



**Worthing Together Transport Sub Group  
23<sup>rd</sup> February 2006, 3:15 pm  
East Worthing Community Centre**

**Note of meeting**

**Attendees:**

Ian Richardson, Worthing Council of Community Association  
Roger Foregard, Federation of Small Business  
Bob Symtherman, Councillor Worthing Borough Council  
Ken Costello, Worthing Borough Council  
Julia Carrette, Worthing CVS (Guest Speaker)  
Geoff Davis, Worthing Dial a ride (Guest Speaker)  
Clare Gardiner, Community Planning Officer, West Sussex County Council

**1. Apologies**

Richard Wells, Principal Transport Planner, West Sussex County Council  
Jeff Lake, Arun, Adur and Worthing Primary Care Trust  
Roy Barraclough, representing the Worthing CDRP  
Heather Mckintosh, West Sussex County Council

**2. Notes of last meeting**

Agreed

**3. Matters Arising**

None

**4. Community Transport Needs**

Community Transport includes a wide range of schemes: Car shares, dial a ride, hiring for groups, groups own mini bus use. There is no one model in any area.

Julia Carrette and Geoff Davis explained how the current dial a ride system operates and some of the difficulties associated with the scheme.

Dial a ride was established in Worthing in 1997. There are now three dial a ride buses, used to provide a door-to-door service for individuals who can not physically access public transport, and or have difficulty carrying shopping all of whom are escorted.

There are varying dial a ride services provided seven days a week, including supermarket runs, GP surgeries and garden centre visits (Sunday only). The average journey distance being 3 Miles. Hospital runs are not provided because of the long length of appointment times. Clients book the day ahead and the cost ranges from £2.60 - £6.00 depending on journey length. The funding provided to this service is geographically restricted, which means all journeys undertaken are within the Worthing Borough.

Typically a taxi journey from Tarring to Worthing Town centre was quoted at £11 (presumably return).

An issue was highlighted in terms of the major out of town supermarkets within the district not allowing community transport Vehicles to park up whilst the clients conduct their business.

Funding to the extent of £11,000 has been obtained from West Sussex County Council to undertake an action research project investigating the viability of setting up a Pilot Brokerage Scheme in Worthing. From April 2006 for nine months. If the project is found to be viable more funding will be sought from a variety of institutions e.g. Bid to the Big Lottery which could last 5 years.

Support will be sought from Worthing Together.

A brokerage transport scheme makes available for hire the minibuses and other vehicles owned by voluntary and community organisations. The type of scheme aims to make good use of 'down time' vehicles to enable others to travel whilst gaining income for the hirer, and covering some costs of the coordination body.

In 2004 WCVS and WSCC undertook some research that showed that there are at least 34 different organisations in Worthing with operational minibuses.

Also last year a survey among voluntary and public organisation found (of 78 returned questionnaires) that at least 22 groups would like the use of a minibus regularly and 53 occasionally. Also so far 10 groups have written letters of support for the scheme.

Both the current dial a ride service and any new brokerage scheme will require secure parking facilities for minibuses along with an office space.

It was noted by all that providing parking space was probably not to difficult to find, but being able to provide office space near by poses more of a challenge.

It was agreed that Julia would return to the group in around three months time to give an update on progress and to confirm what support she may need from this group and Worthing Together.

Julia also took the opportunity to promote the following events:

- 1- Co-ordinated Community Transport Brokerage on the 9<sup>th</sup> March at the Durrington Community Centre
- 2- Dial – a –Ride Passenger Consultation on the 20<sup>th</sup> March at the Kingsway Hotel, Marine Parade

**Action** – Ian Richardson, offered to contact Lloyds TSB to establish if they may have secure parking for minibuses.

### **5. Agree and Finalise Work Programme**

Page one of the draft work programme was discussed and amended accordingly (to follow).

**Action** Ken Costello will establish if information regarding how the uptake for the concessionary fare scheme for to the over 60s is available and share with this group.

The group agreed to continue this work as it's next meeting.

### **6. A.O.B**

Bob Symtherman asked if Mr Hillar (remember Hayley Campaign) should be invited to attend the next meeting. The group agreed to postpone an invitation to Mr Hillar pending discussion currently underway with Worthing Borough Council and it will also give this group time to complete its exhaustive work programme.

It was noted that Clare Gardiner had made contact with Liz Beth of Sustrans, but had not yet received a response. **Action** Clare to follow up.

John Saville of the Worthing First Group has expressed an interest in working with this group on transport matters. **Action** Clare to send notes of meeting and dates of future meetings (once set).

### **7. Date of next meeting**

**Action** Clare will arrange a suitable date, as it will be essential that Jeff Lake can attend the next meeting because of the Active Worthing Project part of work programme.