

# Transport **MINUTES**

Website [www.yourtestvalley.com](http://www.yourtestvalley.com)

Test Valley Transport Action Group

Wednesday 23rd July 2008 at 3.00pm Small Council Chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey

## **Present:**

Councillor David Bidwell (Chair)

Vivien Messenger (TVBC)

Melody Mew (Enham)

Nick Farthing (Sustrans & Three Rivers Community Rail Partnership)

Mike Hedderly (HCC Rail Officer)

Dick Hewett (Test Valley Community Services)

Chris Lynn (Councillor TVBC)

## **1. Apologies and Welcome**

Apologies: Irene Bell (Test Valley Taxi Association)  
Tony Seddon (Grateley Parish Council)  
Mark Miller (Three Rivers Community Rail Partnership)  
Linda Bagwell (John Hanson School Governor)  
Michael Leggatt (Winchester Eastleigh Healthcare Trust)  
Julie Freeland (Winchester Eastleigh Healthcare Trust)  
Dave Fullerton (Enham)  
Hannah Baker (HCC)

David Bidwell welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2. Minutes of the Last Meeting and matters arising**

Dick Hewett had sent his apologies for the previous meeting and this had not been recorded – VM to alter the minutes accordingly.

MM stated that Enham minutes should clarify that it is not that Enham has no desire to support transport but that it is costly and so they are looking to access public transport and community transport schemes.- VM to alter minutes accordingly.

# Transport

## **MINUTES**

Agreed, with amendments outlined above, as an accurate record of the meeting held on 24th April 2008

Vivien Messenger reported that Janice Broomfield had checked that forms and vouchers for rail passes are provided together when requested.

### **3. Travel Plans – Vivien Messenger**

VM outlined the importance of travel plans, describing the three main types of plan, residential, business and school.

VM stated that almost every school in TVBC has a travel plan, which the school students and county council assist in preparing. A growing number of businesses throughout the borough also have travel plans and larger residential developments of over 50 units are required to prepare travel plans.

NF expressed that Sustrans have money available, (£23million over 3 years), for funding cycle access to schools in England which could provide advice, routes and parking for bicycles.

VM outlined the role of travel plan coordinators in implementing the travel plans to which Mike Hedderly enquired if they require any training. VM explained some businesses will employ trained travel plan co-ordinators but others will chose existing employees with a particular interest in the subject, and TVBC, and occasionally transport consultants, support the role.

DH enquired as to whether other areas were progressing with travel plans. VM said that railway stations were being considered for travel plans. Romsey Station had recently, along with 3 other local stations within three rivers rail community partnership won a bid to prepare station travel plans. NF added that Mark Miller, of Three Rivers Rail, was in a meeting concerning the matter at that time.

MM expressed that public buses and Cango buses run too close together in Enham and that they have set up a complaints log so that they can look into matters further. MM stated that they would be holding a transport workshop. VM suggested that Enham could produce a travel plan to highlight the areas issues. The suggestion of rural villages having a travel plan was put forward.

C L enquired about car sharing and how it could be encouraged like in other boroughs. NF highlighted car share databases, such as hantscarshare.com. DB added that maybe a link to the database should be included on parish websites.

# Transport **MINUTES**

DB suggested that a list of all of TVBC's travel plans be attached to minutes and that travel plans remain on agenda.

## **4. Core Strategy – Vivien Messenger**

### **Parking Standards**

VM discussed TVBC's residential car parking standards. Stated that, within new developments, standards are generally working however, there are some concerns regarding on-street parking, where off-street parking does exist.

VM explained survey that had been carried out and outlined the proposals to increase the maximum number of spaces per unit. Qualitative aspects such as location, space and garage size were also discussed. VM stated that the need for visitor parking would be looked at.

It was explained that through the use of travel plans by developers the need for parking spaces on employment sites was reduced.

### **Transport Studies**

VM explained how transport studies had been carried out by consultants in Southern Test Valley to investigate the impact on the road networks of the preferred options in the Core Strategy.

DB expressed concerns about the proposed MegaShed in Andover and whether a travel plan has been requested because of its wider impact. VM explained that the Highways are involved and a transport assessment has been carried out. A travel plan will be required.

MH then added that a rail link runs through Andover, to Ludgershall, and could perhaps be utilised as part of the development.

## **5. Cycle Strategy – Vivien messenger**

VM stated that a total of 42 comments were received in response to the cycle strategy which is hoped will be adopted by the end of 2008.

NF added that funding and support is needed to make routes and links better.

DH expressed the need to encourage cycling on cycle routes rather than on roads. VM acknowledged the need to cater for all cyclists; road users and leisure.

# Transport

## **MINUTES**

DB stated that it needs to be made clear where the routes start and stop for those who are unaware. VM explained that maps outlining routes, bridle ways and quiet roads will be produced when funding is available.

NF enquired whether there is a cycle counter on the A3057. If not, Sustrans can fund the placement of one.

### **6. Other transport matters**

- MM enquired as to whether taxis licensed to carry wheelchairs get a reduction in tax and whether the fares are the same for all.

CL stated that taxis are governed by Test Valley whilst private cars can determine their own fares but need to be pre-booked.

Said that Michael White, the TVBC licensing manager may have some information on this.

MM stated that she only knew of 2 private taxi firms that carry wheelchairs.

DH said that a wheelchair accessible car (CanGo) already exists in Southern Test Valley but they are looking to introduce one in Northern Test Valley also, in association with ShopMobility. It will be a book-able service for medical journeys operated by volunteer drivers.

- NF spoke about the Three Rivers Rail Partnership which incorporates TVBC, Hampshire County Council, Eastleigh Borough Council, Salisbury District Council, Southampton City Council and the train companies, and their free bus running from Romsey and Dunbridge to Mottisfont Abbey and Hillier Gardens. He also explained station adoption schemes..
- MH discussed station audits that are being carried out at 49 stations in Hampshire throughout July and August. Explained that these are carried out in conjunction with train companies and would link to S106 agreements to seek better facilities and hopefully encourage greater use of stations.

MM stated that Enham residents are unable to access train services on the day and have to book places in advance. This is inappropriate because of the health of residents. Have set up a train complaints book which links to the disability forum group.

# Transport

## **MINUTES**

- DH stated that the Andover to Winchester hospital shuttle bus is now up and running. VM read email from Julie regarding success of service which has take a large number of patients and visitors to the hospital and been well received.

DH spoke of discussions regarding the expansion of Dial-a-Ride in Andover. Also the chance that charges will have to be introduced to cover increasing cost of fuel as people transfer from their cars to public transport.

### **7. Any other business**

None

### **8. Date of Next Meeting**

The date for the next action group meeting is:

Weds 22nd October    3.00pm    Conference Room 5 Beech Hurst Andover

Apologies:            Dick Hewett

### **9. Dates for next year**

Weds 21st January    3.00pm    Large Council Chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey

Weds 22nd April       3.00pm    Conference Room 5, Beech Hurst, Andover

Thurs 16th July       3.00pm    Large Council Chamber, Duttons Road, Romsey

Weds 21st October    3.00pm    Conference Room 5, Beech Hurst, Andover.