

**MINUTES OF QUALITY TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP MEETING**  
**Held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2002**  
**At Quay Arts Centre, Newport**

**Present:** Jim Ruby – Chair  
Katy Blackburn – Youth Trust  
Roger Coombes – Taxi Proprietors Association  
Ernie Fox CC – IW Council  
Martin Gibson – LIFT IW  
Tim Hunter-Henderson – Federations of Small Businesses  
Rachel Jolliffe – IW Council  
Stewart King – Wightlink  
Stuart Linn – Southern Vectis  
Marc Morgan Huws – Southern Vectis  
John Murphy – IW Council  
Clive Page – IW Older Voices  
Steve Porter – Steve Porter Transport/Chamber of Commerce  
Jack Richards – Rail Passengers Committee  
Hugh Walding – IW Friends of the Earth  
Alan White – Southern Vectis  
Des White – Taxi Proprietors Association  
Brenda Wilkins – Advanced Motorists

**1. APOLOGIES**

Terry Butchers CC – IW Council  
Ashley Curzon – IW Council  
Steve Matthews – IW Council  
Kevin Smith – Chamber of Commerce  
Peter Tuck – QTP Chair (retired)  
Don Vincent – IW Bus Users Group  
Steve Wade – Island Line  
Sarah Watkins – Freight Transport Association  
Chris Wells – IW Council  
Dave Woracker – Transport 2000  
Chris Wright – Road Haulage Association

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Hugh Walding had been omitted from the list of those present at the last meeting (26<sup>th</sup> September 2002). The minutes of the meeting were then agreed.

A letter has been received from Peter Tuck thanking members for their kind words and book token.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

Peter Tuck had written to the SRA and Andrew Turner, MP re lack of progress on the Island Line re-franchise. The arrangements for the re-franchise have now changed and will be discussed later in the meeting.

Clive Page asked about the Newport “Pedestrianisation” Scheme. Rachel Jolliffe explained that the scheme has 9 elements: High Street physical improvements; pedestrian crossing in Pyle Street; one way in Scarrots Lane; traffic calming in Shide Road; one way system in Trafalgar Road; new bus contraflow; shopmobility improvements; variable message signs and review of strategic signage. It is hoped that the Traffic Regulation Orders will be advertised shortly.

A reply has been received from Councillor Fox regarding the late night floating bridge and integration with other public transport services. The issue of cross-Medina services is to be considered as part of the IW Economic Partnership’s look at the regeneration of Cowes, and the QTPs comments will be included within the Council’s contributions.

#### **4. AMENDED “MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT”**

An amended copy of the “Memorandum of Agreement Concerning the Operation of the QTP” had been sent to all Members.

Brenda Wilkins questioned Appendix B, Objective 1 and the likelihood of achieving “no” growth in car travel. Hugh Walding pointed out that this was an “aim” and therefore was designed to be aspirational. It was agreed that the existing wording would remain.

The group approved the document. Jim Ruby suggested that, as the Memorandum had now been agreed, Partners should re-sign the Aims and Objectives.

**Action:** Rachel Jolliffe to arrange for Partners to re-sign the document.

#### **5. FUTURE MEETING ARRANGEMENTS AND MEMBERSHIP**

Jim Ruby has received a number of comments on both the length and depth of subjects covered at meetings. Partners felt that occasionally meetings spent too long dealing with issues that were only of interest to selected members. It was agreed that, in future, any member wishing to include an item on the agenda should send a paper detailing the subject matter to the secretary at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting. The Chair will then assess the “interest level” of the item and, assuming the matter is considered appropriate, the paper will be circulated with the agenda. This will give members the opportunity to contact the author/relevant individual(s) prior to the meeting should they have any queries.

Chris Roberts has resigned as Transport Spokesperson of IW Older Voices and therefore will no longer be attending the QTP. The group were sorry to hear of CRs resignation as he had been a valuable and dedicated member of the QTP.

Jim Ruby read out a letter from Trish Collins from the British Horse Society. The BHS do not consider that they represent any of the functions outlined in point 1.1 of the Memorandum of Agreement and believe that they have “virtually no input into the QTP”. The BHS have therefore decided to withdraw from the group.

The QTP expressed concern over losing the BHS. Rachel Jolliffe pointed out that a number of organisations remain members of the QTP but only attend meetings when a relevant item is on the agenda.

**Action:** Jim Ruby to contact Trish Collins to suggest that the BHS remain part of the QTP attending only when they feel necessary.

Jim Ruby has received a request from IW Tramway to join the group. JR reminded the group that a similar request had been received from IW Metro in October 2001 when it had been decided that membership should only be open to actual providers as opposed to potential providers. It was agreed that this policy should remain.

**Action:** Jim Ruby to contact IW Tramway to outline the QTP's policy in respect of membership.

## **6. CURRENT TAXI ISSUES – JOHN MURPHY**

John Murphy, Senior Licensing Officer, Isle of Wight Council outlined the current situation regarding deregulation and dezoning and the perceived advantages and disadvantages of each option.

The Council have yet to make a decision on dezoning. The issue will initially be considered by the Executive Committee and then by Full Council. Should Full Council decide on dezoning the issue will be referred to the Government. This process could take as long as two years before a formal decision.

The Taxi Proprietors Association expressed concern over dezoning as this may result in some areas becoming less viable than others.

## **7. ISLAND LINE FRANCHISE**

Jack Richards updated the group on the Island Line franchise. The Strategic Rail Authority were due to re-franchise the route in September 2003. However they have now decided to extend the current franchise until February 2007.

Copies of the SRA and Isle of Wight Council press releases were circulated to members.

Members were concerned that some of the improvements due to be conditioned within the new franchise, would now not be considered until at least 2007.

It was agreed that a working group would be set up to look at rail issues.

**Action:** Rachel Jolliffe to write to all members inviting interested parties to participate in the working group.

**Action:** Jim Ruby to contact IW Tramway and IW Metro to invite them to forward any relevant issues which they would like considered.

## **8. RURAL TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP – MARTIN GIBSON**

Martin Gibson outlined the work of LIFT (Local Initiatives For Transport). LIFT is the Isle of Wight's Rural Transport Partnership, which is jointly funded by the Isle of Wight Council and the Countryside Agency.

The Partnership are currently considering 6 main projects:

- (i) Development of community transport
- (ii) Island transport survey
- (iii) Sustainable travel to work
- (iv) Locally determined solutions
- (v) Integrating public transport and cycling
- (vi) Demand responsive transport.

The list of projects will be finalised on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2002. Further information can be obtained from Martin on 823711 or from the LIFT website – [www.lift-iv.org.uk](http://www.lift-iv.org.uk)

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Rachel Jolliffe informed the group that Nexus Alpha had offered to give a presentation to the group on the development and capabilities of real time information.

The group felt that this was not an appropriate time to discuss RTI. It was decided to defer RTI discussions until a "successful" local scheme is in place.

Jim Ruby has received a copy of a letter from Don Vincent, IW Bus Users Group to the Isle of Wight Council concerning bus shelter provision in Sandown. It was agreed that the QTP should wait until DV had received a reply from the IWC before commenting on the issue.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – AGENDA ITEMS**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2003** at **1.30pm** in the Quay Arts Centre, Newport.