

Stratford upon Avon Town Transport Group [TTG]

Minutes from meeting held at 9.30am - 11am,

on Thursday 12 October 2023 by Zoom

Present: Rachel Blanchard [RB], John Deegan [JD], Elizabeth Dixon [ED], Mark Haselden [MH], Richard Lees [RL], Andy List [AL], Lindsay Macdonald [LM], Caroline Nash [CN], Theresa Parker [TP], Tim Sinclair [TS], Colin Stewart [CS], 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: George Cowcher [GC], Jenny Fradgley [JF], Ian Fradgley [IF], Rich Jones [RJ], County Councillor Jan Malecki, Kate Rolfe [KR], Stephen Rumble [SR], Steve Turner [ST].

- 2 **Minutes:** of 14 September 2023 were approved after a change to text said by Councillor Matecki about UBUS, *“that SDC had not confirmed that they would continue to subsidise the service but if they did and it continued that it could be rebranded as IndieGo. The rebranding was in response to a question from a member at the August meeting asking why it was different to the other DRT schemes in Warwickshire.*

3 Matters Arising:

CS had circulated an article on successes of DRT (Demand Responsive Transport) elsewhere prior to the meeting. Key appears to be integrating with fixed routes, and single combined ticket purchase mechanism. To be added as item to next meeting.

ED

RB chasing funding agreement between SDC & Canal & Rivers Trust for the towpath.

RB

AL requested add WCC as Action with 5.1

ED

4 Strategies and forward plans

4.1 Sustainable Parking Strategy: CS noted there is a meeting planned with KR,JF,TS, and Howard Blessington to review status of this. KR

4.2 South Warwickshire Local Plan: Next meeting of the Strategic Partnership SWLP working group is on 25 October. RB holding drop-in at SDC on 23 October, 10 - 3.
CS noted that DA-H has responded to TTG note on the transport work being done for the SWLP. CS has requested a meet. WCC

4.3 Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan [LCWIP]: Met on 25/0-9, adding new schemes, should go to Cabinet on 14/12. WCC

4.4 Towards an Integrated Transport Plan: The Strategic Partnership held a Vision workshop at its last meeting, which considered projects, priorities, and leadership. This work to be continued at next meeting. TS

4.5 Bus Strategy: TS confirmed that WCC had been advised that it was to receive £2m BSIP funding for the 2024/2025 financial year. These funds were expected to be spent on the following: expansion of DRT services, support for existing standard services, multi bus operator smart cards, a new mapping platform to coordinate route alterations during roadworks, a QR code published at every bus stop to allow easy access to information via an App. TS
Separately WCC is looking to apply to the Zero Emission Bus Regional Area fund (ZEBRA) for an electric bus to be used at the P&R. The fund allows for 50% of the costs, the other 50% needing to be funded elsewhere, potentially by the bus company.
The CIF bid for funds to support the installation of digital signage at the busiest bus stops on key routes is due to be made in November.

5 Projects - See attached Status Schedule

6 Planning Applications: Windsor Street application for 39 apartments with 32 parking places response by 5/11.
High school expansion has been agreed. TTG to investigate traffic impact documents. CS/ED

7 Any Other Business: Accessible Stratford, ED said the Shopmobility partnership is in place from 1 November which will offer an improved service, including having two bases.
Changing Places toilet is on hold until 2024 as Bell Court asked SDC to stop work over the Christmas period. This CP was a fit out of existing unit [one month max] after some drainage changes.
Funding given in December 2022; contractor not appointed until

August 2023. Surprised that some of the funds given to the British Motor Museum to install a CP. New access guide early 2024.

Stratford Society, JT asked if the High Street pedestrianisation could go ahead in advance of the full proposed High St / Bridge St works as this could be a quick win at minimum cost. **CS** to raise at Strategic Partnership.

TS pursuing National Highways about Park & Ride signage at Marraway roundabout. **CS**

RB reminded the meeting about consultation for Community Involvement [*already sent to TTG*]. **TS**

AL advised the Cycle Forum are producing a document looking at better cycle parking in the town. **AL**

Following the discussion on lack of progress on projects, even where funding has been available for some time, MH suggested a meeting of the sub-group to consider what can be done. **CS/ED**

The next meeting is 9.30am - 11am on Thursday 16 November 2023 by Zoom

Stratford-upon-Avon Town Transport Group (TTG)

Update: 17.10.23

Stratford-upon-Avon Transport Project Status

	Project	Status	Action	Last Update
1	Pedestrianisation 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.	SP SDC /WCC	19.1.23
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	 WCC	 17.5.23

		pedestrian crossing alternative. Design works are ongoing.		
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	Once completed, WCC will decide how to connect cycle paths through the junction. Meeting has taken place with residents and WCC. No completion dates.	WCC WCC	23.5.23 10.8.23
5	Alcester Road A46 Roundabout (Shottery Relief Road)	Update required. Whose responsibility is it, and when will it be started?	WCC	13.7.23
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
7	South Western Relief Road	Report on viability of sustainable alternatives delayed linking 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. 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.	WCC DAH	26.4.23 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. 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	13.7.23
			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. RB to chase progress.	SDC	15.6.23
			RB	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	Towpath 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