

Whiteley Parish Council

Highways and Transport Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held at Meadowside Leisure Centre, Whiteley on Wednesday 18th November 2009 at 8.42pm.

Parish Council Committee members present: Kairen Goves (Chairman), Brian Hughes (Vice-Chairman), Vivian Achwal, Roland Diffey, Mike Evans, Brenda Hatch, Al Menzies, Pat Thew

Parish Councillors Paul Beaumont, Colin Bielckus, two members of the public, Parish Clerk Nicki Oliver

1. **To receive apologies for absence** None.
2. **To receive declarations of interest regarding agenda items** None.
3. **To adjourn meeting to allow participation by members of the public**
Resident Pat Wright asked for bollard repairs and replacement in Marjoram Way and also questioned whether Marjoram Way was adopted. *Marjoram Way is adopted, adoptions can be checked on HCC's website*
<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/roads/highway-information/maintained-roads.htm>

4. **Meeting resumed to consider the following agenda items:**

4.1 To progress proposals within the adopted 'Safer Access to Schools' paper **An unsatisfactory response has been received to the Council's representation on the proposed improvements to Yew Tree Drive. A further representation to be made. Chairman Cllr Goves is joining a Whiteley Primary School Working Party to update the School Travel Plan.**

4.2 To receive update on the yellow line review regarding the parking issues in Parkway and elsewhere. **WCC has agreed to place an order for the warning zigzags at the greenway crossing in Saffron Way.**

4.3 To consider issues relating to HCC's Whiteley Emergency Traffic Plan. **Response awaited from Cllr Allgood on emergency plans should Whiteley Way be blocked between R2 roundabout and Parkway.**

4.4 To receive update on proposed improvements to Whiteley bus services and associated infrastructure. To consider any new information affecting committee decision not to proceed with an additional bus shelter in Rookery Avenue (Cllr Hatch).

There are no planned improvements to the bus services in the short to medium term. The Committee is to work with HCC to collate all bus information for Whiteley to allow accurate timetables for existing services to be publicised.

Cllr Hatch wished to pursue a request for a bus shelter in Rookery Avenue. The Parish Council has not received a formal request from residents for a shelter; the bus stop is used for a private bus serving Swanmore College. Chairman Cllr Goves has asked a number of students and parents waiting at the stop if a shelter was necessary and no problems with the current situation were raised.

The Chairman has also contacted Brijan (the bus operator) to ask if they could stop at an alternative bus stop with a shelter - they declined. It was suggested that as the parents pay for the service they could request the alternative Solent Hotel bus-stop be used instead.

It was agreed not to pursue the request at this time.

4.5 To receive update on requests to HCC/Police Road Safety Unit including maintenance requests, current list of requests attached.

4.5.1 Request for speed reduction measures on Whiteley Lane HCC has agreed to monitor speeding on Whiteley Lane.

The Chairman was congratulated for succeeding in persuading HCC/WCC to paint a left turn arrow at the Rookery Avenue R1 junction with Whiteley Way. This is the result of several years of lobbying and will create a much safer environment for drivers.

4.6 To consider committee budget requests for 2010/11. It was agreed to ask for a budget to assist towards the costs of top dressing and improving the drainage to the Gull Coppice permissive footpath, used by parents and children to walk to school. Budget to be confirmed to Finance Chairman prior to next Full Council meeting.

- 5. To identify any unmanaged risks within this committee's remit** None.
- 6. Review effectiveness of communication, development of links with other community organisations and support for local democracy through making information more widely available** Continue to monitor.
- 7. Recent correspondence / reports from meetings of relevance to this committee**

HCC Local Transport Plan consultation

<http://hantswebstaging.hants.gov.uk/ltp-consultation> response to be agreed.

Cllr Goves attended the HCC Parish Transport Reps meeting on 14th November, notes appended to minutes for information.

Meeting closed 9.36pm

November highways maintenance requests:

Ref:	Location:	Repair Requested:
1875904	Leafy Lane to Whiteley Lane Greenway	Large cracks in path need repairing
1875917	Leafy Lane to Whiteley Lane Greenway	Overhanging trees/shrubs need cutting back Path width needs reinstating and vegetation cut back
1875922	Gibson Close	Weeds and grass covering the cobbled highway:
1875934	Solent Way/Rookery Refuge	Risk assessment requested – roads signs block view of oncoming traffic from R1
1875936	Adjacent to Hyssop Close	Bollard still needs reinstating
1875942	Yew Tree Drive	Overhanging branches need removing and vegetation cleared from left hand side
1875944	Mollison Rise	Large cracks in greenway path need repairing opposite no. 46 particularly bad
1875947	Rookery Avenue / R1	Left hand arrow requested for left hand lane (towards Tesco)
1876585	Marjoram Way	'No's 26,28,30,32 Only' sign needs reinstating
1879931	Cartwright Drive	Vegetation obscuring 'no right turn' sign into Segensworth Road East
1890108	Yew Tree Drive	Large, wide cracks appeared in highway and pavement
Direct email	R1	Flooded on south east quadrant of R1 (request to Transport Team South)

Cllr Kairen Goves notes from the Annual Meeting of Parish Transport Reps on Saturday 14th November at Winchester Discovery Centre.

The meeting was better chaired this year by Stephen Williamson, Assistant Director of Business Innovation and Support. He welcomed us, made a brief introduction and passed onto:

Mark Turner the Commercial Director of Stagecoach South: He explained the recession impact and their reaction. Basically, people losing their jobs = less bus and train journeys. unemployed = less shoppers using buses and trains. Therefore they had to reduce frequency thus reducing costs. However they did continue to invest by rolling out a new Goldline service and fleet in the north of the county which has proved successful.

Peter Shelley, Head of Passenger Transport: Gave the Hampshire Public Transport Patronage figures;

2007/8 Bus, Rail, Ferry Total 49,817,659

2008/9 Bus, Rail, Ferry Total 51,454,482

So, yet another increase = good news.

Traveline is a success: Phone: 600k calls a year and Website 900k hits a week. Txt4times: next 3 departures from a bus stop sent by text. Next buses is the new system being rolled out.

Rail Re-openings: Rail operators have set the top twenty to include - Marchwood, Ringwood and Bordon.

Pilot Update - Yellow Bus;

- 3 vehicles operating in Basingstoke serving 5 schools
- 238 registered users
- Over 33,000 trips per annum
- Described as 'very successful' by Yellow School Bus Commission in 2008
- Now full with a waiting list

Despite the above Peter Shelley said that the cost of the service is too high and they do not think it will rolled out further. He said Surrey are scrapping theirs already.

Pilot Update - BusIT:

- Schemes introduced in Waterside and Eastleigh
- Package of measures including:
 - Introduction of BusIT cards and £1 flat fare
 - Development of new website for students
 - Retiming and extending existing bus services
- Over 66,000 trips by bus per annum (195% rise)

Andrew Wilson then spoke about the Bus Rapid Transit, Eco-town and the Growth Agenda.

Things over-ran somewhat so questions were postponed and we went straight to the Break out Surgeries:

I went to: Bus Services - South East hosted by Stephen Warren the Principle Transport Officer. This session was very short. There was only time for a question from Botley PC regarding the old Brighton to Bournemouth service = could it be resurrected? Swanmore PC had concerns that none of the Parish Information Leaflets regarding public transport has actually been delivered in Swanmore. A private agent was used and had been paid for by the County yet they did not deliver. The rep had checked with ten properties in every road in Swanmore and none had been received. Then we were out of time.

Returned for Plenary session: Conclusions from surgeries. Criticism was made that my suggestion that public transport changes be emailed to Parish Reps or Clerks in a blanket email had still not happened by a few delegates. Stephen Williamson said that they had technical issues they were still trying to resolve.

I did manage to speak to Stephen Warren whom I had email exchanged with. He said that First Bus have been awarded the tender again for the next 4/5 years for our area. He said that the costing for those two mooted routes they wanted came in at a whopping £500k PER YEAR!!! This is why the Businesses were unwilling to assist with funding. They tried to get funding through the Kickstart scheme but to no avail - they were kicked back. I explained the timetable difficulties we have and that First Bus have been very unhelpful trying to resolve it. Stephen said he will be meeting with them soon so I said I could let him know the problems so that hopefully we can get a clearer easier timetable perhaps for publication within the Whiteley Voice. He was pleased to hear we wanted to help resolve these things and not just complain.