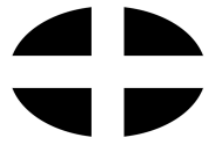


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THE TEMPLE TO BODMIN A30 ACTION GROUP

This press release is from the Temple to Bodmin A30 Action Group and is for immediate release.

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Preparations for RFA2

Tuesday 9th December 2008

The Action Group were very busy at the latter end of November attending three major meetings all significantly important in the decision making process for the road improvement at Temple.

On the Wednesday 26 November we attended the Winter Gardens at Weston-super-Mare for the Regional Transport Forum on the Regional Funding Allocation (RFA2). The meeting was organised by the South West Regional Assembly (SWRA).

The group are recognised as official 'stakeholders' within the RFA2 process; as such we were requested to attend. The forum consisted of two presentations, one from the RA and the other from the Government of the South West (GoSW).

This was followed by workshop discussions between delegates representing local authorities (from throughout the Regional Assembly area) and other interested groups such as ourselves. This led to lively debates but it was interesting to hear other individual views on the importance transport and how it affects our everyday lives in the rural and urban environment.

The meeting on Thursday 27 November was at Taunton where we gave a two minute presentation to the Regional Transport Board, a Sub-committee of the RA.

The members of the Board decide the transport strategy for the entire SW region and ultimately who will receive the funding for future transport improvements via the RFA2 process.

The presentation went well, this is the only time and place you get to address the members themselves. I hasten to add we have already presented our full evidence to the RA in the form of a DVD produced in-house by one of our committee.

The presentation appeared well received by members of the Transport Board.

On Friday 28 November we were back in Devon at Exeter for a meeting with the new Regional Director of the Highways Agency (HA), Graham Bowskill.

The meeting had been arranged by the Director of Planning & Transport at Cornwall County Council (CCC), Richard Fish. Also in attendance were other executives from CCC and the Highways Agency.

We had a very constructive 2 hour meeting and some very salient points were raised; unfortunately the HA do not have the final say in the funding process, this still lies with the RA.

A request for new costings for the Temple improvement have been raised by the HA at the Assembly.

That's the good news; unfortunately looking at it realistically the costs must have risen considerably since 2004 when they were first muted. On the upside was the fact the Temple scheme is deliverable; deliverability is the new 'buzz' word at the RA in these critical financial times.

Hopefully there does appear to be a flicker of light at the end of the tunnel for our improvement to be returned into the funding allocation process. The decision will be announced probably in February next year.

The triple meetings have been a culmination of a lot of hard work put in by the committee on behalf of everyone in Cornwall.

An update of our activities can always be found on our inter-active website:
www.dualthea30now.co.uk

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All editors:

Please contact me if you need any further information or wish to arrange interviews.

Regards

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