

Transport **MINUTES**

Website www.yourtestvalley.com

Test Valley Transport Action Group

Wednesday 25 January 2006 at 5.30pm in Conference Room 2, Beech Hurst, Andover.

Present:

Councillor David Bidwell (Chair)
Vivien Messenger (TVBC)
Mark Lambert (TVBC)
Linda Bagwell (John Hanson School Governor)
Marion Woods (Partnership Manager, TVBC)
John Jacobs (Winchester and Eastleigh PCT)
Peter Kennesion (Houghton Parish Council)
John Perry (Broughton Parish Council)
Dick Hewett (Test Valley Community Services)
Jim Soutar (HCC)
Janet Whiteley (Stockbridge Parish Council)

In Attendance:

Liz Slade (TVBC)

1. Apologies and Welcome

Apologies:

Jean Lowe (Braishfield Parish Council)
Annie Tomlinson (TVBC)
Judith Cohen (Grateley Parish Council)
Carolyn Nixon (Friends of the Earth)
Sheila Ridge (ENHAM)
Neil Greenfield (Andover Chamber of Commerce)
John White (Romsey Good Neighbours)

Councillor Bidwell welcomed everyone to the meeting. Viv Messenger introduced herself as the other half of the Transport Planner post at TVBC, job sharing with Annie Tomlinson. Dick Hewett explained that Faith Humphries had left TVCS and he is reinstated as Community Transport Manager. Mark Lambert, Engineering Manager, TVBC was present to observe discussions on the beginnings of schemes he often ends

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up building in partnership with HCC. Janet Whiteley, Vice-Chair of Stockbridge Parish Council and an occasional helper for Mottisfont and Broughton Community Bus, was attending for the first time.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Agreed as complete and accurate record.

Farepass Scheme and MiDAS would be covered under Any Other Business.

John Jacobs highlighted concerns following his report handed out at the last meeting regarding access from rural areas to health facilities *[which has already been put forward to the LTP as one of the group's priorities]*. A discussion on the use of voluntary transport to help with accessibility then ensued but agreed should not be relied upon as Dick Hewett stated the organisations (Andover Neighbourcare, Romsey Good Neighbours, STVVTs and other smaller ones) are already at full stretch and should not be used to fill a statutory need. Viv Messenger mentioned a pilot study is proposed on access to healthcare in Winchester and Andover to be undertaken by HCC once a steering group has been set up. John Jacobs is happy to brief someone at HCC who deals with accessibility. Councillor Bidwell invited John Jacobs to attend the next TVAPC meeting on 3 March. Janet Whiteley informed the group of a database set up by Roger Tym which, although possibly out of date, identified transport help needed to attend Stockbridge Health Centre from rural areas.

Action: JJ and VM to liaise regarding HCC pilot study.

3. Turnaround Project, Andover

Marion Woods introduced the item concerning the LSP project which came about because three areas of Andover have been identified as deprived. The report covers one area (Alamein) and the other two will be covered later in the year. All Action Groups have been asked to contribute but there is very little for TAG to comment on.

Councillor Bidwell asked everyone to read the extract and see if there is anything further that could be contributed. As the project develops, the group will be asked to consider it again as a future agenda item.

Marion would like everyone's email address to be included in the circulation of the LSP News Bulletin. Councillor Bidwell encouraged the group to access the website *[address at top of these minutes]* to see news of all LSP Action Groups.

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Action: All Members of group to email Marion Woods (mwoods@testvalley.gov.uk) if they wish to be included in circulation of LSP News Bulletin.

4. Core Strategy

Viv Messenger outlined the new Land Use Planning System which is replacing the Local Plan process. Unitary and District Councils now need to produce a Local Development Framework (LDF); the Core Strategy being just one of the many documents making up the LDF.

Test Valley have already published its Local Development Scheme (LDS) [*a timetable setting out when all documents have to be produced*] and the Statement of Community Involvement which asked the public how they wish to be consulted on the LDF process.

As the group will note from the handout, the South East Plan (SE Plan) feeds into the LDF and this has identified large scale housing to be developed in Test Valley by 2026. Once we know the scale of development, other requirements can be assessed such as transport, healthcare services and schools.

Test Valley will start preparation on the Core Strategy in May 2005 and will be looking to the Action Groups for input.

5. Update on LTP and Transport Matters

- LTP is going to HCC full Council on 22 February 2005.
- After attending a rural transport meeting in Broughton last November, John Jacobs is concerned about the re-development of Andover Bus Station and lack of links to the railway station. He is unsure whether comments made at that meeting were taken on board. Dick Hewett also expressed same concerns in Romsey.

6. Any Other Business

- Dick Hewett explained new Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme (MiDAS). The scheme is being rolled out to voluntary car drivers if giving lifts to members of the public and, sometimes, claiming expenses. It is not compulsory at present but may imminently mean higher insurance premiums if drivers don't have a MiDAS certificate. Cost is £36.00 and lasts for four years.
- John Perry concerned that the new Farepass scheme makes no provision for outings. Councillor Bidwell will ask Carol Moore to attend a TVAPC meeting. Dick Hewett is

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meeting with Carol tomorrow *[26 January]* about a range of issues, including Farepass and will report back to the group.

Action: Dick Hewett to report back to group regarding Farepass scheme.

- Councillor Bidwell raised concern about transport for young people from rural areas to towns in the evening. Group agreed not to pursue as Marion Woods reminded them of withdrawal of transport to The Depot in Andover due to lack of use.
- John Perry mentioned possible bus service to alleviate car parking problems at Grateley Station. John Jacobs suggested 'piggy-backing' could be the answer, perhaps using school buses to do station trips before/after school runs.

7. Date of Next Two Meetings

Wednesday 26 April 2006 at 5.30pm in the Council Chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey.
Tuesday 18 July 2006 at 5.30pm in Conference Room 2, Beech Hurst, Andover.