



Coventry Partnership Transport Theme Group

6 February 2008

Dame Ellen Terry Suite, St Mary's Guildhall

Present:

Nigel Wain	Coventry Partnership
Dilip Chauhan	Coventry City Council
Mike Barnes	Community Transport (Acting Chair)
Neil Ross	Centro
Graham Hine	University of Warwick
Joyce Lambert	NRF Programme management
Alison Porter	Physical Sensory Impairment Partnership
Naomi Nortey	Physical Sensory Impairment Partnership
Christine Eade	Routeforward Project Manager
Andy Littlewood	Coventry City Council
Cllr J McNicholas	Coventry City Council
Bernard Delaney	West Midlands Travel
Cllr Foster	Coventry City Council
Su Edwards	Coventry Partnership (minutes)
Kathryn Bell	Coventry City Council
Alan Newland	Coventry City Council
Des Rogers	Ring and Ride

Apologies:

Nigel Mills	Coventry City Council
Pat Marlow	CEN
Chris Smith	CEN
Martin Trewinnard	Coventry City Council
Keith Waller	UHCW
Lesley Kelly	Voluntary Sector
Kam Kaur	Older Peoples Partnership
Gemma Rowan	UHCW
Duncan Ashley	Ring and Ride

1. Introductions & Welcome

Mike Barnes (acting chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

These were noted.

3. **Minutes & Matters Arising**

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and agreed.

Matters Arising /Actions:

Drop Kerbs - Neil Ross reported that he had contacted Andrew Page (Centro) regarding working with Ring and Ride and other outside agencies on the proposals to put drop kerbs near bus stops. Andrew would make contact with Ring and Ride and other interested parties directly.

WMRA Strategic Review of Transport - Christine reported that the meeting with Nigel Mills had been rearranged. Mike Barnes reminded Christine that the input needed to be made before the deadline.

PTS Eligibility Criteria Nigel Wain informed the group that the latest D of H eligibility guidance on non emergency patient transport had been received from Damian Dixon and had been circulated to the group.

4. **Major Transport Schemes**

Alan Newland

Alan presented slides regarding the growth agenda, local transport plan, including integrated schemes – such as school, cycle, safety, signage and regeneration. See attached slides

The Transport Capital Settlement for Coventry is £14.5M.

The plans cover:-

- Integrated transport
 - Safer routes to school
 - New cycle routes
 - Local safety schemes
 - Highway signage schemes
 - Regeneration schemes with highway improvements
- Major Schemes (RFA process)
 - Sprint
 - PrimeLines
 - Coventry Station
- Maintenance schemes
 - Bridge strengthening
 - Highways maintenance/resurfacing.

Additional funding will still need to be secured to proceed with the major schemes such as the Rail station Friargate, Swanswell and the new station for the Ricoh arena..

In response to a question Alan reported Sprint might be running by 2012

The main upgrade or the Prime lines routes is the introduction of the Real Time information system , which will provide real time Bus arrival information via displays at selected bus shelter by Summer 2008. Text messages, web site info and email links will also be provided. Information will also be made available to Visually Impaired people precise details of how this will be done are still being developed.

The hospital has installed information screens at various locations for visitors to view.

- Theme group to monitor the progress and outcomes
Action Christine Eade

Joyce agreed to incorporate into the NRF Succession Framework and bring back to the Theme Group.

6. **Swiftlink**

Mike Barnes tabled a paper stating Swiftlink's current position – that as things stand at present the service will not be able to run beyond March 2008.

Mike explained the usage and users of the service and the history of the service provided. He explained the funding sources that had been sort but no firm amounts or decisions had been made.

Mike explained the exit strategy for drivers in progress at present with retraining being offered.

John McNicholas asked if the Chamber of Commerce had been approached about the impact of loosing the service.

Action Nigel Wain to arrange a meeting with Louise Bennet at the Chamber.

Des Rogers referred to the Ring and Ride business plan currently awaiting approval from Centro. This may have flexibility which could fund Travel to work once it is approved.

Dilip queried the level of consultation which had been held on the Business plan. It was agreed Cllr McNicholas and Dilip Chauhan would follow this up with Steve Rogers at Centro

The University of Warwick have been involved in discussions to use Routeforward to transport cleaners to the University. The University were in the process of going out to Tender but the timescales could be too late for Swiftlink.

Action Graham Hine would see if the timescales could be bought forward as the capacity would not be there if Swiftlink was no longer operating..

7. **LAA** **Nigel Wain**

Nigel stated that the Sustainable Community Strategy consultation is now completed. The main addition to the strategy from the consultation is the need of an out of hours transport scheme. The final document is now being completed and will be presented to the Coventry Partnership Board on 21 February 2008.

There are ongoing discussions with the Local Public Service Board regarding the Local Area Agreement and Local Government Office have asked that the indicators be agreed t by 11 March 2008.

A partnership briefing was scheduled for 3pm 6 February 2008 , Cllr John McNicholas agreed to attend as a representative of the Transport Theme Group.

At present there is still no final confirmation of the technical guidance for the performance indicators measures in the LAA.

8. CEN/Voluntary Sector

Nothing to report.

9. Review if Theme Group Action Plan

Nigel Wain presented the paper and the group were asked to agree any further actions.

It was agreed that additional work was needed on;

- a. Access to Hospital A survey of bus users is taking place in Sept
- b. School Travel Plans – Sally Jewson/ Martin Wilkinson was named as a person to contact regarding this matter to include as agenda item at future meeting..
- c. A representative from the Chamber of Commerce should be invited to attend Transport Theme Group meetings.
- d. Green travel plans are being investigated at Warwick University and through Routeforward.
- e. Bus design is ultimately covered by European legislation. There is no specific action the Theme group can take outside of normal consultations.
- f. Accessibility Planning – awaiting recruitment before this matter can be furthered.
- g. Major infrastructure investment in the city is contributing to increased Bus usage.
- h. Contact with the Youth Council needs to be strengthened to get true representation from the young people of the City.
- i. Community of Interest Partnerships Transport Forum- explore holding the annual forum in Sept/Oct

10. Communications

Routeforward Awards have been held and approximately 80 people attended the event. It was a very successful event with John Nesbit as a celebrity guest at the evening.

A press release has been sent to the Coventry Times for publication.

11. Items for future meeting:

Items suggested for the next meeting:-

City Centre Plans
Accessibility Planning
School Travel Plans
NDC transport issues

12. Any Other Business

Nothing to report.

13. Future meeting dates:

Wednesday 16th April, 10 – 12noon, Maple Room ,Elm Bank, Mile Lane, Coventry.

