

St Just in Roseland Parish: the Way Forward

Shops and General Provisions Working Group (WG):

Notes on Meeting of 18th October 2024

Present at the meeting:

Andy Fordham - Chair, Jeannie Cornhill, Nigel Potter, David Gradwell, Hilary Wordley

Apologies:

Christopher Harrison, Ruth Clarke, Sara Badman, Alan Macklin

Introductions were made for those not previously attending the WG. The Chair explained the desired outcome of the meeting: to offer subjects for inclusion in phase 2 of consultation with the public in some form of presentation, hopefully next month.

The Group looked at the Survey results, both the demographic introduction, and the shop-specific section.

There was clarification about the idea of a 'Logo sticker', to the extent that it was generally felt to be a good idea.

The Loyalty Card was felt to be difficult to set up and manage throughout the village as a whole; how should one set eligibility and rewards? It is perhaps more of a shop-specific scheme.

(The Group noted the comments from the public which suggested that both a Logo and Loyalty Card might be viewed as divisive, although the Group did not agree).

There was a discussion on the merits of a Farmers' Market (FM): Points raised included the idea that it would draw people into the village, that with local suppliers and traders on board it would contribute to a more sustainable food network with fewer food miles involved, and that in time it would become a valued social occasion. The second point was seen as a particular bonus for the younger generation, who are perhaps more conscious of this, and whose participation in local shopping is harder to encourage. Generally, there was enthusiasm for taking the idea of a FM forward to phase 2; however, there must be protection for existing retailers and an adherence to the idea that it should be produce, not crafts. A number of public comments supported this.

Under the umbrella of the survey question about changing shopping habits, there was a general discussion about the objective of the Shops WG and what was felt realistically could be done to help secure the future viability of the 'essential' shops. This linked into the Map; it was felt that a 'prospectus' for visitors to be left in holiday cottages was good idea; also that a map be put up in the village. (It was noted that there is actually one in the Square already, though it is not a 'directory', more of a general view). There is also a map produced

by the Roseland Visitors' Centre, which covers the whole of the peninsula for the tourist. It was felt that squeezing both St Mawes and St Just in detail onto one document doesn't work terribly well, but the idea that both should be covered was accepted, if more work is needed on how to achieve this.

In summary, then, the following are our ideas for taking forward into the next phase:

1. A Logo sticker for shops with a suitable phrase to establish the idea of keeping it local.
2. A sheet for the 'welcome pack' in holiday cottages. (Hilary agreed to take the lead on this)
3. Exploration of the feasibility of setting up a Farmers' Market on the Quay
4. Further work to produce a suitable Map to show what's on offer.

Once the CG has met and determined what happens next, we can look at meeting again and how we present these ideas.

Andy Fordham

Chair

Shops and General Provisions Working group