

Tamar Tag Meeting Minutes

30th June 2022

Present: Scott Slavin, Victoria Slavin, Mel Priston, John Steers, Steve Miller, John Frazer, Lee Lidstone, John Stamm, Steph Carter, Cllr Kate Ewert (part) Sarah Martin, Hilary Frank

Apologies: Lisa Mortimore

Cllr Kate Ewert (County Cllr for Rame) was welcomed to the group meeting via teams.

Kate introduced herself and expressed a keen interest in promoting TTAG in the Torpoint Rame area. She agreed to look for a suitable venue for the Torpoint meeting – date to be confirmed.

ACTION KE – find suitable venue for Rame Torpoint meeting

ACTION MP – confirm suitable date

The minutes of the meeting for the 31st May 2022 were read and agreed
It was confirmed and unanimously agreed that the group aim was ‘the abolition of Tolls’

MATTERS ARISING –

The constitution still needs to be approved

ACTION – members to read the constitution and agree via messenger to adopt

The website is a work in progress

ACTION SS and J STAMM to develop

TREASURER REPORT

Lee confirmed that a Bank account with Lloyds was in the process of being opened but it could take up to 6 weeks. John Stamm, Lee Lidstone and Mel P are to be the signatories on the account. Lee has the Saltash Town Council Community Chest Application form to complete.

ACTION – Lee to complete the STC community chest application and chase Lloyds Bank for update on new account

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Mel P confirmed that membership on the facebook group was now at 1878 it was agreed that the email addresses of those who attended the Public meeting on the 16th June be added to those already held. This would help with getting messages and info out to the membership especially any who were not on social media.

ACTION - MP to add email addresses to list

PUBLIC MEETING FEEDBACK

It was agreed that the meeting had been well received by those members of the public who had attended and that the questions and answers raised by the public at the meeting should be put on to the Facebook page.

ACTION – upload questions and answers from Public Meeting to Facebook page

TBTFC MEETING HELD 24th JUNE PCC OFFICES

Those members who had attended the meeting reported that they were shocked and somewhat concerned at the way the meeting had progressed -

- The 2 questions submitted by the members who were not in attendance were read out and the Co Chair Cllr Dreaan read out the official replies – These have subsequently been received by email
- Steve M asked a question regarding the ZE Subsidy – this was to be discussed later in the meeting as an agenda'd item
- Cllr Francis from Landrake Parish council also asked a question regarding the likely hood of Central Gov funding.
- SarahM 's question was not allowed as the Officer said it had been received 5 minutes too late – this was despite 2 members having confirmation that it had been sent 2 hours early

- Regarding the vote to bring forward the cash increase on non toll users – The Cllrs voted 4 against and 1 abstention .This means that tag members will now bear the brunt of the toll increase for longer as holiday makers will not be subject to higher prices until Jan 2023. This is at a cost of £500k
- The Z E Subsidy – Cllrs voted to look for funding from Green Initiatives before implementing the subsidy. NB 72% of those consulted were against low emission subsidies.

It was apparent from the meeting that some of the Cllrs had misunderstood the information given to them. The Committee, after discussion agreed that it would not be productive to make a formal complaint at this time, however a letter would be sent to the Co Chairs regarding the written answers given to the first 2 questions -

- failure of SOS to publish the proposed increases in the London Gazette as set out in the Tamar Bridge Act 1957 – ie not following due process
- WMN and Evening Herald circulation is less than 15k when there were 500k people in the bridge catchment area, 50k of which were TAG holders.

ACTION SS MP to compose an email to the Joint Chairs of the TBTFJC

STRATEGY AND NEXT MOVES

John Fraser gave a presentation on possible ways forward for the committee. It was agreed that a professional and well thought out campaign was paramount. Committee members needed to be mindful of what actions would get the results they wanted. Members were also reminded that any evidence collected needed to be referenced. Judging by some comments left on the Torpoint page there was a possibility that Torpoint residents might not be supportive of the campaign. If this is the case then the TTAG needed to be clear on how they would deal with this. Marketing was also a key element but needed to be well organised and well timed. It was suggested that people possibly work in sub groups so as to not get overwhelmed. These were –

- Legislation
- Bridge/ Ferry
- Levelling up
- Present day governance

ACTION – more discussion was required on how to move forward

(Cllr KE left the meeting)

HF suggested that there were many other outlets where we TTAG should be asking questions – such as

- Saltash Town Council
- Cornwall Council
- Cornwall Council Cabinet
- Leader meeting in Liskeard 19th July
- Community Network panel

ACTION HF to compile a list of suitable meetings for members to attend/submit questions

(Sarah M left the meeting)

LL shared an excel sheet which she had worked up - see below

| | | 13,489,000 | Under 3.5 tonnes now | Users | Under 3.5 tonnes Suggested | | % of suggested combined cost | Over 3.5 tonnes now | Over 3.5 tonnes suggested | 3 Axel now | 3 Axel suggested | 4 Axel now | 4 Axel suggested |
|----------------|-----|------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------------|------------|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| Tag | 60% | 8,093,400 | £1.30 | 8225692 | £0.00 | 0 | 0.00% | £3.15 | £0.00 | £5.20 | £0.00 | £7.15 | £0.00 |
| Cash | 40% | 5,395,600 | £2.00 | 2697500 | £5.00 | 13,489,000 | 100.00% | £4.90 | £8.05 | £8.00 | £13.20 | £11.00 | £18.15 |
| Revenue | | 13,489,000 | | | £5.00 | 13,489,000 | | £8.05 | | £13.20 | | £18.15 | |

This shows that if the car Tag holders were to be allowed to cross for free, the Toll to other users would only need to rise to £5 to bring in the same revenue.

(J Steer left the meeting)

FUND RAISING

SC had secured a provisional slot at the Lions Monthly quiz 29th JULY which would enable members to raise funds for the group. This would involve a publicity campaign on Facebook asking members to support the quiz by entering teams of 6.

ACTION SC to liaise with Mark Fox of Saltash Lions to confirm the date , time and location and pass the info to Lisa for publicity on facebook.

BETTER COMMUNICATION METHODS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

All agreed that messenger was difficult to follow so MP suggested we try Google Chat which allows for a more structured method of communication and storage of documents.

ACTION MP to invite committee members to google chat/spaces.

SC left the meeting