



## Sustainable Travel committee minutes

### Minutes

From the committee meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 11 June 2024

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](#), [2](#), [4](#) & [8](#).

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### Present

Councillors:

- Tim Trimble (Chair)
- Dave Garwood
- Alison Potter
- Katie Vigar
- Jack Vittles (Vice-Chair)

Town Council Officers:

- Ian Brown – Town Clerk

Meeting clerk:

- Sarah Howe – Committee Clerk
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### Apologies

From Councillors unable to attend the meeting:

- Sam Blackwell
  - Sarah Gibson
  - Simon McNeil-Ritchie
  - Jennie Parker
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1. Election of Chair of the committee

Councillor Trimble was nominated by Councillor Vittles and seconded by Councillor Vigar and with no further nominations and all in favour **resolved**: Councillor Trimble was elected Chair of the Sustainable Travel Committee for 2024/25

2. Election of Vice-Chair of the committee

Councillor Jack Vittles was proposed by Councillor Trimble and seconded by Councillor Vigar and with no further nominations and all in favour **resolved**: Councillor Jack Vittles was elected Vice-Chair of the Sustainable Travel committee for 2024/25.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes from the previous meeting of the committee

Proposed by Councillor Jack Vittles

Seconded by Councillor Tim Trimble

And with all in favour it was **resolved**: that the minutes of the last committee meeting held on 12 March 2024 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

5. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

6. Agenda item 8 – Chair's Update

The Chair presented his update as supplied with the agenda.

There was a question relating to the traffic modelling asking if reducing traffic volumes was the priority consideration for the traffic modelling study. Councillors Trimble and Vittles both confirmed that whilst traffic volumes will be discussed at the upcoming Wiltshire Council meeting with new Cabinet members and officers, traffic volumes could not easily be tackled in the modelling (or in the traffic management outcomes) as this would require regionally based modelling which was beyond the scope of this modelling study.



7. Agenda item 9 – Local Highways and Footways Improvement group (LHFIG)

(i) The Chair referred to the Assessment and Eligibility report as supplied with the agenda for a new request for an improved pedestrian crossing on Bridge Yard at Lamb Yard and the recommendation for councillors to note.

The Chair also confirmed that the question mark around whether this was something the LHFIG group could/couldn't fund had been resolved and the traffic engineers confirmed LHFIG could look into this request and fund it if appropriate.

(ii) The state of the LHFIG current requests were noted.

8. Agenda item 10 – Discussion and Approval of of Sustrans Strategic Outline Case (SOC).

Councillor Trimble gave brief overview of the background leading up to and the results of the Sustrans Strategic Outline Case to build a safer pedestrian river crossing somewhere in the town centre.

7 zones (A-G) had previously been identified as potential sites for the crossing with two, D & E, (both upstream of the existing bridge) coming out as the most popular and scoring highly in terms of the Benefit Cost Ratio despite risks such as engineering complexity, potential increased costs and environmental impact. Both these sites also have the potential to reduce car usage by residents in town and hence assist reducing traffic volume, one of the key aims of the Future of Transport project.

Both Councillors Vittles and Vigar were thrilled that the SOC provided some positive information and the town can finally make a start on a safer pedestrian crossing as the current road bridge is so dangerous. It was made clear that adding to the options for pedestrians and cyclists to cross the river rather than limiting them by removing or reducing pavements on the existing road bridge was not part of the current thinking.

The recommendation to approve the SOC and forward to Wiltshire Council to progress to the Outline Business Case would then allow location and other key engineering and commercial elements to be developed, and move towards a Full Business Case.

Proposed by Councillor Trimble

Seconded by Councillor Vittles



And with all in favour **resolved:** to approve the SOC and forward the study containing the SOC to Wiltshire Council to progress to the Outline Business Case stage.

9. Next meeting date

The next committee meeting was arranged for Tuesday 27 August 2024.

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**End of the meeting**

The meeting finished at 8.05 pm



Appendix A - Comments and questions from the public

There were around 6 comments and questions from the public and councillors at the meeting. There were 6 members of the public present.

[Q1] Question from Councillor Garwood

Councillor Garwood asked if the results from the traffic modelling engagement process will be available for the upcoming meeting with Wiltshire Council Cabinet members and officers.

The Chair confirmed preliminary results only would be ready as there are so many to process and the meeting is next week. Councillor Vittles confirmed that the questions discussed at Full Council for the meeting will be sent ahead of time so a full discussion would be possible, and the Chair added that Wiltshire Council personnel, both Cabinet members and officers, are newly in post so there will also be some catching up to do. The conversation will be ongoing however so the full results from the engagement process will be shared with Wiltshire Council in due course.

[Q2] Question regarding who cleans road signs.

The Chair confirmed that he wasn't sure but probably Wiltshire Council. He confirmed he would investigate by writing to Wiltshire Council.

Comments and questions regarding Agenda item 8 - Chairs Update

[Q3] Would the responses from the Engagement process be published?

The Chair said the matter of GDPR would need to be considered and Councillor Vigar added that the report would need to be completed first before publishing raw data.

[Q4] There was a comment that the bike racks at the train station are in the wrong place.

The Chair confirmed he would investigate whether that was GWR or Network Rail to get them re-sited.

Question regarding Agenda item 9 – LHFIG matters

[Q5] There was a question regarding the date for reviewing the next batch of new requests.



The Chair confirmed that the next batch should be considered in 6 months' time, so end of the year. Although in order to tie in with meeting dates, perhaps for the Sustainable Travel October meeting.

Question regarding Agenda item 10 – Sustrans Strategic Outline Case

[Q6] There was a request to publish the full Sustrans Report detailing the SOC.

Councillor Vittles said that might be possible fairly soon.

The resident went on to say that as a rep for Living Streets they don't want existing pavements on the town's bridges to change in any way and are looking for a commitment that existing pavements will not be removed.

Councillor Vigar confirmed there are no plans to remove existing pavements just add to them.