



**Worthing Together Transport & Environment Sub Group  
18<sup>th</sup> May 2007, 2.30pm  
East Worthing Community Centre**

**Note of meeting**

Attendees:

Roger Foregard, Federation of Small Businesses (chair)  
Ian Richardson, Worthing Council of Community Associations  
Cllr Bob Smytherman, Worthing Borough Council  
Carina Strutt, Environment Agency  
Nicola Coleridge, West Sussex County Council  
Nicky Bleakley, West Sussex County Council  
Paul Willis, Worthing Borough Council  
Keith Chamberlain, Worthing Borough Council  
Ed McDermott, Worthing Borough Council

**1. Apologies**

Andy Warton, Passenger Transport Planner, WSCC  
John Griffiths, West Sussex Brokerage Scheme  
Ken Costello, Worthing Borough Council  
Darryl Hemmings, Transport Planner, WSCC

**2. Notes of Last Meeting & Matters arising**

**EM to speak to Mark Lowe again to see where the OSC review of Community Transport is up to.**

**3. Development of a Sustainable Community Strategy**

See Prioritisation table.

**Action – Group to prioritise list for actions in Sustainable Community Strategy**

**4. Worthing Coastal Rail Services**

This refers to an article in the Worthing Herald on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May on the restructuring of Southern Train services affecting stations between Brighton and Southampton, to coincide with the withdrawal of the hourly South West Train running from Brighton to Reading.

South West Trains reason that commuters using the Brighton to Reading train only use it for short journeys.

Worthing and Shoreham will now only have 2 trains an hour from London terminating at Littlehampton, although there will be an hourly service to Southampton starting from Brighton rather than London.

The group felt that the curtailment of regular train services preserving links between Worthing to all points East and West does not assist in encouraging a modal shift from car use, particularly when many areas in the district are poorly served by bus services.

### **Action – RF to draft paper on rail links to go to LSP meeting**

## **5. School Travel**

Nicola updated the group on school travel plans. Of the 30 schools in Worthing, 20 have reached Travel Mark level 1. The other 10 are still to reach this stage, but hope to have it in place by March 08.

Of the 10 remaining schools, 9 are on target to reach the level, and one school has not engaged with the process as yet.

The Travel Change team will work with the schools to progress past level on to Mk 2 & 3.

Since 2004, there has been a significant take up of travel plans, from 24 to 220 in 2007. There has been a reduction in (single use) car use across the county.

Cllr Smytherman expressed concern regarding a charge being introduced for transport to denominational schools in West Sussex. The decision means:

- Existing home to school travel arrangements will continue
- A charge of £60 per term for primary school pupils and £90 per term for secondary school pupils will be introduced for children newly admitted to church aided schools from September 2008.
- Existing pupils will continue to benefit from current arrangements
- Families on low income will continue to receive support

A new concessionary fair will be introduced which will offer reduced rates to children from September 2007.

### **Recommendations:**

- **For schools to continue encourage their pupils to travel by sustainable means and promote the use of the concessionary fair scheme**
- **For the group to monitor the success of the concessionary fair scheme**

## **6. Worthing Cycle Routes**

The group looked over the plans for the new cycle facilities in Worthing, circulated by Darryl.

After discussion the group indicated its support for the proposals though expressed concern as regards to access for service vehicles (e.g. dustcarts) and felt this needed to be addressed, especially around the Penfold Road junction with Dominion Road and other similar points.

**Recommendation – The group support the proposals with the proviso that access for service vehicles is taken into account.**

**Actions:**

- **Nicky to speak to Darryl re. access issues.**
- **EM to check with Darryl how he would like the group to respond.**
- **RF to respond to Darryl.**

## **7. Community Transport**

Cllr Smytherman reported that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee review of the community transport provision in Worthing, will be in June. Mark Lowe has already drafted a project plan. **EM to contact Mark Lowe to find out where the review is up to and ensure transport group involvement.**

## **8. Teville Stream**

The stream runs at the back of Brooklands and is in poor shape. Adur have contributed £1,000 to the delivery of a scoping report to look into how it can be used as an amenity.

Carina asked if there was any potential for a joint initiative between Adur and Worthing to deliver this with the Environment Agency.

The group agreed that this would be a worthwhile initiative and could be included as a possible action for the Sustainable Community Strategy. It also fits with the aims of the Off Road Link.

**Action – To include Teville Stream as a possible action for the SCS.**

## **9. Updates:**

- **Off Road Link**

Ian met with Valerie Carter, Rural Sector Director, SEEDA, and Ed to talk through the Off Road Link proposals. Valerie subsequently contacted Natural England (formerly Countryside Agency, Natural England and the Rural Development Service) who are keen to arrange a meeting with Ian.

- **Active Worthing**

Nothing further to report

- **A27**

Following the A27 Task Force's deliberations, 20 options were placed before the West Sussex County Council's Strategic & Environmental Service Select Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

The options are split between Short/Medium/Long term actions. **RF to email options to EM for circulation amongst group.**

Keith Chamberlain talked through some of the work being done on air pollution in the borough, and that it is the statutory role of the district to monitor air pollution.

WBC have started a review of air pollution within the borough, and this could highlight areas of concern and exceed government targets. Should this happen Air Quality Action Zones could be created. There are 2 specific areas along the A27 in Worthing that may fall into this category, Lyons Farm and Grove Lodge.

If these areas are declared action zones, and action plan will be drawn up within 12 months, which could force action.

**Action – Keith to present on Air Pollution at a future meeting**

## **10. Any other business**

Keith mentioned that the current Community Strategy has a goal of improving bathing water quality in Worthing with a view to applying for blue flag status.

Keith explained that new standards were in place, and that Worthing would probably not meet the new water standards for sea water. Actions were being taken to monitor this and why this might be the case. Once this has been completed and sources of the problems are found, remediation work can take place.

**Action – Keith to keep the group updated at future meetings.**

## **11. Date of next meeting**

Ed to arrange date and venue