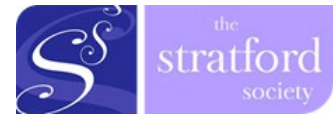


## **Stratford Society representation on the Town Transport Group**



The Town Transport Group (TTG) represents various Stratford interest groups such as: Accessible Stratford, Climate Action, Cycle Forum, Neighbourhood Plan, Strategic Partnership, Stratforward, Town and District and County Councillors, and the Stratford Society. Meetings take place once a month, at present every fourth month at the Town Hall and three months via Zoom.

Topics recently discussed include proposed changes to High Street, a sustainable parking strategy, the local cycling and walking infrastructure plan, and current and proposed roadworks. Updates are given to the TTG by the relevant councillors at various times.

The good news is that High Street will be closed to transport later this year (2024 - actual date not yet forthcoming), the bad news is that this will likely coincide with the demolition of the Debenham building. The Stratford Society strongly supported this option. Pedestrianisation of Bridge Street has been put on hold for the foreseeable future.

The updating of Birmingham Road is an ongoing saga as progress is extremely slow. The new roundabout on Evesham Road caused many hold-ups to traffic flow last year, and it remains to be seen whether the rest of the through road for Shottery is actually connected at both ends (at present it is accessible at one end only).

Very often at the beginning of a scheme reports are made to the TTG that are not yet in the public domain, so cannot be disseminated. As the County Council and Highways England are the organisations that actually do things to the road system, there seems at times a disconnect between what is expressed in meetings and what can actually be achieved.

When appropriate the TTG expresses doubts and/or frustrations with proposed and outstanding issues. As a transport group buses, trains and cycles are of course included in the remit and are frequently discussed – as. For example, the prolonged closure of the ticket office at the railway station.

Although meetings often contain nothing of immediate interest to the Stratford Society, I think that as a Civic and Historical interest group we should still be represented here.

Jann Tracy  
Society rep at TTG  
February 2024