Minutes from Ryde Regeneration Working Group

Meeting held on Monday 16 May 2022 at 6pm

at Ryde Methodist Church, Garfield Road, Ryde, PO33 2PT

In attendance:

Jenny Wade – The Ryde Society (RRWG Chairman)
Helen Keogan - The Ryde Society
Cllr Malcolm Ross – Ryde Town Council
Cllr John McLagan – Ryde Town Council
Zoe Thompson - Ryde Business Association (part)
Cllr Phil Jordan - IWC

David Newton – Strategic Manager Transport and Regeneration, Isle of Wight

Chris Ashman - Director of Regeneration, Isle of Wight Council

Liz Dutton – RTC (minutes)

1	Welcome and Introductions – All
2	Apologies – JW (Chair) Apologies were received Julie Jones Evans.
3	Declarations of Interest – JW (Chair) None declared.
4	Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 21 March 2022 – JW (Chair) The minutes of the meeting held on the 21 March 2022 were agreed. Menzies shed on the existing site still needed to be actioned. Future use of building had yet to be identified Chris – to follow up with Tracy Savage from IOW CCG – still to do
5	 Chris reported on a successful event held on Saturday 14 May – Celebrating Ryde – with the Town Council. Provided an opportunity for residents to give feedback on the Interchange and was a useful tool for continued communication with the community. Ian Boyd (ARC) would be using feedback received in the review and update of the Place Plan. Chris confirmed that there would be mop up session with RTC where comments from this meeting including those relating to invitations not being received, day and time and clashes with other events would be considered along with ideas for the future and how the concept could be developed. Phil reminded the meeting that the event was combined with RTC's Annual Town Meeting.

6 Ryde Interchange (David Newton)

- David gave an update on the progress of the Interchange site.
- He reported there had been progress with rose gardens albeit slow, but it should be ready in the next few weeks.
- The Cycle path would be ready in a few months.
- The big trees outside the rose garden would be retained.
- Planters and other ways to soften the view of parts of the interchange site were being investigated.
- Demolition of the toilet block would take place once the new ones had been installed towards the end of May.
- Design work for the station was underway and achieving a balance between heritage and a more modern look were being investigated.
- An update was given regarding community involvement including gardening groups and facilities may be available to allow those groups to have base.
- Planning applications for the area around the station were currently being considered, allowing for the public to have an input. David acknowledged that expectations would need to be managed.
- David explained that the demolition of the current café and toilets would take
 a couple of weeks and the impact of traffic flow on and off the pier would be
 monitored with a new access road planned.
- Festival buses would be relocated to a different area for this year.
- It was recognised that communication and getting the correct message across was key.

7 Ryde Roads/Junction Workshop (Chris Ashman)

- A written report was circulated regarding 2 workshops that had taken place in November 21 and February 22. Key points had been noted and would be translated into a prospectus for planning applications and form the basis of any future planning agreement. Feedback would be shared with the community
- It was noted that there were issues around parking around schools at drop off and particularly at pick up times. Chris advised that this would be considered as part of the Place Plan review and that a traffic assessment for these areas were overdue.
- The working group were asked for any further points to be emailed by the end
 of the month to Chris.

8 Western Gardens – Replacement Café/Markets (John McLagan)

- A future vision for Western Gardens was discussed including the possibility of having a small number of commercial units available and a market to maximise the usage of the space and increase footfall around that area.
- David suggested a licencing agreement could be negotiated around a certain number of weeks. It was agreed the area was not currently used to its maximum potential and better use would link this to nearby areas.
- A commission of the area was due to be completed in July and this would provide information for consultation and engagement work to take place to form the basis of grant funding applications.

9. Pennyfeathers (reserved matters appln) RTC meeting 26 April (Jenny Wade)

Jenny gave an update on the application and discussion at a recent RTC planning committee meeting. There had been a good attendance of both public and councillors. The outcome was that considerable work still needed to be done by the applicant and the application should be returned to the developers for further discussion and to fully engage with the community.

10. HAZ Update (Chris Ashman)

- There was no further update. The group wished Sally well for the future. It was acknowledged that finding a replacement 2 years in of a 4-year project would be difficult. Martin Gibson would now oversee both HAZ projects and 2 assistants had been appointed to assist him. One for Ryde and one for Newport. Their names would be disclosed at the next RRWG meeting in July '22.
- Members of the group (RBA) felt that communicating through Hampshire resulted in gaps in information and had negatively impacted on the project. It was felt that the Island could learn and gain information from other authorities in relation to methods of paving and different kinds of surfacing that could be used. Chris acknowledged that methods of transferring information could be improved, and a culture shift would help with that.
- Chris updated the meeting regarding levelling up funding and the bid for Ryde.

11. Updates

Bandstands and Flag Project

The banners would be in place very shortly. No update regarding bandstands.

AEW Building

There was no update

Ryde Marina

New office installed and now open – working well. New banners to be installed before end of the month.

Place Plan

A review lan Boyd would begin shortly.

Any Other Business

- Terms of Reference to be reviewed at the next meeting.
- Electing new chair rotation of chair back to RBA Michael Salmon would chair the meetings from July 2022. (Zoe if Michael unavailable)

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 18^h July 2022 at 6pm and will be held at the Ryde Methodist Church, Garfield Road, Ryde, PO33 2PT.