

## Community Transport Working Group

### Minutes of the Meeting dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024 7pm (Teams Meeting)

Cllr C Martin (Chair)	Present		KCC Cllr Hook	Present
Cllr BJ Martin	Present		KCC Cllr Lehmann	Present
Cllr Saunders	Present			

#### **Present:**

Rob Gibbs (Office Manager)

#### **1. Apologies**

None.

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None.

#### **3. Minutes**

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Lehmann, and on being put to the meeting, the minutes of the CT Working Group held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024, were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

RG provided a report on his visit to Wealden Wheels, based at Pluckley, on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

RG reported he was still planning to present a draft business plan for review at the next meeting in September.

#### **4. Volunteer Drivers**

##### **a) Feedback on Timetable & Route**

RG reported on a meeting of the volunteers held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

There had been a number of incidents at the junction of Priory Row and Barnfield Road, including an accident on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024, which had seen a resident's fence being damaged and the passenger side of the bus also damaged. RG was dealing with this through insurance. It was agreed the route should be diverted via Priory Row, Davington Hill, West Street, North Lane, Bridge Road, Church Road, Bramblehill Road, Reedland Crescent, Broomfield Road, Upper Brents, Church Road, Bridge Road in a loop and back into North Lane. This would cut out the very narrow sections of the North Preston Estate but still provide a service.

Another part of the route of concern were the narrow sections of Lower Road, Teynham. It was agreed that the route should be diverted onto Lower Norton Lane, then onto the A2, Western Link Road back to Oare.

RG agreed to carry out the timings for these changes and provide an updated timetable for consideration by the Working Group.

RG reported that on the last town loop of the day, the bus was regularly empty, and the volunteers had suggested instead of a town loop, a direct journey to the villages in a reverse loop could encourage more people from the villages to use the service and to stay in town longer. It was agreed that it was too early at this stage to make substantive changes, but this would be reviewed again in early 2024.

**b) First Aid Training**

RG reported the volunteers felt it would be useful to have first aid training and a list of the defibrillators on the route to be available to them.

RG agreed to find quotes for first aid training and to compile a list of the defibrillators on the route. This will be added to the Active Travel Committee agenda for consideration.

**5. Passenger Figures**

RG provided a summary of the latest passenger figures. The average number of passengers was 12.5 between 11<sup>th</sup> June and 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024, an increase on the previous period's figure of 12.1.

**6. Parish Council Liaison & Community Engagement**

**a) Sponsorship Proposal from Lotty's Flowers**

The draft Sponsorship Agreement with Lotty's Flowers was reviewed. It was agreed that the terms on how the Town Council could terminate the Agreement needed to be strengthened.

RG agreed to amend the document and re-circulate to members.

**7. Matters for Report  
Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed to arrange the next meeting for September.