

Stratford upon Avon Town Transport Group [TTG] held from 9.30am - 11am on Thursday 9 March 2023 by Zoom

Present: Rachel Blanchard [RB], John Deegan [JD], Elizabeth Dixon [ED] *Secretary*, Ian Fradgley [IF], Jenny Fradgley [JF], Roger Harding [RH], Mark Haselden [MH], Richard Lees [RL], Andy List [AL], Caroline Nash [CN] part, Theresa Parker [TP], Kate Rolfe [KR], Tim Sinclair [TS], Jann Tracy [JT], Steve Turner [ST],

In attendance: Toby Rackliff, Strategic Lead Rail Policy and Peter Sargent Head of Rail Policy and Strategy for West Midlands Rail Executive.

Circulated to Members of the TTG and

WCC: Councillors: Izzi Seccombe, Leader and Wallace Redford, Portfolio Holder.

Officers: Mark Ryder, Strategic Director for Communities and David Ayton-Hill, Assistant Director Communities [Transport Planning].

SDC: Councillors Tony Jefferson, Leader, Daren Pemberton, Portfolio Holder Place & Economy (Physical Infrastructure).

Officers: Tony Perks, Deputy Chief Executive.

TC: Officer: Caroline Nash, Town Clerk.

Additional information: <https://www.stratford-tc.gov.uk/town-hall/meetings-held-at-the-town-hall/-stratford-upon-avon-town-transport-group>

- 1 Acting as Chair, Mark Haselden welcomed everyone to the meeting as the Chair is in Australia.

He also welcomed Peter Sargent and Toby Rackliff from West Midlands Rail Executive who would be telling the meeting about their work and roles.

Apologies: Colin Stewart.

- 2 **West Midlands Rail Executive:** Peter Sargent (Head of Rail Policy and Strategy) and Toby Rackliff (Strategic Lead, Rail Policy) at West Midlands Rail Executive (WMRE) gave an update on the forthcoming timetable change and future plans for rail services serving Stratford. WMRE is the regional rail body which oversees rail strategy on behalf of 14 local authorities across the region. WMRE also works closely with the DfT, operators and Network Rail on the specification and management of rail services, and also directly deliver rail projects such as new stations.

PS / TR

Peter advised that there are major changes planned to rail timetables from 21 May which will deliver a number of improvements for Stratford rail users, and should also result in much improved performance. Toby advised on WMRE's Rail Investment Strategy and the longer-term proposals to develop better services.

3 Minutes of 9 February 2023 were approved.

4 Actions and Matters arising:

The £2 bus fare has been extended across Warwickshire, but it will not apply to UBUS as it does not meet the criteria. ED has tried several times to have this changed or overruled without success. NFA required.

5 Strategies and forward plans

5.1 Sustainable Parking Strategy: Nothing to report.

5.2 South Warwickshire Local Plan: Good response and there will be an update later this year. On behalf of the district councils, WCC highways is undertaking a transport study to look at the implications of development in all the areas identified in the Issues and Options growth options (shown as 'blobs' on the maps). Ask if we can see the WCC response to the SWLP. ED

5.3 Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan [LCWIP]: The timetable was discussed.

5.4 Towards an Integrated Transport Plan: Nothing to report

5.5 Bus Strategy: TS reported that WCC is looking to set up local resident bus forums (one for each District / Borough) that Officers and Cllrs will be able to attend.

TS investigating with officers the costs (both immediate for installation and long term for maintenance), as well as the technical requirements / practicality of real time signage at individual bus stops.

An application for Capital Infrastructure Funding will be made for measures outlined within the BSIP.

TS has asked for a high-level performance summary of Stagecoach buses to be provided on a regular basis at our Bus Strategy Working Group whilst performance issues persist

6 Projects

6.1 Tiddington Road / Clopton Bridge: Back to the drawing board

- Modelling work being done again, looking at options
- Anticipate 2 phases of implementation - 1. cycling / pedestrian; 2. traffic / signals.
- Keen to retain and make best use of S106 monies

- 2024 earliest for implementation, in part due to other works around the town
- Will involve the community in the plans
- Will look again at potential to remove HGVs.

6.2 Shottery Relief road / Evesham Road Roundabout.
Nothing to report

6.3 Alcester Road: still waiting for plans to be finalised.

6.4 Birmingham Road: New Project Leader is Tristan Hall.

6.5 South Western Relief Road [SWRR] / LMA Garden Village.
Position statement issued in advance of the meeting.

7 Planning Applications. Not discussed.

8 Any Other Business: *Accessible Stratford, Climate Action, Cycle Forum, Neighbourhood Plan, Stratford-Upon-Avon BID, Strategic Partnership, Stratford Society, Technical Sub-Group, Town, District and County Councillors*

The next meeting is from 9.30am - 11am on Thursday 20 April 2023 by Zoom