

# MINUTES OF QUALITY TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2006  
At Quay Arts Centre, Newport

**PRESENT:** Steve Porter – Chairman  
Ashley Curzon – Isle of Wight Council  
Laurence Keynes – Isle of Wight Council  
Val Lawson - Cycle Wight  
Paul Lyon – Road Haulage Association  
Ian Middleton – Isle of Wight Council  
Marc Morgan Huws – Southern Vectis  
Jack Richards – Community Rail Partnership  
Janice Rounsevell – Isle of Wight Taxi Proprietors Association  
John Steggles – Cycle Wight  
Margaret Steggles – Cycle Wight  
Don Vincent – Isle of Wight Bus Users Group  
Hugh Walding – Isle of Wight Friends of the Earth  
Chris Wells – Isle of Wight Council  
Charlotte Westwood – Isle of Wight Council

## 1. **APOLOGIES**

Jenny Boor - Hovertravel  
David Bottom – Chamber of Commerce  
Cllr Brown – Isle of Wight Council  
Trish Collins – British Horse Society  
Stephen Matthews – Isle of Wight Council  
Andy Morris – Isle of Wight Council  
Andy Naylor – Island Line  
Ian Schaff – Isle of Wight Council  
Cllr Ward – Isle of Wight Council  
Brenda Wilkins – Isle of Wight Group of Advanced Motorists

## 2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes from the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2006 were agreed.

## 3. **CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE**

Steve Porter (SP) informed the meeting that Tony Kelly, IW Older Voices, George Wilks, Sustrans and Graham Pearce, Federation of Small Businesses had resigned from the group.

SP explained that a questionnaire had been distributed to all members of the QTP, and results had showed that most members would prefer fewer meetings of the whole group and the creation of more focused sub groups. Marc Morgan Huws (MMH) agreed with the creation of sub groups, however he felt that it was essential that key people were involved and that the groups were able to deliver outcomes.

Chris Wells (CW) explained that the QTP has played a very important role in the production of both Local Transport Plans. Ashley Curzon (AC) informed that group that he had also found the QTP to be a very useful and supportive forum during the production of the Local Development Framework (LDF). It was felt that the QTPs influence in the creation of policies and strategies ensured that delivery had the right focus.

Laurence Keynes (LK) explained that the Sandown station improvements had been implemented by the Community Rail Partnership (CRP) which was an offshoot of QTP, and that the CRP would ensure that they provide regular updates to the QTP.

## 4. **BAY AREA ACTION PLAN**

AC gave a presentation on the Bay Area Action Plan (Sandown, Shanklin and Lake). He explained that the area action plan was part of the LDF and that each of the area action plans would provide an area with specific policy guidance.

AC explained that the Bay Area Action Plan (available on the Councils website) was in the issues and consultation stage which involved problems within the area being identified. In October, suggested solutions would be sought and it was hoped that the QTP would host a single issue meeting to look at transport issues.

#### 5. **LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN (LTP) UPDATE**

CW provided an update on the LTP and the Delivery Report. The Delivery Report would be submitted at the end of July and looked back over the past five years at how successful the Council had been at implementing the strategies and achieving the targets laid out in LTP1. He expressed his thanks for the valuable contributions the QTP had made and highlighted that partnership working was the only way to improve transport on the Island. He explained that LTP1 had laid good foundations for the future of transport on the Island and that he hoped that LTP2 would be able to make further improvements.

#### 6. **COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP**

LK provided an update on the progress of the CRP over the last 6 months, with the introduction of two more leaflets on self guided walks connected to the railway as well as the publication of cycle rides from stations. A leaflet had also been produced as a guide to attractions accessible from the train which would be distributed around the South West Trains area. It was hoped that the leaflet would promote train travel as well as green tourism. LK also explained that Sandown station was subject to a renovation bid which specified a range of initiatives including a dental surgery and café, which it was hoped would be a WISE (Workshop Initiative for Support in Education) project. The IW Steam Railway had been co-opted on to the CRP, and it was hope that this would be confirmed in September 2006.

LK reported that Island Line had seen an increase in passenger figures since April, part of which could be attributed to the introduction of free travel for over 60's and the 50p student rider card for under 19's. Tenders for the new South Western franchise beginning in February 2007 had been submitted, and it was thought that a decision would be announced in either October or November.

#### 7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Don Vincent informed the group that he had contacted Isle of Wight Tourism, seeking their support for the creation of comprehensive timetable. He explained that the IW Bus Users Group understand Southern Vectis position, however a number of people had expressed their sadness at the loss of what was viewed as a useful publication. MMH responded that since the change to a more simplistic style timetable he had received very few complaints, however he felt that in the past passengers had found the comprehensive timetables difficult to understand. MMH also explained that creating a comprehensive timetable was very problematic as operators change their timetables at different times meaning that the publication quickly become out of date. However MMH did expressed his willingness to partly fund the creation of a network map for the Island.

Val Lawson (VL) felt that the creation of a travel options map for the Island would be an ideal project for the QTP. CW agreed and explained that he would investigate the options.

**Action:** CW to investigate travel options map.

Janice Rounsevell (JR) expressed her concern that taxis were becoming marginalised, ranks were being removed, and Licensing were dictating the colour of new vehicles. Also she explained that she had been seeking funding for driver training for the past 5 years. SP informed the group that he felt that taxies were a very important element of transport on the Island, however he felt that private businesses had a responsibility to train their own staff. JR suggested that a taxi discount card should be introduced, which would be subsidised by the Council, and would allow people with disabilities greater accessibility. CW explained that he would investigate the issues raised and would contact Licensing.

**Action:** CW to investigate issues.

#### 8. **DATE & TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2006 at 14:00 in the Seminar Room, Quay Arts Centre.