

Present:

WG - Sam Hadley, John Travis, Chris Warner

TFW – Lee Robinson, Tracy Kearns

Llanbedr Community Council – Eirwyn Thomas, Morfudd Lloyd, Louise Vassey

Pobl group – Jane Taylor-Williams, Lucy Powell, Wynn Hammond

Gwynedd County Council – Iwan ap Trefor, Llinos Angharad Jones

Location : Victoria Inn, Llanbedr, Gwynedd

SH: Deputy Minister unable to attend but WG wanted to understand traffic challenges first hand, albeit it not holiday season so that they can discuss tangible things with the Deputy Minister.

CW: Good to see the lay of the land and to understand progress to date. Next month Welsh Government will be asking LAs to submit grant funding apps for 2024 so it is a good opportunity to look at what may be applied for next year.

LAJ: Produced printout of key dates for WeITAG: not full programme. Working with WSP who have set out timetable to June. There will be a written update in April and then a workshop to look at the shortlist with wrap up by June.

IaT: May be a chance to amend the dates slightly.

LR: Asked for a spend profile for the £300k funding.

IaT: Agreed to provide the profile.

LAJ: Decided on 3 quick wins. No1 quick win is providing shelters for the 2 bus stops by the Vic and Hafan Artro.

- Both sites investigated.
- Some surveys undertaken.
- Water course near Hafan Artro being investigated.
- YGC are suggesting that wood shelters should be used.

JTW: Be careful with solid structures at Hafan Artro as visibility on egress onto the main road from the side road is an issue.

LR: Same location as existing stops?

IaT: No other proposed locations at present. Will be putting a shelter where the benches are around the corner.

JTW: Needs to be more signage for bus stops as that is a blind spot issue too.

LR: Something similar to Sherpa so that there is a common feel across the national park?

LAJ: Yes, same as Sherpa but just on T2 network.

LAJ: No2 quick win: repaint current road markings in the village.

LAJ: No3 quick win : upgrade lighting in the park.

LR: Speak to Conwy council as they've had similar issues in Dolgarrog.

JTW: Why does lighting stop in the middle of the park?

laT: 12yr old solar lights to be replaced.

SH: What is being considered in WeITAG.

laT: Longlist of options – will be looking at the community's ideas along with the low speed relief road and other improvements including the station.

JT: Does everything require WeITAG? There is a WeITAG light for small things.

laT: Would be packages of small measures which would therefore be substantial.

WH: Are council considering original less intrusive small relief road?

laT: Not off the table.

JTW: Does WeITAG 2 have to wait until WeITAG 1 is completed?

laT: Have to go through WeITAG1 to get shortlist for WeITAG 2. Next years bid will be for WeITAG 2. Will have ideas on how to move forward when that is complete. Additional time for WeITAG is approx 1 year.

LR: Could Gwyn from WSP look at what needs to go through WeITAG 2 and what could be WeITAG light?

JT: No need to put everything through WeITAG 2.

laT: TFW did that a while ago and Gwynedd are implementing them this year.

LR: Thinking about e.g. active travel route and station over the river, does that need WeITAG?

laT: No – but we aren't looking at that as a standalone. Looking at Llanbedr as a whole.

CW: We might be able to break that down and get TfW's transport planners to look at it.

SH: Need open conversation about what we think could come out of WeITAG. We did a walkabout and need a station shelter, bike storage and a walkway down there. Parking on the main road is another issue.

WH: Cars are used to protect people.

LP: People will speed if there is a clear 2-way A road despite a 20mph limit. The main concern is road safety that's what the community council and Pobl are concerned about. What safety measures can be implemented for future generations and to encourage older generations out of homes in the summer because it's safe?

SH: Feels like there is an opportunity to do some safe walking routes. Need to just do it.

LP: Tourism is vital to the village. Lots of walkers/ cycling/ kayaks. Can't provide what they need. Opportunity for village to be an exemplar for the rest of the coast.

SH: Need to be less linear with a formal role for the community within WeITAG.

JT: WeITAG is about doing the thinking in a more agile fashion.

JTW: Pub owns the only car park and they don't want houses with multiple cars using that if they aren't customers.

laT: There will be tough choices. Need to make sure things fit together.

JTW: What are tough choices?

IaT: Reducing parking on street.

WH: Can we look at where the bus stops are? Buses stopping more frequently will cause more holdups at current locations. Could they divert towards the school and loop back which they did years ago?

LP: Putting shelters where the current stops are is just a sticking plaster.

IaT: That's why we don't want to push it too soon.

JTW: Wouldn't it be good to engage sooner?

LAJ: Community engagement is part of WeITAG.

LP: Survey only looked at selected quick wins. Wasn't as diverse as it should have been. Missing a trick by not communicating with the community who live the problem. That could help GCC so much more.

IaT: Programme and timeframes are for a combined vision .

LR: Building on what Sam said, understanding the package idea, could we not take some obvious elements out e.g. station improvement and active travel routes?

SH: Don't let bypass stop access to station. Also, should look at building a sustainable car park for local residents. WeITAG is the place for the big stuff.

JTW: A landowner is willing to sell at the north end of the village and create residents parking and a footpath to station.

IaT: If that comes out of WeITAG, can work on them in the background. Land conveyancing can be an issue for active travel routes.

LR: Gwyn at WSP is pulling it together. Community has ideas – why not get together with Gwyn early doors?

IaT: YGC also working on it and look at options.

LR: An informal discussion with YGC and WSP then ahead of the timetabled meetings?

IaT: Dec is Christmas, Jan GCC will be putting bids in with WSP and YGC

LP: If a meeting can be fitted in, could they do a prelim?

LR: Understand time and resource pressures, but would that not feed into bids so don't GCC need to know what goes in?

IaT: Just WeITAG 2 further development work?

SH: If the Deputy Minister was here, he would be frustrated that nothing will have happened in over a year.

LR: Could we not pull out station and active travel separately, plus some access for residents' parking?

WH: Can you compulsory purchase land?

LR: Yes but it is lengthy process and therefore willing landowners are preferable.

LP: If it's open, landowners more likely to be willing. Need transparency to get community on board.

LR: There is a wider public sector to support GCC. Can we get support to focus on smaller bits?

SH: Opportunity to provide Llanbedr as a sustainable walkway station in a lovely walk across the river. Could be a kickstart to the village.

ML: Barriers and shelters proposals for the station have been scrapped.

LR: We can look at those.

SH: They need renewal eventually and could maybe look to reprioritise.

ET: Route proposed is questionable as it leads to the bridge. Dafydd Wynn suggested looking at car parking behind the shops and a pathway from the river landing there instead to egress in the middle of the village. Village needs better access from the station. If pub car park gets closed, people won't stop in the village.

WH: Homes are holiday homes with multiple cars pitching up and parking at the pub.

ML: Children used to be picked up outside the public toilets with buses turning at the cymdeithas but they are now waiting in the rain opposite the pub .

LR: Do Pobl want to share some things they are looking for@

ML: Safe routes to school went part way through the park years ago.

IaT: Part of quick wins is to replace the existing but not to go beyond that until you get to WeITAG.

ML: It's not safe for kids to walk across field in the dark.

LP: Need to think of a logical safe route not just what's in place.

JTW: Disabled residents cannot come into the village as the road isn't safe, therefore they are isolated. Emergency services grateful for parked cars for traffic calming.

WH: Can't get 2 vehicles across bridge so they go onto the path at present

LP: Mobility scooters/ double buggies can't get over bridge and path.

ML: CADW won't allow a cantilever to the listed bridge.

JTW: Things need to move quickly. People do travel by car. We have the biggest campsite in Europe. Traffic is getting worse. Airfield busier and that will get worse when coaches start arriving at the Space Centre. Manchester University regularly use the airfield for flying drones and one coach driver refused to go down the road so they had to walk from the village.

LR: Thank you for contributing. Key points:

- Separate meeting needed to review scope earlier than Feb with county to align with funding cycles.
- Identify non-negotiables that we want to do anyway and separate them out from the WeITAG process.
- TFW to pick up rail shelter, barriers and bike racks.

ET: Had meeting with Llinos and Dafydd Wynn. Have the details been shared?

IaT: Shared with the consultants.

LR: Can we see output from the meeting with the community council? Gwyn is not under the same time pressure.

IaT: We can ask if Gwyn can come earlier.

LR: Llanbedr should have a meeting with Gwyn to get an overview.

Strip out these from the WeITAG:

- Carpark.
- Station access
- Safe route to school
- Station barriers, bike store and shelter

Then determine who out runs the projects and moves them forwards.

ET: If we are looking at the car park, should we look at the link from the relief road?

CW : Got to make WeITAG process work for us. There has to be a proper process for relief roads but other things can be done separately which then strengthen the business case for the relief road.

Meeting closed