee

SEC South East Cornwall

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