



Coventry Partnership Transport Theme Group
Wed 23rd Sept 10:00 – 12:00
Diamond Room 2 Council House

Present:

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| Mike Barnes | Acting Chair |
| Cllr Gary Ridley | Cabinet Member |
| Karen King | Community Transport |
| Clive Robinson | UHCW |
| Cllr Andrew Williams | West Midlands ITA |
| Bernard Delaney | National Express Coventry |
| Nigel Mills | Coventry City Council- Transport and Planning |
| Alison Porter | Physical and Sensory Impairment Partnership |
| Nigel Wain | Coventry Partnership |
| Graham Hine | University of Warwick |
| Ian McDonald | CCC- Regeneration |
| John Anderson | WMFS |
| Andrea Mbarusimana | Peace House |
| Alan Sprung | Peace House |
| Joanne Rainbow | CCC- Transport and Planning |

Apologies:

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| Cllr John McNicholas | Chair |
| Martin Trewinnard | Coventry City Council- Planning |
| Moriah Preistley | Older Peoples Partnership |
| Karen Kelly | University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire |
| Esther Higden | PCT |
| Des Rogers | Ring and Ride |
| Lesley Kelly | Voluntary Sector Rep |
| Graham Aylott | Chamber of Commerce |
| Neil Ross | CENTRO |
| Andrew Page | CENTRO |
| Andy Littlewood | CCC |

1. Welcome & Introductions

Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly Clive and John who were attending their first meetings and Andrea, Alan and Ian who were attending for to present specific agenda items.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted as above.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed.

Matters arising:-

Bus Operators Open Day

Bernard reported that the open day would be on Tuesday 29th Sept with 3 events. First there would be 'meet the manager ' at Pool Meadow followed at 10-30 by opportunities to talk to all the bus operators in Broadgate. The Transport User Forum would then be held in the Council house at 6-30pm.

Local Development Framework

Cllr Ridley reported that the LDF Core Strategy was out for public examination. A number of development sites which had previously been rejected were being reopened during the examination.

City Centre Action Plan

Cllr Ridley also reported that the City Centre Action plan setting where the initial redevelopment was going to start had been discussed at Council and would need to be shared at a future meeting of the transport theme group.

Community Cohesion Strategy

Nigel (W) reported that the draft Community Cohesion strategy had been published for comment. See

www.coventrypartnership.com/equalitiesandcommunitiesdocuments

CENTRO Prospectus

Nigel (W) reported that the sub group had met and submitted comments on the CENTRO prospectus we were now awaiting the revised document to be published

Community Transport Review

Jake had advised that the Community Transport Review had not yet been published; anyone interested in the findings should contact Centro .

4. Local Transport Plan 3 Consultation – Nigel Mills

Nigel(M) presented the plans for development of Local Transport Plan 3.

The current Local transport plan ran from 2006-2011; the new LTP3 would cover 2011 to 2026. The consultation process for the LTP would start early with guidance published on the 28th Sept.

Nigel suggested that that as the next Theme group was not until November, it might be best if a sub group was formed to develop the consultation response.

(Details of the consultation published on 28th Sept can be found at:-

<http://westmidlandsltp.gov.uk/ltp3vision/>)

Nigel explained that the LTP was in 3 parts- strategy and policy, funding and monitoring/targets. The LTP directed funding for such things as Road Safety and Travel Wise. For schemes above £5m separate plans would be required eg Friargate, Nuckle , Sprint, Bus Rapid Transit, A45 junction

Mike commented that we need to ensure the LTP aligns with the City Centre plans.

Cllr Ridley reported that the key strategies for Transport in the city were the Core Strategy and RSS, The LTP and RFA were funding backdrops. He also suggested we cover the ongoing sub national review at a future meeting and Mike suggested we invite Rose Poulter to brief the group

Action

Invite Rose Poulter to a future Theme Group meeting to talk about the Sub National Review

Nigel(W) agreed to organise the sub group meeting . Mike, Nigel, Bernard, Karen, Graham and Cllr McNicholas volunteered to join.

Action

Nigel to arrange sub group meeting.

5. CABLED - Ian McDonald

Ian Macdonald circulated a paper (See attached) explaining CABLED (Coventry and Birmingham Low Emission Demonstrator) which would be piloting a trial of electric vehicles. Key points were:-

- The Consortium consists of Coventry & Birmingham Council, Land Rover, Tata, Mercedes, Mitsubishi, LTI, Microcab, EON, Universities, Arup(Project manager).
- £7.5m funding from Technology and Strategy Board and AWM
- 110 vehicles in the trial.
- Infrastructure for recharging (including Hydrogen refuelling points) would be installed
- Trial would last 18 months
- Trial users would be selected by Coventry University- only 100 people have expressed an interest from CCC but over 500 in Birmingham and Landrover.
- Charging points would be at home, at work and selected car parks.
- Usage of vehicles would be logged.
- The range of each vehicle was 70-100 miles.
- Coventry University would produce a study on the impact of the project

During discussion the following points were raised:-

- Access to charging would be free of charge but an Oyster type card could be used in the future.
- Cllr Ridley highlighted the importance of persuading people to move from petrol vehicles- Transport produces 20% of the carbon footprint. He was looking for the project to produce a business case to persuade people to use electric cars with the benefits clearly identified (an 8 hour charge could cost as little as a pound)
- Joanne highlighted that Mitsubishi would be promoting their Cars to a wider range of users in Coventry to assess the take up in the broader market.
- Mike was concerned that Electric Vehicles are silent and could present a risk to pedestrians.

- Mike also mentioned that WMSNT were introducing electric vehicles for their home to school contracts in Birmingham but they were twice the cost.
- Ian highlighted the complementary commercial vehicle project which partners from the Transport Theme group were involved in and that the Council were purchasing a vehicle from Coventry based Modec.

Mike thanked Ian for the highly interesting presentation and looked forward to hearing how the project progressed at future meetings.

6. City of Sanctuary – Andrea Mbarushimana & Alan Sprung

Andrea referred to the paper circulated prior to the meeting explaining how the City was aiming to become a City of Sanctuary by making the city more welcoming to new arrivals in the city. The movement started 2 years ago and so far 40 organisations in Coventry have signed up. The Council and the Partnership were being approached in the near future. Andrea asked the group to think of ways their organisations or services could be made more welcoming.

The group thought that the City should be welcoming to all people and organisations were already focused on this aim.

Mike mentioned that most people in the group would need to discuss any commitment with their organisations. Approaches via the Coventry Partnership and Council would ensure agreement at senior level.

The Bus Station/Train stations were highlighted as places where people first arrived in Coventry. The Bus station in particular was an area where people had commented that it could be made more welcoming by appropriate signs and images.

Cllr Williams asked Andrea to raise these concerns directly with Centro – Chris Perry but mentioned that costs and ongoing maintenance needed to be considered.

The Train station was controlled by Virgin – they would need to be consulted directly on any improvements.

The City Centre Master plan had already recognised that signage within the city centre was confusing- this would be addressed during the redevelopment.

Andrea agreed to forward the Pledge which organisations would need to sign to support the City of Sanctuary scheme for circulation with the minutes.

Mike thanked Andrea and Alan for their input.

7. Accident Reduction Partnership – John Anderson

John referred to the proposal circulated with the papers to form an accident reduction partnership in the city to focus partnership action to reduce traffic accidents. The partnership would be modelled on one already existing in Birmingham and had been discussed and agreed with Paul Bolton in the Council. The Birmingham partnership manager would help by advising on setting up of the partnership. To Partnership would start with a small focused core group.

Graham, Bernard and Mike expressed interest in joining the partnership.

Mike asked if near miss data was used when considering road improvements as most of the bus operators would have this knowledge but currently the data was not being shared.

The group fully supported the proposal and looked forward to receiving further details.

8. Smarter Travel - Joanne Rainbow

Joanne explained how the Smarter Travel project was initially launched in Earlsdon. Advisors were located in the area to talk to households about changing their travel behaviours. Survey results showed the project was well received with people 1 in 6 actually changing travel patterns.

The project had now been launched in Walsgrave. A card would be delivered to each household prior to visits and people would be asked if they would be interested in different travel choices. Bus timetable info and Bus usage advice would be given to people unused to bus travel. They would also be given a free one day travel pass. Feed back from experienced users could be taken up with operators. The scheme will run till November. Plans were being developed to extend the scheme to the No 13 bus route to Radford and Jubilee Crescent.

Joanne asked this group to pretend they knew nothing about transport if they were approached under this scheme and feed back any comments on the service to her.

Mike commented that it would be better if the group could be kept informed of developments such as these in advance.

This work linked well with the previous discussions about welcoming new arrivals to the city.

9. Partnership Conference

Nigel(W) referred to the paper outlining the plans for the Coventry Partnership conference on Dec 3rd. The Theme would be Community Cohesion and in the afternoon there was a slot for theme groups to showcase an activity which contributed to cohesion.

The group agreed to showcase Independent Travel and invite Christine and Wendy to front this at the conference.

10. Place Survey

Nigel(W) referred to the 2008 Place Survey results circulated with the agenda which showed that satisfaction with provision of transport information had increased by 6% and satisfaction with the bus service had increased by 8% since 2006.

Cllr Williams commented that the results were much better than the region and National figures and commended the prime line partnership in contributing to this

Bernard reported that since the survey National Express Coventry had converted all bus routes to the new low floor buses.

11. Communications

Joanne reported that the prime lines had received an award from the Institute of Chartered Engineers for Partnership working.

Cllr Williams reminded the group of the next Transport Users Forum on 29th Sept.

Graham reported that the Warwick University travel plan had been rated 2nd out of the 134 Universities.

12. Items for Future Meetings

Date of Next meeting – 25th Nov 10-12 Diamond Room 2

Sub Regional Review Rose Poulter
Route Forward Dilip Chauhan
Action Plan Updates
City Centre Plans
Vice Chair (deferred from this meeting)

13. Any other business

Alison circulated a spreadsheet which contained details of the different forms of pre booked transport in the city. She was attempting to clarify eligibility, costs, coverage etc. She proposed to circulate the spreadsheet to the different operators who agreed to complete and return to her. She would report the findings at a future meeting.

Nigel Wain
8th October