

BOTHER report

September 14th 2021

1

Simon Murray (Sustrans) suggested that BOTHER could ask BFPC if it intended to input to CC's draft document on policy/strategy, and if it does, that BOTHER might like to suggest amendments to the transport section in particular. Accordingly I've looked over the document and read that particular section, and I have the following suggestions:

a) There should be a greater emphasis on walking/cycling *safety*. The local landscape presents particular challenges in this respect, and the provision of white lines at the edge of major roads offers inadequate protection. Without a commitment to new infrastructure incorporating enhanced safety features, it seems unlikely that people will be tempted to abandon their cars for short/medium journeys.

b) The document should include an undertaking to assist local groups with navigating the whole process of walk/cycle-project management, such as sessions on accessing sources of funding, and CC personnel who can offer advice.

2

Simon also gave advice about funding for our local walk/cycleway project. His advice read as follows:

'We have previously discussed possible next steps and commissioning, and while the remaining resources are looking healthy (£2.2k remaining) it occurred to me that it might be worth a conversation with the Parish Council about utilising the VAT element awarded to the Project from Cornwall Council to the Parish Council. The Clerk is aware of this, when I awarded the Grant to the Parish Council I included VAT when in fact I shouldn't have and instead of Cornwall Council reclaiming the VAT the Parish Council can now do this but they may be able to allocate it to the Project (VAT £1,435.60)?'

Also on the subject of funding, BOTHER is considering applying for a National Lottery grant to fund or partially fund the next stage of its project (getting land consents, calculating construction costs, preparing a planning application). Malcolm has agreed to assist us by attending a webinar on 21st September to get further information.

3

The deadline for receipt of the final Sustrans report has been set back once again on account of illness. The new deadline is middle October, but I've written to Sustrans today to ask if that could be improved on, in particular as we'd like the report to be discussed at the next full Saltash Council meeting on 7th October.

Margaret Matthews (for BOTHER)