



## Sustainable Travel committee minutes

### Minutes

From the committee meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 9 May 2023

At St. Margaret's Hall, Bradford on Avon

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### Decision making

The **decisions** made by the committee at this meeting are at minutes [1](#) & [8](#).

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### Present

Councillors:

- Tim Trimble (Chair of the committee)
- Alison Potter (stand in)
- Katie Vigar
- Jack Vittles

Town Council Officers:

- Ian Brown - Chief Executive & Town Clerk
- Matthew McLaughlin – Communications Officer

Meeting clerk:

- Sarah Howe – Committee Clerk
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### Apologies

From Councillors unable to attend the meeting:

- Sam Blackwell
  - David Garwood
  - Sarah Gibson
  - Simon McNeill-Ritchie
  - Jennie Parker
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1. Agenda item 2 - Election of Vice Chair

The Chair nominated Councillor Vittles as Vice-Chair of the Sustainable Travel committee which was seconded by Councillor Vigar. As there were no further nominations the Chair moved to the vote and with all in favour; **Resolved:** Councillor Vittles was elected Vice-Chair of the Sustainable Travel Committee for the current year.

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Minutes from the previous meeting of the committee

Proposed by Councillor Jack Vittles.

Seconded by Councillor Katie Vigar.

And with all in favour it was **resolved:** that the minutes of the last committee meeting held on 28 February 2023 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising

None.

5. Agenda item 7 – Chair’s report

Councillor Tim Trimble presented his update as chair of the committee. In addition to his written update:

- SID (Speed Indicator Device): Wiltshire Council have introduced new regulations on the positioning criteria for these devices and the proposed Trowbridge Road site no longer qualifies. Councillor Vittles asked for details on the regulations and the Chair stated that assuming a 30 mph zone the 85-percentile speed must be 36 mph or more as determined using an official traffic count from an appropriate contractor. For the Trowbridge Road this figure is 31 mph although if average speed is taken into consideration 20-21% of vehicles are actually speeding. The Chair has written to Wiltshire Council about the problem as safety of pedestrians and cyclists is a primary concern in light of the speeding data. Meanwhile the SID will likely be sited on the Winsley Road which does meet the new criteria.
- Co-Cars (Electric Car Sharing Scheme): following on from the disappointing news from Co-cars the Chair is to talk to the chair of ClimateFriendlyBoA as she works for Sustrans (Charity promoting walking and cycling) for other options.



- The Chair also added that from 21 May 2023 there will be 3 trains an hour to Bristol, Bath, Trowbridge and Westbury which is an improvement on the current service.

#### 6. Agenda item 8 – Network Rail bridge works on St Margaret’s Street

The item appeared briefly in the Chair’s update. Network Rail representatives were asked to provide a written report for the town council or come in person to talk to councillors and the public. So far, the council has been unable to secure either a visit or any information beyond the monthly newsletters Network Rail make available. Councillor Vittles joined the Chair in stating his disappointment at the poor communication of news from Network Rail about the reconstruction of the railway bridge on St Margaret’s Street which has closed the road for the last 7 months and caused traffic delays at regular intervals and displaced bus and pedestrian routes through town. The project is now due for completion in October 2023, a delay of around 4 months. A second ‘sling’ bridge has had to be built around the railway bridge to assist works with night-time shift work due to take place in May and July.

#### 7. Agenda item 9 - Highways improvement requests

Recommendations from the delegated working group on Highway Improvement requests as supplied with the agenda were **noted** by the committee.

- Lamb Yard: regarding the request for additional bollards and Loading Only waiting restrictions. Councillor Vigar asked if the Loading Only would be for anyone or only deliveries to businesses. The Chair thought anyone can use the Loading Bays in an appropriate fashion. He also confirmed that the bollards are to prevent parking in a section which attracts unauthorised parking leading to the blocking in of appropriately parked cars beyond.

#### 8. Agenda item 10 – Highways Improvement Match Funding requests from LHFIFG

- Wine Street: Councillor Vigar asked if the uphill lane for the cycleway will be painted in so cars don’t use it, followed up by Councillor Vittles who was concerned whether the cycle lanes and a lane for traffic would fit in the lower part of the street. Councillor Vigar also asked whether the access for cars is for Wine



Street only or roads beyond too. The Chair confirmed that the Highway Engineer has visited the site and has recommended the cycle and car lanes so clearly believes it will all fit. Cars currently parked in the narrow section will no longer be able to due to the introduction of double yellow lines.

Proposed by Councillor Tim Trimble

Seconded by Councillor Alison Potter

And with all in favour **resolved** to approve the request for £3650 as a 50% contribution towards the improvement works

- Trowbridge Road:  
Proposed by Councillor Tim Trimble  
Seconded by Councillor Jack Vittles  
And with all in favour **resolved** to approve the request for £600 as a 50% contribution towards the provision of 4 bollards to prevent driving on the pavement.
- Holt Road:  
Proposed by Councillor Tim Trimble  
Seconded by Councillor Katie Vigar  
And with all in favour **resolved** to approve the request for £625 as a 50% contribution towards the provision of pedestrian signage for safer progress up the Holt Road.
- Widbrook Bridge bend:  
Proposed by Councillor Tim Trimble  
Seconded by Councillor Alison Potter  
And with all in favour **resolved** to approve £300 as a 50% contribution toward the provision of a SLOW marking to assist pedestrian safety.
- Silver Street:  
Proposed by Councillor Tim Trimble  
Seconded by Councillor Katie Vigar  
And with all in favour **resolved** to approve £300 as a 50% contribution towards the provision of a SLOW sign to calm traffic
- Station Approach mini roundabout:  
Proposed by Councillor Tim Trimble  
Seconded by Councillor Katie Vigar



And with all in favour **resolved** to approve £350 as a 50% contribution towards the provision of a traffic bollard to prevent driving on the pavement.

The total contribution to the various schemes for this meeting totalled £5,825.

9. Agenda item 11 – LHFIG progress report of active requests

The Chair summarised the update on active LHFIG requests with a few additional details.

Traffic calming and parking at Berryfield Road and Sladesbrook entrances to Christ Church school are long standing issues. A substantive of around £35,000 has been won to carry out works scheduled for the school summer holidays. Councillor Vigar congratulated the Chair and the Traffic Engineer for their work and tenacity in finding a solution after decades of complaints and problems.

A change to the waiting restrictions on Lower Woolley Street are proposed subject to a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) advertisement and consultation which allows the public to voice support or concerns. This follows a request and initial survey for waiting restrictions to change to 'Residents or 1 hour maximum stay'. Currently it is just 1 hour maximum stay with no provision for residents.

10. Next meeting

The next committee meeting was provisionally arranged for Tuesday 25 July 2023.

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End of the meeting

The meeting finished at 8pm



## Appendix A: Comments and questions from the public

There were various comments and questions from the public at the meeting.

Comments and questions of a general nature

There was a question regarding the state of the pavements and a request that they are swept regularly. The Frome Road is also laced with weeds and overhanging shrubbery.

The Chair was not aware of the regime around clearing weeds but thought it might have changed with the town council now responsible for maintaining the verges. Councillor Vigar asked if the resident was referring to litter or grass and weeds as if it was mainly the latter then perhaps CLUB could tackle it. The Town Clerk confirmed that it has just been agreed with CLUB that they will take on season work as part of their routines and will look to tidy up the Frome Road. Councillor Vigar added that the Town Wardens are hugely busy at this time of year with copious amounts of grass cutting around town.

There was a comment about the state of the roads around town particularly outside the Co-op and Station Approach with substantial potholes appearing. The Chair confirmed that this is matter for Wiltshire Highways and issues of this nature should be reported on the My Wilts App.

Comment on Agenda item 7

As Co-cars are no longer looking to expand into Bradford on Avon, there was an offer to introduce the council to an electric bike and tri-cycle leasing/sharing and buying scheme with another local company.

The Chair stated that he would be interested in an introduction with any electric bike or tri-cycle company but there would not be any promises of awarding work as any procurement must move through the proper channels.

Question on Agenda item 5

There was a question regarding the engaging of a contractor for a strategic feasibility study for different locations for the pedestrian crossing across the river; the questions included: is the money coming from existing budgets and how much, will there be a public consultation around this process and how and when was the decision to recruit the contractor made?

The Chair and Town Clerk confirmed that we are only at the procurement stage of this process and no decision has been made. However, there would be



public consultation once there is something to consult on at the end of the study and the money will come from the Sustainable Travel budget.

Agenda item 9 – LHFIG new requests

A question and comments regarding the allocation of tactile paving at Station Approach and other features for the visually impaired to pedestrian improvement schemes around the county.

The Chair agreed that the tactile paving should have been part of the original substantive bid at Station Approach but stated he or the committee clerk would email the resident by way of response.