

## Stratford upon Avon Town Transport Group [TTG]

Minutes from meeting held at 9.30am - 11am,

on Thursday 14 December 2023 at the Town Hall

**Present:** George Cowcher [GC], Elizabeth Dixon [ED], Richard Lees [RL], Andy List [AL], Theresa Parker [TP], Tim Sinclair [TS], Colin Stewart [CS], Steve Turner [ST], Jann Tracy [JT].

**Circulated to Members of the TTG and**

**WCC:** Officers: Mark Ryder, Strategic Director for Communities and David Ayton-Hill, Assistant Director Communities [Transport Planning], Councillors Izzi Seccombe, Leader and Jan Matecki, Transport Portfolio Holder.

**SDC:** Officers: Tony Perks, Deputy Chief Executive, Councillor Susan Juned, Leader and Councillor George Cowcher, Portfolio Holder.

**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 Colin Stewart, Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting,

**Apologies:** Caroline Nash [CN], Mark Haselden [MH], Ian Fradgley [IF], Jenny Fradgley [JF], Lindsay Macdonald [LM], Jan Matecki [JM], Kate Rolfe [KR]

- 2 **WCC Transport Portfolio Holder (Jan Matecki):** JM was unable to attend due to a meeting clash.

- 3 **Minutes:** of 16 November 2023 were agreed.

- 4 **Matters Arising:** it is hoped a replacement for Rachel B. will be found. *Check with Matt Neale.* **ED**

- 5 **Warwickshire Buses / UBUS:** CS noted that he had requested WCC provide a representative to attend the meeting to present on plans and to clarify the differences in funding for IndieGo, IndieGo Plus, and UBUS. No-one was available to attend the meeting, but WCC had provided a briefing note which was circulated with the agenda.  
The contents of the briefing paper were noted, but it was agreed that the original TTG proposal "Warwickshire Buses / UBUS - Paper to WCC & SDC" (attached to these minutes), should remain as the TTG view and request on Bus matters.

**TS** gave a general update on Bus issues as follows: The buses team are working on the allocation of the £7.5m BSIP money. The plans for a bid via the CIF fund for real time information signage at the major bus stops is still progressing. They are also putting a bid in for funding for electric buses, I believe to include the X16 and X18 routes. Stagecoach apparently currently has a full complement of drivers at Leamington and Stratford. The vacant role within the WCC team has been filled by a colleague elsewhere within WCC, but they've not moved across yet.

## **6 Strategies and forward plans**

**6.1 Sustainable Parking Strategy:** A meeting has been arranged with WCC and a small working group of the TTG on 20 December. **KR**

**6.2 South Warwickshire Local Plan:** GC advised there are still 14.5 years of housing supply allocated, so no shortage, but plans are, and have been, very weak on infrastructure. Overspill if it happens from Birmingham and Coventry, are major potential problems.

It was noted that 3 transport reports have been undertaken in support of the SWLP, as follows:

1. High Level Transport Assessment of Local Plan Options (by Jacobs) - primarily looking at sustainable options.
2. High Level Modelling Assessment of Highway Based Trips (by Vectos) - referred to in the scope of document 1, to look at network constraints.
3. Long Marston Airfield Garden Village - feasibility / viability assessment of transport options (by Jacobs)

However, they are all embargoed until next year.

**CS** noted that TTG had previously reviewed the scoping brief of two of these, they were high level, and appeared focussed on doing little in the way of infrastructure improvements.

**GC** suggested there could be 3 potential options: Restrict access to town, reinforce bus & rail,

**GC** stated clarity of what SoA wants in terms of transport is essential. **CS** advised he attends the Strategic Partnership working group on SWLP and is pushing for a transport plan. **CS**

**6.3 Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan [LCWIP]:** This should be ready for the end of January, after cabinet on 23 Jan. **WCC**

**6.4 Towards an Integrated Transport Plan:** Following the discussion at item 6.2, it was suggested the next TTG face to face meeting (14 March) should be a workshop to progress a transport plan. **CS**

**6.5 Bus Strategy:** See item 5.

**7 Projects - See attached Status Schedule**

CS noted that he had put on record the TTG concerns that funding for Alcester Road Cycle Improvements (Project 6) had now been pulled to be used instead to cover a shortfall in the government funding for the Warwick Road safety improvements. JM had responded see attached.

**8 Planning Applications: None to report.**

**9 Any Other Business:**

**Stratford Station Ticket Office:** Concern expressed that this is very often closed. TTG to seek clarifications.

**The next meeting is 9.30am - 11am on Thursday 11 January 2024  
by Zoom**

# Stratford-upon-Avon Town Transport Group (TTG)

Update: **14.12.23**

## Stratford-upon-Avon Transport Project Status

	Project	Status	Action	Last Update
1	Pedestrian of Bridge Street & High Street	Scheme drawn up and consultation completed. Awaiting funding. Request to look at splitting the work to create quick win, eg. High Street Pedestrianisation first. SDC looking at implementation summer 2024.	SP  SDC /WCC	19.1.23  SDC
2	Birmingham Road	Phase 2 enabling works are ongoing. TS and CS met Simon Prescott (who has taken over Birmingham Road at WCC) on site to discuss the various comments and proposals TTG have made on Phase 3 of the scheme ( the middle part). SP is reviewing the scheme with a view to make it compliant with LTN 1/20, and side road junctions consistent. Also modelling Western Road left out only, CS proposed Arden St traffic light pedestrian crossing alternative. Design works are ongoing.	WCC	17.5.23
3	Clopton Bridge / Tiddington Road Junction	Original scheme withdrawn. Awaiting updated proposals from WCC. TTG advised they will be involved. Potential for weight restriction to be investigated (WCC DA-H). Advised this has now been dropped.	WCC	23.12.22  8.6.23
4	Evesham Roundabout	Now open, WCC to decide how to connect cycle paths through the junction.	WCC	14.12.23
5	Alcester Road A46 Roundabout (Shottery Relief Road)	CS wrote to National Highways (7.12.23) to request timescales for starting construction and completion. No response yet. TP suggested writing to Nadhim Zahawi.	National Highways  CS	7.12.23  14.12.23

6	Alcester Road Cycle Tracks	Awaiting concept plans from WCC. Advised this will follow LTN 1/20 guidance. TS advises design complete. Plans awaited.	WCC	13.7.23
		Advised funding had now been pulled to be used instead to cover a shortfall in the government funding for the Warwick Road safety improvements. This project has been waiting over 9 years, and a lower cost solution was proposed by the Cycle Forum several years ago.	WCC	16.11.23
7	South Western Relief Road	Report on viability of sustainable alternatives delayed to link into SWLP.	SDC	20.1.23
8	Greenway All-weather Surfacing	Work not started due to S106 funds being insufficient. CS has asked WCC why the worst affected half of the route could not be progressed with the available funding.	WCC	26.4.23
		David Ayton-Hill has responded to CS request for update. Additional funding to be sought via CIL process, with decision in April 2024. Meanwhile he has asked the team to explore breaking up the work into sections to get moving on key bits now. CS reminded DAH 13.9.23. Response 9.10.23 suggests half may potentially be done before Easter. TTG discussed concerns around WCC not carrying out work when funding is available, especially on a simple piece of work such as this.	DAH	10.8.23
9	Knights Lane Footway	A solution has now been drawn up, based on a derogation of standard for implementation in the Autumn, but still requires agreement from the farmer. Meanwhile KR has obtained agreement that, traffic signs warning of pedestrians walking in the road and 'SLOW' carriageway markings will be installed as a temporary measure.	WCC	13.7.23

		DAH advised temporary works would be complete by end July. One “SLOW” marking has appeared on the road, nothing in the opposite direction. Signs now in both directions, but partially obstructed by hedge growth!	WCC	14.9.23
10	Canal Quarter Regeneration	Meeting with SDC held 15.6.23. TTG outlined concerns about delivery of the vision in the site masterplan (SDP) as land parcels come forward individually for planning approval. Infrastructure needs to be funded and implemented in advance of plans for homes, or it is unlikely to “fit”, and will be more expensive. Canal crossings are a key example. SDC officers to investigate options and report back.	SDC  RB	15.6.23  10.8.23
11	Gateway	Presentation made to TTG 8.6.23. Workshop with Strategic Partnership. Public consultation 19 Oct to 1 December.		
12	Warwick Road Safety Improvements	Concept proposals circulated to TTG. Works close to start, a requirement that funds need to be spent this year.		8.6.23 10.8.23
13	Tow Path improvement, Bishops Lane to Timothys Bridge Rd.	S106 Funding available from Bishopton Housing development. SDC negotiating with Canal & Rivers Trust to do the work.	SDC	12.10.23