

## Saltash town centre

These are the comments and recommendations from Cornwall Councillors, Saltash TC, Chamber of Commerce, CIC and traders, who visited and assessed Fore Street, Saltash on 9<sup>th</sup> June. The aim of the exercise was to produce suggestions to enhance public and trader safety when the shops re-open in June.

There are two phases – the first being the immediate needs to ensure safety when the shop re-open on 15<sup>th</sup> June.

<b>PHASE 1</b>			
<b>Issue</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>What's required</b>	<b>Next steps/cost</b>
Due to the narrow pavement on several parts of the south side, a one-way system for foot traffic would be the safest way to proceed.	The one-way system would be upwards (westwards) on the south side and downwards on the north side. Both groups recognised that the north side could in most parts accommodate two-way traffic but thought that this would cause confusion	100 pavement arrows (temporary); 20 one-way signs.  Stencil with water-based spray paint.	STC to implement with support from Highways manager  Highways manager to provide plan and spray paint with advisory arrows showing routes for display in shops and/or on street furniture (eg litter bins)  STC introduced a one-way system in Lockdown 1, however the public did not adhere to the system. This was discontinued – STC SDM

Reduce speed	Erect signs top and bottom and on three side roads in main part	8 x large signs on existing furniture Highways manager proposed 8 large signs and 8 small signs (for posts/lamp posts with cable ties)	Highways manager to provide signs CC erected signs – STC SDM
Remove street furniture	Recommend Saltash TC remove two large planters, near dentists, and replace if necessary with narrower planters parallel to road	Saltash TC to remove; Cormac re-lay paving	Priority for STC to remove completed summer 2020 – STC SDM
Improved and more numerous crossing places are needed	This could be done by enhancing the existing raised platforms as crossing places and if possible adding 2 to 3 additional places in between	3 x enhancement; 2 x new if possible PA to review if there can “pedestrian ahead” or similar signs	Highways manager to review whether the signs asking people adhere to the drive carefully signs are effective. No additional crossings were installed – STC SDM
Encourage the public to adhere to social distancing etc	Install general advisory signs	10 x 1 metre square signs on existing furniture	See above
Keast Mews	Install general advisory signs	Wall sign - north end  A frame - south end	See above  STC to install laminated signs at a cost of £50

South east bus stop (by Co-op)	Barriers to separate off road part of bus stop from carriageway to allow queueing on the road Buses to load on carriageway	2 metres barrier; "queue here" sign; "do not queue here" sign	Highways manager to make arrangements for the barrier and "queue here" signs. Bus stops were coned off – no Queue Here signs were installed – STC SDM
North west top bus stop	Barrier off except for loading bay. Buses to load on carriageway. Queuing on road surface to allow others to pass	2 metres barrier in middle of footpath to separate the pedestrians queuing for the bus.	Highways manager to make arrangements for the barrier Bus stops were coned off – no Queue Here signs were installed – STC SDM
Need to ensure queuing for shops is managed; in particular the Co-op	Provide "queue this way" signs for shops. Co-op – recommend customers should queue to the west where the pavement is wider	60 x signs	£200
Provide shops with a checklist	Adapt Falmouth example for Saltash retailers and distribute		£200

Encourage shops to have key messages in their window displays	Provide a digital link of a poster to shop owners so all advocate the message		£50
Encourage hand washing	Provide wash (hand sanitising) mobile stations and refills.		£5000 Current and ongoing operational staffing and management cost £7000

PHASE 2		
Issue	Proposal	Comments
Change car parking charges so as to encourage people back into the town centre	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Extend parking time in Fore Street to one hour</li> <li>2. Subsidise parking in four main carparks</li> </ol>	<p>Highways manager to check on existing orders and ascertain if a temporary measure is possible (due to covid19) and the process CLO to seek feedback on the car park subsidy</p> <p>CC stopped charging for parking in the car parks during Lockdown 3 – STC SDM</p>
Create new or enhance areas to have benches, tables and chairs for shoppers to use	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Victoria Gardens – install a semi-permanent “canvas “structure in central area usable for seating and heating</li> <li>2. Top of the street, west of traffic lights use wide pavement for tables chairs, three sets maybe for Italian courtyard café</li> <li>3. Outside of Superdrug area. Four more benches or semi-permanent covered area around town noticeboard area</li> <li>4. Area around lower traffic lights on north side add benches and fixed tables</li> </ol>	<p>Temporary licences may be required but post covid 19, a formal licence would be required</p> <p>Responsibility for provision of tables and chairs would be with café owners.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Install more seating and benches between Boots and the Bookshelf area</li> <li>6. One table outside Bookshelf</li> <li>7. Possible use of small area on the corner of Wesley Road and Fore Street</li> </ol>	<p>Planning and highways consents required</p> <p>STC to provide a plan to the Highways manager with the areas under consideration and seek feedback on suitability</p> <p>Proposals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 were not undertaken. Proposal 6 – The Bookshelf was operating one table outside when the shop is open - STC SDM</p> <p>STC installed 4 x banners, 2 at the top and 2 at the bottom of Fore Street with 'Welcome to Saltash – Hands – Face – Space – message on them. STC also Installed one large banner opposite the Tamar Bridge slip road, 15 x 'bollard' covers with the same message and pavement markings to encourage Social Distancing – total cost was £2,638.82 plus VAT – STC SDM</p>
Create new pedestrian crossing	Request CC to reconsider the possibility of a pedestrian crossing between the west end of Fore Street and Glebe Avenue	This proposal was not undertaken – STC SDM

**Comments:**

- The most noticeable things about STC's actions have been the big signs at top and bottom. It is that those could well do with an update / addition such as "Nothing has changed ...please continue to take follow all Covid precautions", or something similar.
- The only addition that would be good would be an additional sign, say 30 cm square, actually on top of the hand gels saying something similar...."Continue to take great care ..use hand gel ".

**Update as at 26.3.2021:**

A Member of STC has done a Fore St walk with the STC SDM to ascertain what if any updates / repairs were required to Covid aware signs.

It was decided to change the message on the two large banners one at the top and one at the bottom of Fore St to reinforce the message ready for the start of reopening. The triangle tree /posts messages to remain.

The National Chamber of Commerce are due to meet 26<sup>th</sup> March with recommendations on messages / directions for High Streets, so we await this information before deciding and ordering new material.

The placing and removal of the mobile hand sanitizers are taking about one hour each day the proposal is to replace these with fixed units, as on the crossings, with clear visible signs. This will save time and money for the team each day.

The existing units can be stored, and used for future events in the Town.

Other STC Cllrs that formed part of the Covid-19 Recovery Plan are aware, and in agreement.