



**Worthing Together Transport Sub Group
11th January 2.30pm 2007
East Worthing Community Centre**

Note of meeting

Attendees:

Roger Foregard, Federation of Small Businesses
Ian Richardson, Worthing Council of Community Associations
Cllr Bob Smytherman, Worthing Borough Council
Sally Dovey, Rural Transport Planner, WSCC
Ken Costello, Worthing Borough Council
Ed McDermott, Worthing Borough Council
John Griffiths, West Sussex Brokerage Scheme
Roy Stannard, Worthing First

1. Apologies

Darryl Hemmings, Transport Planner, WSCC
Andy Warton, Passenger Transport Planner, WSCC

2. Notes of Last Meeting

Substitute Chris Bradley for Brian Curtis in attendee list, otherwise agreed.

3. Matters arising

Roger wished every one a Happy New Year and welcomed Roy Stannard from Worthing First to the group. Roger mentioned that the Worthing First Transport Group had now disbanded, and will be subsumed into the Worthing Together sub group.

Roy thanked Roger for taking the group on.

No other matters arising – the actions to be held over.

4. West Sussex Brokerage Scheme

The scheme is funded through WCVS, and currently has 10 mini buses in place ranging from a small disabled vehicle through to a 15 seater, fully accessible bus. The buses are supplied by organisations from Worthing making them available when they are not using them.

The scheme is now in the public domain, and has 15-20 organisations interested, and is available to non-profit making groups and organisations.

Marketing has mainly come in the form of press releases, through WSCC, WBC and the CVS Newsletter. **Action** - Sally to check whether this goes into West Sussex Connections.

The scheme currently works out of the Dial a Ride premises. The two schemes will share a new community transport computer system to improve management but are stand alone projects.

Cllr Smytherman mentioned that the Worthing Access & Mobility Group are concerned that Dial a Ride will be integrated into the brokerage scheme. John reiterated that the brokerage scheme is an additional service, and does not provide dial a ride type assistance.

Action – To recommend that the LSP recognise the distinction between the Brokerage Scheme and Dial a Ride, and to support the Dial a Ride as a stand-alone service.

John Griffiths will continue to update the group on the Brokerage Scheme.
Action - Ed to add John to the email list.

5. Community Transport

Health Transport for Worthing – The first coffee morning was held in Adur.

Need to raise interest among GPs.

Action – To raise the lack of interest amongst GPs with the LSP, and to look at solutions.

6. Disability & Access

Licensing of Disabled access taxis – Cllr Smytherman raised the issue that although there are 15 wheelchair accessible vehicles in Worthing, there are a number of these who do not actually pick up.

WBC is about to commence an Equalities and Diversity Review of it's taxi/private hire licensing function, as part of the councils overall programme. This will include ethnicity and disability issues. As part of the review effective ways of raising the profile of the duties under the Disability Discrimination Act will be looked at, including how this applies to licensed transport providers.

Shopmobility – Cllr Smytherman raised that a Government Disability Advisory Group recommended that district and borough councils should fund Shopmobility schemes.

Ken stated that the organisation has received one off funding each of the previous two years.

Roy suggested that one of the best ways to make the organisation sustainable would be to link it with a business.

Roy suggested that potential commercial sponsorship could for Shopmobility, Dial a Ride and the Brokerage scheme could be viable, and attract funding for the groups. **RS to make contact with the organisation to raise awareness.**

Action – To recommend that the LSP and Borough Council support Shopmobility, but that they talk to WCVS and Worthing First to look at how the project can be made commercial and more sustainable.

7. Updates

- Off Road Link:

Ian mentioned that B&W are looking to expand their site, as they are in the process of closing some of their manufacturing facilities in the North of England, to relocate into Worthing.

The proposed warehouse would be near the Dale Road site. This would have a number of implications:

- Land use
- Access
- Biodiversity
- Traffic

Ken advised that the group should continue to plan the Off Road Link on the assumption that any prospective new build would not effect the route.

Due to time constraints Roger has been unable to map a route out. **Action** - RF and IR to:

- Mark out route to include path, lighting etc.
- Send information to Ken to pass on to Derek McGee

- **A27**

Roger has recently attended the A27 task force meeting. The draft report is being finalised to go the WSCC Strategic Environmental Services Select Committee.

It has 20 actions has been drawn up with various time-scales ranging from short to long term. The next meeting is 13th September.

- **Active Worthing**

David Brindley has left West Sussex PCT, and currently there is no one to pick up his work on Active Worthing. In the interim, Ed will be the contact point for this project.

Ed is meeting with the Walking To Health in Worthing Partnership meeting on 18th January to discuss extending the walks into East Worthing, using the funding allocated through the Local Areas Agreement.

EM to arrange meeting with IR to discuss East Worthing Community Association involvement in project.

8. Any Other Business

- West Sussex are now charging for their Cycling Proficiency Training. RF had drafted a letter to Cllr Tex Pemberton, which included an objection re. Charging. ***RF to recirculate letter on transport issues, and it was agreed not to include the Off Road Link element of the letter.***

Action – To advise the LSP that the group believe that charging for this Cycle Proficiency Training will impact on the number of children taking up the training in Worthing.

- Buses – Compass run the number 16 bus service (South Lancing to Tarring). During school times the company uses the buses for the school contracts it operates, leaving a gap in the timetable, and in the services available to passengers.
- Masterplan – One of the original transport priorities for the LSP was the seafront cycle route. This was deferred due to the masterplan process and the outcome of this.

Money has also been spent on the seafront link between Shoreham and Worthing. However there is no route that continues along the seafront through Worthing.

Recommendation – For the LSP to encourage the acceleration of the seafront cycle route, now that the Masterplan has been adopted.

9. Date of next meeting – Ed to arrange a suitable date