

DRAFT  
Stratford Society / Business Improvement District  
Transport & Parking Group Meeting Minutes  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November - Town Hall, Sheep Street

Present – Ian Heggie, Yvette Widdowfield, Martyn Luscombe, Keith Lloyd, Robin Sankey, Chris Gregory, Elizabeth Dixon, Julie Crawshaw, Kate Rolfe, Jenny Fradgley

1 Apologies- Roger Bennett – a Get Well card was signed by all and will be sent to him via JC.

2 Minutes of October 6<sup>th</sup> 2011 were approved

3 Matters arising – A boards are still an issue, David Elliston WCC has done a walk around and has identified those which should go.

4 While Roger Bennett is recovering Julie Crashaw will be WCC representative on the Committee.

5 An encouraging report delivered by ML re the possible Lucy's Mill Bridge. Sustrans have met with WCC bridge engineers and WCC accepts the possibility of a DDA compliant bridge being built in this area. Sustrans are now looking at possible sample designs.

6 YW reported that there has been progress in bringing forward 3 options for parking charges in the town and was pleased that The Town Council, BiDs and The Stratford Society had contributed to the systems thinking process undertaken by SDC. It was suggested that charging for Disabled Parking should be considered and co-operation with WCC re Park and Ride should be explored to make P&R a more effective parking option for commuter parking. This raised the issues of congestion on the Birmingham Road -- we are still waiting for the WCC holistic survey. Renaming car parks is under active consideration. The web site has been up graded to include all parking options in the town with prices. Publicity will be needed to make sure the new prices, plus the hours when they apply, are fully advertised as the prices could promote the town to visitors and also help to reduce evening visitor parking in residential streets.

7 Great concerns were expressed re residents parking. Councillors are aware of a growing anger among residents. There are concerns over day time parking when people working in the town can park all day in some residential streets without paying, there is evidence of a "secondary" market in visitor permits and some non-residents (e.g., students at university) seem to be registering their cars at their parent's home. This makes it difficult – if not impossible – for bona fide residents to park their cars. Residents are also very angry about night time economy parking for free, once more often impacting on residents. There is parking in St Martins / St Andrews for commuters travelling to Birmingham / London. Councillors have received petitions, e mails, letters, and telephone calls. WCC need to take this issue forward as soon as possible.

8 Concern was expressed about the growing volumes of traffic in the town and what was causing it. JC will bring relevant figures to the next TG meeting.

9 Bus parking and layovers in Wood and Bridge Streets. CG brought up this fraught issue and wants to have a meeting with the bus companies to find a way forward. KR and JF said that WCC have produced a feasibility Study re a Bus Station and there have been many meetings which have not yet borne any fruit. It was decided to ask representatives to come to the next TG meeting to discuss the issue. CG to arrange.

10 JC has a list of unwanted signage on the Historic Spine and it should be possible to remove offending signs through the maintenance teams. Concern was expressed re the BT broad band boxes being installed at the moment. Care must be taken in their positioning. One had been placed in front of Hall's Croft in contravention to its planning permission. KR is keeping a watch on the positioning of these boxes and is discussing enforcement action.

11 Excellent reports have been received about the Ambassador Course recently held. There is an appetite to repeat the course at appropriate intervals.

**Next meeting Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012**