

## Stratford upon Avon Town Transport Group minutes of meeting by Zoom on Wednesday 10 June 2020

**Present:** Joe Baconnet [JB], Howard Blessington [HB], John Deegan [JD] *Chairman*, Elizabeth Dixon [ED] *Secretary*, Ian Fradgley [IF], Richard Freer-Hewish [RFH], Paul Harris [PH], Mark Haselden [MH], Tony Jackson [TJ], Phil Mills [PM], Richard Lees [RL], Theresa Parker [TP], Daren Pemberton [DP], Kate Rolfe [KR], Colin Stewart [CS], Jann Tracy [JT].

1. **Welcome:** John Deegan welcomed everyone to the meeting and Cllr. Tony Jackson, Mayor of Stratford upon Avon.

**Apologies:** David Curtis, Ian Fradgley, Adrian Purchase.

2. **Minutes** of 13 May 2020 were agreed.

3. **Matters Arising:** JD confirmed that the Sub-Group had met to discuss the changes to town spaces after they had been sent to the TTG who felt that an early response was necessary although changes will not be made at this time.

4. **Re-Allocation of Road Space in Response to COVID-19:** SR gave an overview of the temporary changes that would take place on Monday 15 June as an Emergency Traffic Order. There is no time limit for the changes but for reviewing. Most of the town centre roads will be one-way only with the direction of travel away from the river. Railings will be removed to give space and pedestrian lights co-ordinated. There will be widened pavements for social distancing with changes to kerbs, removal of on-street parking and installation of cycle lanes. There will be new blue badge parking bays in Union Street and Wood Street, removal of them in Bridge Street, High Street and Sheep Street. Extra taxi bays in Union Street and removal of them in Wood Street and other locations. Movement of bus stops to the Mop sites in Guild Street and new ones out of town in Wood Street and Windsor Street by the Birthplace Trust car park. There will be no bus stops in Bridge Street.

ED has been consulted and approves the blue badge changes but has expressed concern about the lack of bus stop in Bridge Street and locations of the new ones as too far for some people to walk.

After a long discussion the group acknowledged the role of subjective, opinion-based, data collection in assessing the merits of any temporary measures but there was also a recognition that objective data collection was needed to describe and understand the impacts of the temporary measures now being implemented. These might include data collection covering network operational matters (e.g. levels of congestion on the network and queue lengths at specific locations), behavioural change (e.g. mode split for traffic into the town centre and on key links) as well as other environmental or economic impacts such as air quality or shopper footfall. The chairman emphasised the need for the highway authority to communicate with, and listen to local people after the changes were implemented, and to be prepared to adjust if necessary at short notice. A presence on the ground, possibly in conjunction with Stratforward would in his view be welcomed.

5. **SWRR:** DP reported that there was still no news and the result of funding applications are still awaited.

**6. Neighbourhood Development Plan:** MH said the changes were mainly in line but disappointing the High Street was not being closed even for part of a day. The options must be considered as this is a medium-term solution.

**7. AOB:**

**Next meeting:** 10am Wednesday 10 July by Zoom.