MINUTES OF QUALITY TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP MEETING

Tuesday 16th October 2012 Seaclose Offices, Newport 10:30 -12:30

PRESENT

David Rogers (DR) – Chair. Morris Barton (MB) – Chamber of Commerce. Paul Hartigan – Southern Vectis. Hugh Walding – IW Friends of the Earth. Chris Wells (CW) – IWC.

1. APOLOGIES

Wendy Perera – IWC. Edward Giles CC – IWC.

2. THE WAY FORWARD

DR reminded the meeting that the QTP will now operate through two groups - a transport user group and executive. Discussion with transport providers, PFI and wider business community will now be through the Chamber of Commerce, Strategic Infrastructure Group (COCSIG).

It was felt that the first meetings of both groups had gone well, with positive feedback from those attending.

3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE GROUP

The membership of the executive group had been drawn to include representatives from across the transport field and along with those attending today; invitations had also gone to the following:

Edward Giles CC – IWC Steve Porter – Steve Porter Transport. Bobby Lock – Community Rail Partnership (CRP). David Bottom – Chamber of Commerce and previous QTP chair.

Action point : CW to email minutes to all.

4. USERS GROUP AGENDA

DR felt that it had been a good and positive meeting and that putting the presentations and updates first had been successful.

5. ITEMS RAISED BY USERS GROUP

A number of issues had been raised at the QTP user group meeting, these included:

 Loading bay at Ventnor, outside Tesco's new store – DR was able to report that investigations had indicated that Southern Vectis were on the list of consultees.

- <u>Complaints</u> item raised by Older Voices group. DR was able to clarify that complaints did not automatically go to the Traffic Commissioners, but the hope instead was that issues could be overcome locally through discussion.
- <u>Core Strategy Area action Plans</u> CW to email out any information.
- <u>Bus 25</u> contractual issues. To be resolved.
- <u>PFI</u> CW to invite representative to attend.

Action point: CW to email out any information regarding Area Action Plans.

Action point: CW to email notes to Malcolm Smith and PFI provider and invite a representative to attend future meetings.

6. ITEMS FROM CHAMBER INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP

DR had hoped to meet David Bottom (DB) to discuss the way in which the QTP can interact with the Chamber of Commerce Strategic Infrastructure Group (COCSIG), but unable to find a convenient time to meet had spoken to him on the phone. It had been a positive discussion,

CW felt that the COCSIG meeting had gone well, with good a number of operators attending and lively and positive discussions.

DR explained that was attending infrastructure group meetings as chair of QTP. He had distanced himself from bus and rail users group and so as to retain impartiality had had invited Stuart George onto QTP to represent users.

MB to ask the chamber of commerce if the minutes of infrastructure group meeting were to be made available.

Action point: CW to contact the Chamber re minutes.

7. UPDATES

Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

CW gave a brief update with regards to the PFI roads maintenance contract.

It was felt that:

- PFI contract was crucial to the Island.
- Would benefit travelling public.
- Offer broader benefits including to the economy.
- Island has limited transport network and access to Cowes, East Cowes, and Yarmouth could be difficult during construction works.
- Works are bound to impact on local community and visitors.
- Early discussions with business community would be appreciated,
- Important that utilities work with contractor to help minimise disruption.

Action point: CW to invite PFI provider to appropriate QTP meetings.

Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF)

CW explained that IWC had been successful in achieving one of a number of bids to government for funding to improve local transport.

Project has tourism slant to encourage visitors to travel without a car, or leave it at holiday destination.

Elements of the bid include:

- 1. <u>Transport hubs</u> signage, information on Island and nearby mainland locations using intelligent technology (mobile phone and on interactive on-site).
- 2. <u>Walking and cycling</u> infrastructure upgrades (New and improved routes) cycle hire and bikes on some West Wight buses. A walkers and cyclists welcome scheme.
- 3. <u>Promotion</u> "hearts and minds", to be delivered in partnership with the newly established Destination Management Organisation (DMO) which includes tourism providers, business community and the council.
- 2 ¹/₂ years to deliver project.
- Work has started need to spend effectively as DfT reluctant to carry money over.
- Offers a good sound basis on which to build in the future.
- PH felt concept was very good but raised concerns regarding the cost of installing real time information (RTI).

Transport for South Hampshire (TfSH)

CW explained that IWC has formally asked to join TfSH a strategic transport planning group which includes Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils.

TfSH is recognised and valued by DfT and joining the group, will bring a number of benefits to the Island, these include:

- 1. Improve dialogue with our neighbours and operators.
- 2. Joint working on range of issues such as a cross boundary travel card. Joint support and promotion of the LSTF project.
- 3. Being included within detailed transport model which can be used for a range of tasks including strategic issues such as developing bids for funding and testing planning applications.
- 4. Being included in a group which under government proposals could become a Local Transport Body (LTB) to whom Government will delegate future funding for (major) transport funding.
- It was felt that the Island needed a "transport vision" beyond the Island Transport Plan and Island Plan Core Strategy.
- An agreed vision could help identify direction on key issues such as: future of railway, medina crossing, Coppins Bridge, extending sustainable transport routes.
- PH suggested that consideration should also be given to developing park and ride sites such as in operation in Salisbury. He felt that this approach would be beneficial in terms of broadening transport choice and reducing congestion and pressure on the town centre.

Action point: CW to follow up and report back.

8. TOPICS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

A number of items were raised for possible future discussion. These included:

- 1. Ferries desire to meet operators and introduce the QTP.
- 2. Events and peak time traffic.
- 3. Passenger focus feedback and new Wightlink ticket inspection system.

9. DATES FOR NEXT QTP EXECUTIVE Group MEETINGS

Tuesday 12 February 2013. Tuesday 11 June 2013.

All meetings scheduled for 10:00 (tea / coffee) - 10:30 start. Seaclose Offices, NEWPORT.

Meeting closed at 12:27

A copy of these minutes are available at <u>www.iwight.com/transport</u> along with other QTP agendas and minutes.