

Stratford upon Avon Town Transport Group [TTG]

Minutes from a meeting at 9.30am - 11.30am

on Thursday 8 May 2025 held at the Town Hall

Present: Steve Albon, Aaron Corsi, George Cowcher, John Deegan, Elizabeth Dixon *Secretary*, Ian Fradgley, Jenny Fradgley, Lorraine Grocott, Mark Haselden, Richard Lees, Andy List, Caroline Nash, Georgia O'Connell, Kate Rolfe, Colin Stewart *Chair*.

Circulated to Members of the TTG and

WCC: Officers: Edward Harris, Chair; 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

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

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 newly elected County Councillors Steve Albon and Lorraine Grocott and Georgia O'Connell BID Project Coordinator.

Apologies: *Lindsay Macdonald, Louisa Slator, Jann Tracy, Steve Turner.*

- 2 **Minutes** of 13 February 2025 were approved.

- 3 **Actions and Matters arising:** Thanks for the membership and input to the TTG to be sent to previous County Councillors, Jenny Fradgley and Tim Sinclair. And to Izzi Seccombe, previous Chair of WCC for her support to the TTG too. **ED**

Copy of the Stratford-upon-Avon Integrated Transport Strategy and Action Plan to be sent to SA and LG. **ED**

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

Town bypass: CS advised that he had recently met with John Careford. Funding was available for the Route Options Analysis which would be in two stages. GC advised it would be essential the study is complete by end September to input into the SWLP, and that it covered existing problems as well as potential housing increases.

Parking: AC advised he has requested County & District for a coordinated meeting. Parking Design Principles for new town centre developments will be part of the SWLP. It was suggested these were needed now, and GC was requested to see whether these could be brought forward.

AC

GC

Active travel: AL advised the Cycle Forum had met the previous evening, and considered LCWIP priorities as follows:

Some of the schemes described in the LCWIP have already been implemented, most have not. A clear plan must be established so that the LCWIP can be delivered and the facilities envisaged put into use. Delivery of the LCWIP schemes should take place in two phases and that post-delivery maintenance needs to be part of the plan:

LCWIP delivery - Phase 1 establishing a network the objective of this phase is to provide a useful network of cycle routes across Stratford. The emphasis in this phase is on providing a **network** in no more than two years. The network would be based on the routes proposals in the LCWIP plus any missing links to join up isolated sections of route and provide a coherent network. It is envisaged that the works needed would be simple - mainly road markings and signs. This will allow the network to be delivered at least cost and best value.

LCWIP delivery - Phase 2 improving quality with the basic network, established in phase 1, further work can be carried out to improve the quality of the routes to attract more people to take the Active Travel option. Work does not need to be along the whole of a route, effort can be focused on the locations where impact will be greatest, as funds become available. Areas needing attention are likely to include crossings and junctions.

Follow up - Maintenance the cycle network must become an integral part of the transport network in Stratford. Once it has been established it must be maintained and improved as part of the highway system, with budgets allocated appropriately to do this.

SDC have confirmed that there are plans to provide cycle parking near the Rec pavilion and that this should be in place within 3 - 4 weeks.

Bike buses have been set up at: Wellesbourne Primary, Alveston (Tiddington) Primary and Stratford (Broad Street) Schools. The general arrangement is that after some initial help parents run the scheme themselves.

Park & Ride: It was noted that this now operates 7 days a week, however the Passenger Terminal which includes the toilets have part time opening hours. And again, the WCC website has incorrect information about the canal towpath saying it is open!

LG
ED

Buses: The UBUS service has now been incorporated into the IndieGo Service to provide a more rounded DRT (Demand Responsive Transport) service, however there appear to be teething problems.

CS noted that even rural villages in Oxfordshire have Real-time bus information, and this needs to continue to be pushed for Stratford. He also noted the cost of solar powered, simple kindle type displays, could make implementation affordable.

Trains: Noted that Geoff Grant (Stakeholder Manager for West Midland Trains), would attend the next TTG meeting.

ED

Journey Planning: AC advised he is intending to bring together information about SuA into one coherent place for the whole town.

AC

- 5 **South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP):** SDC 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:** The TTG has submitted an objection to the planning application to the west of Shottery Relief Road, pointing out that this could severely restrict options being considered for the town bypass. ED
- 8 **Any Other Business:** *Accessible Stratford, Climate Action, Cycle Forum, Neighbourhood Plan, Stratford-Upon-Avon BID, Strategic Partnership, Stratford Society, Technical Sub-Group, Town, District and County Councillors*

**The next TTG meeting is from 9.30am - 11.30am
on Thursday 12 June 2025 by Zoom
with Geoff Grant, Stakeholder Manager for West Midland Trains**

Stratford-upon-Avon Town Transport Group (TTG)

Update: **8.5.25**

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.	WCC	8.5.25
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 working on proposal for northern side of river.	WCC	23.12.22
4	Evesham Roundabout	Now open, WCC to decide how to connect cycle paths through the junction. WCC still to commission design work. JF to chase.	WCC JF	14.12.23 9.5.24
5	Alcester Road A46 Roundabout	Meeting 28 Feb. arranged by our MP, confirmed this work will start once Birmingham Road is complete.	WCC	8.5.25

	(Shottery Relief Road)			
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.	JF	11.7.24 13.03.25
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 to meet formalise reply to WCC’s latest response.	KR, CS, AL, ED	8.05.25
9	Knights Lane	Complete KR chasing some outstanding finishes.	KR	8.05.25
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	S106 Funding available from Bishopton Housing development. SDC negotiating with Canal & Rivers Trust to do the work.	SDC	12.10.23

	to Timothy's Bridge Rd.	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.	GC	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