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Local Economy & Place Policy Development Advisory Group **7 FEBRUARY 2024**

Present: Councillors: Ruth Fletcher (Chair), Mark Baynham, Jon Campbell, Paul Clarke, Nigel Emery, Tony Hogben, Alex Jeffery, Joanne Knowles, Richard Landeryou, Colin Minto and John Trollope

Also Present: Councillor: Dennis Livingstone

23 **NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The notes of the meeting on 6 November 2023 were received.

24 **BISHOPRIC AND CARFAX PUBLIC REALM SCHEMES**

The Cabinet Member for Local Economy & Place advised the Group that a presentation would be given by Pick Everard, who had worked on the design stage for the public realm improvements in the Carfax, Bishopric and Worthing Road.

The representatives from Pick Everard gave a comprehensive presentation that included the design objectives, programme overview, design principles and ideas. There was a focus on how the spaces would be used, including for markets, seating, and cycling. The use of nature and biodiversity, as well as public artwork, was also presented.

The Group showed support for the design principles in general. Members discussed the cycle routes within the design proposals. It was suggested that the width of the cycle lanes be reviewed, to ensure that they were wide enough for cyclists to use safely. The Group also discussed how cycle routes would be connected to main road networks, and how safety for pedestrians can be ensured. It was confirmed that more detailed work was required, and consultation would take place with West Sussex County Council. Comments from the Cycle Forum had been received and incorporated, where possible. The Group also discussed being mindful of the balance between pedestrian and cyclist use. The use of CCTV at bike storage locations was also explored.

The Group acknowledged that the availability of lay-bys for car users, supported local businesses and offered accessible shopping for many car users. Wayfinding was also highlighted as an important element of the design proposals.

It was highlighted that consultation with businesses located within the areas affected would be undertaken, which would include the consideration of the space required for licences for outdoor dining.

The Group also discussed accessibility concerns in relation to the cobbles, and opportunities to install lighting that could be utilised for events in the town.

The Cabinet Member requested that any further comments that Members may have, should be shared. The Group were informed that the proposals for the next RIBA stage would be presented to the PDAG and the consultation would take place with local stakeholders and the relevant statutory bodies.

25 **FORWARD PLAN EXTRACT FOR THE LOCAL ECONOMY & PLACE PORTFOLIO**

The Forward Plan extract was noted.

The meeting closed at 6.54 pm having commenced at 5.30 pm

CHAIRMAN