

[Minutes typed by Samantha Sugden]

Havre Des Pas Improvement Group

Lido 6/4/22

Chair: Deputy Labey

Apologies were received from

Deputy Wickenden

Deputy Martin

Constable Crowcroft

Deputy Labey offered an introduction and welcome to Senator Sam Mezec

1. Minutes of the Previous meeting were approved, pending clarification of the date for the Parish in Bloom meeting

2. Matters arising

Residents noted that the original plan for the improvement to Havre des Pas depicted seven raised table areas, but only three were delivered. Residents queried whether the raised table in front of the Oomaroo would be installed as a pedestrian crossing of some sort.

3. Presentation by Infrastructure department

This item was carried forward as the department did not attend counter to expectations

Action: Invitation to be extended to the Infrastructure for a future meeting

4. Andium Development Green Street.

Darren, Project Manager for Capital Projects

Darren offered an update on the development and circulated an aerial photo which demonstrated the scale of the site. Work started summer 2019 and was due to finish in the summer of 2023 but is currently ahead of schedule and may have people moving in during spring 2023

The significant demand for housing is widely acknowledged and the development will make a real contribution. It offers 147 mixed size units, comprising 60 one bed, 75 two bed and 10 three bed. The accommodation will be accessible for people with disabilities and allocation of the units to residents will start Q4 in 2022

Residents queried parking issues, noting that at the onset of the scheme residents asked for increased parking. Andium have noted this requirement and encountered a barrier with planning who are currently placing an obligation that parking is only for residents. This will be challenged. The development includes around 200 spaces and data suggests that only 60% of residents will

require a parking space – therefore there will be additional capacity which can be rented out. Some residents were dubious about this calculation and expressed frustration at parking issues and the attitude of planning to this issue.

Darren was able to confirm that the shortage of parking spaces for the old high-rises was considered in the plans.

Darren also explained that Andium are currently liaising with groups regarding the community space and considering ideas on how it can be used. No decisions have been made HDP improvement group may also wish to use the space.

4. Liberty bus and concerns regarding Green Street. Kevin Hart

Residents expressed significant concerns regarding buses on Green Street. They explained that the street is not wide enough to cope with the bus service and it is a common place, daily occurrence to see buses mounting the pavement – this occurred particularly when two buses have to pass one another in Green Street. Residents were at pains to stress to Liberty Bus the danger that this causes for pedestrians and were shocked that Liberty Bus would consider this appropriate. In addition to these dangers, pavements are being broken by buses mounting the pavements.

During this extended discussion residents cited incidents where Liberty Bus Drivers have been uncivil to pedestrians and other road users and an incident where a resident's cat had been runover and killed by a Liberty bus. Residents were not satisfied with the actions of the driver or by the response they had received when raising complaints regarding this incident with Liberty Bus. Kevin assured the group that complaints were taken seriously and urged resident to report incidents to Liberty Bus, and that such complaints could be signalled for his attention. (Info@libertybus.je)

Kevin suggested that the frequency of the bus service means it is inevitable that two busses will meet and given the width of the road that the pavement will have to be used – this is also the case with other routes in Jersey's narrow roads and is inevitable.

Residents proposed solutions whereby the current reroute to Pier Road seems successful and could be maintained. Kevin suggested that there would be complaints and that people tended to react badly to changes to the bus route. For some people walking the length of Green Street if there is a pick up at the bottom and drop off at the top, would be too far and doubtless cause complaints – the bus route was also deemed to be a matter for infrastructure.

Kevin mentioned there could be technology solutions to stop buses crossing. Transponders could be used to trigger ordinary traffic lights to control the buses and stop them meeting in Green Street – this would have cost complications.

Residents also called for Green Street to be made genuinely one-way. They called for Government and Deputies to come together to consider them problem noting that Liberty bus can't solve this by themselves. It was also noted that the Minister for Infrastructure did not support a one-way system for Green Street, but ask that this is raised with the incoming minister following the election.

Proposals were also made for a feasibility study is to understand bus use and adapt the current route and service perhaps extending the hopper bus service and a further proposal that the current diversion to the route is maintained while the situation is assessed.

ACITON: Constable and Deputies to investigate with the Infrastructure whether the Pier Road route can be maintained and further raise the serious concerns regarding pedestrian safety in Green Street.

The Chair extended thanks to Kevin on behalf of the HDP improvement group for attending and hearing concerns

Senator Mezec observed that accountability is lacking regarding local issues such as this; residents can do little to hold the Infrastructure Minister to account and the Government do not own the bus company.

The Chair brought the meeting to a close thanking the Lido for use of the facility

The following attendees offered email addresses to be added to the mailing list.

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