MINUTES OF QUALITY TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Held on 23rd May 2002 at Quay Arts Centre, Newport

Present: Peter Tuck - Chair

Rachel Jolliffe - IW Council Stewart King - Wightlink Angela Mawle - IW Council

Jack Richards - Wight Track/Rail Passenger Committee

Chris Roberts - IW Older Voices Malcolm Ross - CycleWight

Jan Rounsevell - IW Taxi Proprietors Association

Jim Ruby - Rural Issues Group Don Vincent - IW Bus Users Group Hugh Walding - IW Friends of the Earth

Chris Wells - IW Council

Brenda Wilkins - Institute of Advanced Motorists

Tim Hunter-Henderson - Federation of Small Businesses Steve Porter - Steve Porter Transport/Chamber of Commerce

Kevin Smith - Chamber of Commerce Dave Woracker – Transport 2000

1. APOLOGIES

Sarah Watkins - Freight Transport Association Terry Butchers CC - IW Council Trish Collins - British Horse Society Ernie Fox CC - IW Council Steve Matthews - IW Council Steve Wade - Islandline Jonathan Green - Red Funnel Ferries Chris Wright - Road Haulage Association

The group welcomed the return of Dave Woracker (Transport 2000).

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting (24th January 2002) were agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

The provisional date of the November QTP meeting has been changed to 21st November 2002. Future dates may also need to be amended as these clash with Chamber of Commerce bi-monthly meetings. Members will be informed should dates be changed.

Chris Wells thanked members for their contributions to the transport section of the Community Strategy. These comments have been taken on board and the section has been forwarded to Tony Geeson, IWC for inclusion in the draft document.

Chris Roberts attended the Hackney Carriage Working Party on behalf of the QTP. The group acknowledged that taxis were an essential part of the Island's transport system and were concerned that once deregulation/dezoning had taken place there would be no turning back. Members had a number of queries relating to taxi deregulation/dezoning.

Action: John Murphy, Licensing Officer, IWC be invited to the next meeting to discuss dezoning/deregulation and general taxi matters.

4. ADDENDUM TO QTP AIMS AND OBJECTIVES – FREIGHT DISTRIBUTION

Unfortunately Sarah Watkins, FTA was unable to attend the meeting but had confirmed that the FTA were happy with draft Article 8. The group agreed to adopt draft Article 8 as follows:

Article 8

To promote the development of sustainable and efficient freight distribution on the Island, to support the Island economy and protect and enhance the island environment.

Note

To this end a freight transport partnership, within the framework of the Quality Transport Partnership, is seen as a desirable goal and the schedule of the Hampshire Freight Quality Partnership a useful guidance document, to be amended to suit the Island's circumstances.

Sarah Watkins had offered to make a presentation to the group on Freight Quality Partnerships. The IWC are not currently working on a FQP but it was agreed that the FTA should be thanked for their offer and be invited to make a presentation when work was in progress.

5. REPORT ON WORK OF ENGINEERING SERVICES, IWC

Work has started on the 'strategic corridor projects'. The first corridor, Newport to Ryde, is due to be completed before the start of the summer tourism season. Work on the second corridor, Newport to Yarmouth, is to commence in the autumn.

The Newport pedestrianisation public consultation exercise resulted in over 1,300 representations. The results of the consultation are due to be reported to the IWC Environment and Transport Select Committee on 29th May 2002. The report will also include an amended scheme, Option E, which has been designed to overcome some of the major objections.

The Council's second Annual Progress Report is due to be submitted to the Government on 31st July 2002 and will report what progress has been made over the year in delivering the Council's Local Transport Plan.

This year's APR will be accompanied by a major bid submission for funding for the Ryde Interchange Project. This bid has been compiled after consultation with DTLR, SRA, transport operators and local businesses. Members felt that this was an important project and emphasised the importance of integration.

Copies of the 2002 APR will be circulated to members in due course.

6. ISLANDLINE REPORT

Jack Richards gave a brief summary of the contents of the SRA document "Where next for Islandline?". The full document could not be circulated as it was embargoed until the end of May. The document includes a report on the 2003 franchise and refers to the IWC commissioned report into future possible extensions to the line. Copies of the document can be obtained from the SRA or downloaded from the SRA website.

Chris Wells stated that the IWC welcomed the report and are very supportive of Islandline & looking forward to working with the future franchisee.

Item 9 was brought forward on the agenda.

9. IW AREA INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

Tom Bridges from ARUP Economics and Planning gave a presentation on the IW Area Investment Framework. ARUP have been commissioned by the Isle of Wight Economic Partnership to develop an investment framework to identify investment location, patterns of need, funding priorities and economic opportunities. Transport and infrastructure is one element of the AIF.

The group were extremely concerned that this framework did not appear to take into account adopted policy documents eg LTP, UDP, LA21 strategy, Community Strategy. These documents have undergone extensive pubic consultation and should be the basis of all decision making.

The group were also concerned over the short and 'selective' consultation of the AIF document particularly in comparison to the lengthy and comprehensive consultation undertaken on other documents.

Action: Chris Wells to contact Liz Wood to relay the groups concerns.

7. ALTERNER PROJECT WORKSHOP

Angela Mawle, Agenda 21 & Health Alliance Officer, circulated a paper on the Alterner project workshop. The workshop looked at 6 methods of alternative energy production - wind turbines, marine turbines, bio-mass, anaerobic digestion, zero-energy build and bio-diesel.

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Peter Tuck had attended the workshop and also the follow-up meeting on biodiesel - the production of vehicle diesel from used cooking oil and crops. The next bio-diesel meeting will take place in June.

Further information on the workshops can be obtained from Angela Mawle on 823289.

8. HELICOPTER MEETING

Jim Ruby reported that a meeting had taken place on 3rd April 2002 with Tony Jones from British International. The meeting had been attended by Jim Ruby, Peter Tuck, Morris Barton, Tim Addison, Mike King and Councillor Fox.

British International are keen to run a helicopter service between Southampton and the Isle of Wight and will be looking for a suitable site with good connections to the existing transport system.

Action: Chris Wells to follow up.

10. QTP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND OPEN MEETING

It was suggested that the QTP AGM and Open Meeting be held on the evening of 12th June 2002 but this date coincided with the Newport Local Strategic Partnership Meeting. As the IWC legal department are still working on the QTP constitution it was agreed to defer the meeting until the autumn.

Action : Peter Tuck/Rachel Jolliffe to examine possible October dates/venues. Chris Wells to arrange guest speaker.

Item 11 (QTP representation on the Local Access Forum) was deferred.

12. ISLAND FUTURES LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP/COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The draft Community Strategy has now published and a series of launch meetings arranged for various locations across the Island. Members were given a copy of the strategy. Any views on the draft strategy should be directed to Tony Geeson, in the Policy Unit at County Hall.

13. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 26th September** at **1.30pm** in the Quay Arts Centre, Newport*.

* NB Due to recent flood damage at the Quay Arts Centre the meeting will now be held in the **Quay Arts Studios** on the **ground floor of Jubilee Stores, The Quay, Newport** (below the Council Offices).