

Beer Coastal Community Team

Future Development and Opportunities Report

SUMMARY

In this report, we do not aim to analyse the data produced from the Asset Transfer consultation but to recognise where there may be concern, demand and preferences based on the data that has been compiled.

The total number of people who completed the survey was 294 with 222 people supporting the transfer proposal and 223 people agreeing that the ownership and control of the assets would benefit the village. Therefore, the majority of respondents were in favour of the asset transfer.

The data indicates that the majority of respondents were in agreement that there was little entertainment in the village throughout the evenings with the exception of the pubs and bars. A variety of suggestions have been made as to how we could improve the nightlife of Beer and increase Beer's night 'portfolio'. Whilst ideas such as Outdoor Music on the Jubilee, Music on the Beach and Temporary Mobile Food Outlets were amongst the most popular ideas, there is much residential coherence that we retain the essential character of the village. The Jubilee is one of Beer's iconic locations and we have noted that there is support for changing the Jubilee to become a better and more useful asset for the village. Tired Grass Seating and Power Instalment for Outdoor Events were the most popular of ideas. Another suggestion raised by Councillors is the idea of a 'community enterprise' café which ploughs profits back into the village for events, refurbishment, support of charities etc. We acknowledge that the current Toilets situated on the Jubilee are in need of refurbishment and that the majority of respondents voted for renovating the existing model. However, this survey question also raised lots of comments and ideas which need to be investigated further to understand what is practical and financially viable for the Council to deliver.

Regarding Charlie's Yard, there was some interest in having a Temporary Covering over its top half for concessions or pop-up use. There was also interest in developing a Kitchen Café facility and toilet facilities. However, we also received concerns over the potential loss of a public open space dedicated as a memorial to lost fishermen. We must also be mindful of the current beach café concessions and not impact on their current business but a suggested higher-end fish restaurant that would open year-round at lunch times and evenings, would complement the current offerings and offer an alternative to their traditional fare.

The data indicates support for Beach Court Car Park to offer paid allocated parking for Beach Court residents but we should recognise that the need for general parking across the village is in demand and the asset transfer proposal relies on a generated income of £14000. Similarly, Beer Head Car Park also received support for the idea of paid un-serviced Camper Van parking whilst continuing to retain the BBQ area with the possibility of building a play area. Again, for the camper van parking we must be mindful of the current local offerings.

Starre Bank received great support for the encouragement of environmental and diverse management of the area, with an emphasis on the area being well managed and maintained.

NEXT STEPS

To further investigate how the assets can best be utilised for the benefit of the village, we would appoint a consultant to look into the following possible opportunities:

- **Jubilee area**
This would include any potential building works needed and the opportunities to trade.
- **Toilets**
How they could be operated and the different ways to refurbish or re-build them to bring them up to satisfactory modern standard.
- **Charlie's Yard**
To consider the opportunities that could arise for this space and the facilities that would need to be put in place including toilets.
- **Beach**
It would be useful to review the beach and the concessions with suggestions on what else could be put in place to bring more attraction.
- **Businesses**
A review of other businesses and commercial activities would also be helpful to gauge impact, whether this be positive or negative.

If Beer Parish Council approves the appointment of a consultant, then a more detailed brief will be drawn up for each of the above points. This can be delegated to the CCT Team to discuss and produce.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO BEER PARISH COUNCIL:

1. The Council to contact EDDC to progress asset transfer negotiations to enable a speedy resolution.
2. The CCT to produce a detailed brief (as above) for a consultant and to go out to tender, utilising £10000 of the CCT revenue funding. The deadline for the return of tenders will be the end of April, in order to agree and appoint the consultant at the May Council meeting.
3. The Council to investigate options for the significant refurbishment of the Memorial Play area to include design options and funding streams
4. The Council to re-open discussions with EDDC regarding the implementation of paid, un-serviced camper van parking on Beer Head. Also, to explore improvements to the BBQ and play area in line with suggestions from the consultation.

5. The Council to re-open discussions with the Beach Court residents regarding parking arrangements on the side road and explore the possibilities/implications of allocated paid parking spaces in this area.

Jess Boulton

Feb 2021