

Stratford upon Avon Town Transport Group [TTG]

Minutes from a meeting at 9.30am - 11.30am

on Thursday 12 June 2025 by Zoom

Present: Steve Albon, Aaron Corsi, George Cowcher, John Deegan, Elizabeth Dixon *Secretary*, Ian Fradgley, Jenny Fradgley, Geoff Grant, Lorraine Grocott, Mark Haselden, Richard Lees, Andy List, Lindsay Macdonald, Vicky Mumford, Caroline Nash, Georgia O'Connell, Kate Rolfe, Louisa Slator, Colin Stewart *Chair*, Jann Tracy,

Circulated to Members of the TTG and

WCC Councillors: Edward Harris, Chair; Rob Howard, Leader; Nigel Golby, Transport Portfolio Holder; Stuart Green, Cabinet Support for Transport.

WCC Officers: Mark Ryder, Strategic Director for Communities; David Ayton-Hill, Assistant Director Communities, Transport Planning.

SDC: Officers: Tony Perks, Deputy Chief Executive; Councillor Susan Juned, Leader

Town Council: Caroline Nash, Town Clerk; Councillor Dani Hunter, Mayor.

Member of Parliament: Manuela Perteghella

Additional information can be found on the Stratford Town Council website,
<https://stratford-tc.gov.uk/town-transport-group/>

- 1 Colin Stewart, Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting including *Geoff Grant, Stakeholder for West Midland Trains and Vicky Mumford, Principal transport Planner for WCC.*

It was hoped that *Steven Ireland, Head of Stations, Security and Customer Relationship Management, Central Route | North West and Central Region* would join the meeting after his earlier commitment ended.

Apologies: *Dani Hunter [Mayor], Caroline Nash, Steve Turner.*

- 2 **Minutes** of 8 May 2025 were approved.

- 3 West Midland Trains: Geoff Grant gave the following update:

- The current contractual situation is that WMT's extended contract term runs to September 2026 but can be terminated with 3 months' notice by the Department for Transport.
- Performance - our measures of performance are time within 3 minutes, overall cancellations, ToS cancellations (caused by us) and % shortforming (where relevant). Period 2 is the last full period of data (April to May), and was as follows - WMR (all lines) - T3 is 88.3%, 3% cancellations overall, 1.7

attributable to us, 0.7% shortforming. The respective figures for Nuneaton - Leamington are 91.2%, 3.7% cancellations, 3.2% attributable to us - For Snow Hill Lines, this is 89.1%, 3.7% cancellations, 2.3% attributable to us and 0.7% shortform. All this data can be found by line of route on our website.

- Challenges due to rolling stock were covered as relating to Class 196 and Class 172 trains and the supply chain. Those issues are easing and are reflected in performance figures.
- Whistle Stop Tour held at Stratford and issues identified were around access, ticketing, facilities etc.
- Vice Chair of SLRUG has met with our management staff recently and a number of areas including timetabling, cleanliness etc were covered.
- Opening hours vs actual within the last period were good, with only 3 hours not covered over 4 weeks.
- WMR has successfully covered Community Rail week and thanks to all volunteers who are part of keeping our stations so lovely, of which Stratford is a prime example.
- Efforts continue to address some of the issues at the station including accessibility to toilets, and to secure a coffee shop or van.
- We will meet separately with Victoria Mumford to discuss Parkway specifics.
- Improving connectivity and a plea to have a constructive ongoing dialogue with Chiltern were noted, but this does already happen to an extent.
- I also discussed the possibility of sharing more of the data we have from passenger feedback using our post travel survey.

GG

WMT performance page can be found here:

[Train Performance | West Midlands Railway](#)

CS highlighted the proposed actions in the Transport Strategy & Action Plan, which were to extend the Nuneaton - Leamington service to Stratford, and provide a direct service to London, potentially via extending the Paddington-Oxford service. Also the potential to use the train as an additional route into the town as part of the Park & Ride, with potentially longer hours. VM to investigate.

VM

- 4 Actions and Matters arising and not on the Agenda:** Information about the TTG was sent to County Councillors Rob Howard, WCC Leader, Edward Harris WCC Chair, Nigel Golby WCC Transport Portfolio Holder and Stuart Green Cabinet Support for Transport. Replies from received from Councillors Harris, Howard and Green.

ED

- 5 Transport Strategy & Action Plan** Progress on the key priority items was reviewed:

Town bypass: Stage 1 of the route option study is understood to be in progress. CS is awaiting update from John Careford.

CS

Parking: AC confirmed he is waiting to get a County & District meeting arranged. CS noted that there had been significant work on this 18 months ago and offered to send copies of all reports to AC as background.

AC

CS

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| Active Travel: Next step is to agree priorities. AL to arrange a meeting with all three County Councillors to take forward. | AL |
| Progress on the provision of the cycle parking at the recreation ground was requested by AL. LC to investigate. | LC |
| Park & Ride: Noted that the towpath is still blocked. | ED |
| Journey Planning: AC advised a consultant has now been appointed, and the plan is to get the brand sorted by the end of the year. | AC |
| 5 South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP): SDC is still going through the consultations, the direction of travel should become clear in late summer, with further consultation in Autumn. | GC |
| 6 Projects: See attached schedule | |
| 7 Planning Applications: It was noted that the Green Dragon site application had now been approved. CS noted that this did not appear to take into account future footway and cycleway improvements highlighted in line with the Neighbourhood Plan. The importance of a Town Masterplan which could be used to safeguard future projects was highlighted. CS would once again raise this at the Strategic Partnership. | CS |
| Noted that the Borden Hill housing development was going before an inspector at public inquiry. <i>(post meeting note: TTG had not previously commented on transport grounds)</i> | |
| 8 Any Other Business: <i>Accessible Stratford, Climate Action, Cycle Forum, Neighbourhood Plan, Stratford-Upon-Avon BID, Strategic Partnership, Stratford Society, Technical Sub-Group, Town, District and County Councillors</i> | |
| The June Family Bike Rides, as part of Great Big Green Week were highlight. These will take place on 14 th and 29 th June. Marshall as are required. | ALL |

**The next TTG meeting is from 9.30am - 11.30am
on Thursday 10 July 2025 by Zoom**

Stratford-upon-Avon Town Transport Group (TTG)

Update: 12.6.25

Stratford-upon-Avon Transport Project Status

	Project	Status	Action	Last Update
1	Pedestrian priority of Bridge Street & High Street	WCC presented a proposal for High Street at the last Strategic Partnership meeting. A working group including CS and ED has been set up and is looking at options for potential implementation of a pilot this summer. CN reported that a report had been commissioned by the Town Council, District Council and BID for a Threat Vulnerability and Risk Assessment for the town for events and permanent infrastructure. Proposal now accepted by Strategic Partnership, AA discussing with businesses.	AA	12.6.25
2	Birmingham Road	Updated final plans now include more cycle path connectivity as requested by Cycle Forum and TTG. CS noted that the bus layby adjacent to Costas is to be removed according to the plans, which will require buses to stop in one of the running lanes. TS had previously been requested to clarify why this was being removed, because currently it is used to station buses for driver handover, timetable catchup, etc. No response has been received, LG requested to clarify urgently.	LG	8.5.25
3	Clopton Bridge / Tiddington Road Junction	Original scheme withdrawn. WCC Councillors have met officers, who outlined the project to replace the pelican crossings outside Cox's Yard with a signal controlled junction. Timing expected after B'ham Road,	WCC	12.6.25
4	Evesham Roundabout	Now open, WCC to decide how to connect cycle paths through the junction. WCC still	WCC	14.12.23

		to commission design work. SA to investigate progress.	SA	12.6.25
5	Alcester Road A46 Roundabout (Shottery Relief Road)	Meeting 28 Feb. arranged by our MP, confirmed this work will start once Birmingham Road is complete. Meeting of County Councillors with WCC officers suggested this is no longer the programme. CS to write to MP Manuela to get clarification and push for completion.	WCC CS	8.5.25 12.6.25
6	Alcester Road Cycle Tracks	Stephen Rumble presented proposals to TTG at 11.7.24 meeting. CS wrote with simple suggestions to accommodate LTN1/20 requirements at junctions on 12.7.24. No response. Councillors to chase. Plans have been shown to Cycle Forum and there will be consultation. Connection to A46 OK, but connection to town is still an issue. AL to discuss at meeting with three Councillors.	AL	12.6.25
7	Western Bypass	Route options study has started in two stages. TTG requested to input.	CS	8.05.25
8	Greenway All-weather Surfacing	Phase 1: Milcote to SuA works complete, however the surface which was understood to be bonded all weather tar & chip, appears to be loose unwashed round gravel including significant fine material and dust. It has been noted it is difficult to wheel through on bikes, push chairs. S106 wording, which specifies a “ sealed all-weather surface on the Greenway between the site and Stratford-upon-Avon, to make the route suitable for cycle commuting and other utility journeys from the site. ” Which clearly is not what has been constructed. Still unresolved. KR, CS, AL and ED have met, and formalised reply to WCC’s latest response, which included quotations from various user groups, demonstrating that contrary to WCC’s assertion, the surface meets no user needs and is dangerous.	WCC	12.6.25
9	Knights Lane	Complete		

10	Canal Quarter Regeneration	Waiting for a decision after the site is bought.	SDC	8.05.25
11	Gateway	Work commissioned for Arden Street Car Park.	SDC	8.05.25
12	Warwick Road	Complete. Cycle Forum had been discussing extension into town using existing wide paving in front of Grosvenor Hotel, with TS. Works are mainly signing. LG requested to chase.	LG	8.05.25
13	Tow Path improvement, Bishops Lane to Timothy's Bridge Rd.	S106 Funding available from Bishopton Housing development. SDC negotiating with Canal & Rivers Trust to do the work. Third Party insurance claim is the hold up. GC requested to follow up possibility of SDC doing the work to remove the landslip and recharge land owner.	SDC GC	12.10.23 8.05.25
14	Banbury Road cycle route extension to Sonnett Park.	S106 funding received from development. Feasibility study being undertaken	WCC WCC	20.3.24 8.05.25