

## TRANSPORT FORUM

### NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 30 NOVEMBER 2016

**Present:** Tina Heathcote, Janet Miller, Roddie McLean, John Phillips, Peter Wiltshier, Dick Silson, Andy Parker, Richard Lovell (DCC), Claire Millard

**Apologies:** Simon Fussell, Viv Marriott, Tim Heap, Helen Davison

#### 1. Accessibility

Accessibility will be the topic of the Ideas and Action meeting to be held on 15th February, 2017. Dick is in the process of contacting relevant groups and speakers. Tina expressed a concern about the absence of changing places toilets in Buxton, when most other towns in the Peak district area have them.

**Action:** Tina to discuss this and possible funding with Joe Battye.

#### 2. UoD, DCC, BTT

Peter said that the student project set up with Richard was progressing well. 25 students were involved investigating sustainable transport, prior to DCC carrying out a wider stakeholder study. This initial study has worked well as a pilot and has helped to widen the students skills.

The progress to date is:

- **Visitors:** 192 visitors interviewed in the Pavilion Gardens - they expressed interest in park and ride; hop on and hop off buses; sustainable transport. The data is currently being analysed.
- **Residents:** The students wish to interview the residents in The Springs and organising a date has proved more difficult. A new date will be set to carry out the survey.
- **Schools:** Harpur Hill School have been involved and discussions have taken place on changing travel patterns with 2 teachers and 50 school students. Burbage School understood the issues but have not engaged with the process.
- **Work places:** Buxton Water have responded saying that shift patterns make it difficult to move away from using the car. HPBC said that because staff work on two sites they also require to use cars. Buxton Hospital responded in a similar manner saying that cars were needed to move between the sites.

Richard said that the work with the students could continue as there were no issues with the completion dates.

Dick wondered whether working from home had had the impact that people first thought or had it been over exaggerated. It maybe that the take up is limited by the type of job, senior managers views, expense of hot desking, importance of contact with work colleagues and other factors.

Tina said that the development of specialist health care centres has also meant that Buxton residents now need to travel to these centres rather than the health care professionals travelling to Buxton, increasing transport needs.

**Action:** The data will be presented to Tina and Richard on 12 December by UoD.

#### 3. Technology

Andy has investigated the uploading good photos of Buxton onto Google Earth but has concluded it is difficult to influence this because of the numbers of photographs already uploaded.

Andy has registered all the car parks in Buxton onto Goggle Maps and received an email giving approval but some of the car parks are still not shown. The Slopes and the Pavilion Gardens car parks are marked but Market Street is still not showing up. Pavilion gardens shows up twice. Andy wondered if HPBC registered the car parks rather than an individual they may get registered. It was agreed that it was early days and we would wait to see if the car parks showed up and if not Sarah Porru could be contacted.

#### 4. Trains

Tina reported that Network rail had responded to her request to remove the trees that were growing on the top of the viaduct (end of Spring Gardens) and were referring her email to colleagues at Chinley.

Roddie had written to Peak Rail, regarding their setting up a presence in Buxton, and at the time of the meeting had had no response.

**Action:** Dick agreed to contact Paul Tomlinson (Chair of Peak Rail).

## 5. Buses

High Peak buses are putting a sideliner advert on two of their 199 buses advertising Buxton - specifically the market, but also featuring the Buxton logo. Tina said that the RHS Chatsworth Show will increase the visitors to the area by 1000% and wondered if the transport system would cope. Roddie said that travel would be part of the Planning Permission application.

To encourage people up to the Market Place notices are required on the Terrace Road bus shelters saying what buses stop in the Market Place.

**Actions:** Tina to contact TM buses to see if the bus service would be increased during the show.

Tina to discuss notices for bus shelters with Thomas Manship.

## 6. Cars and Parking

When BTT had a meeting with Dai Lerner they discussed the need for extra car parking in the town, however HPBC say they cannot be justified. Dai Lerner sees the answer in technology installing car parking meters that direct people to the nearest car parking space. Dick said that the issue of the parking for the 300+ contractors, working on the Crescent, who would need to park in walking distance of building site had not been addressed. Maybe a private contractor could be persuaded to develop a temporary parking space for the contractors.

The numbers of pelican crossings, some of which are really close together, slows down the traffic in the town and Tina asked if these could be replaced with zebra crossing.

Tina reported that visitors to the town find the coach park (Sylvan) very unappealing.

**Action:** Richard to discuss Pelican/zebra crossings with DCC.

## 7. Bikes

Dick discussed the use of electric bikes saying that the use should be seriously explored and remove all the issues with travelling uphill. The running costs are low at 4p for 30 miles and they also have social, economic and wellness advantages over the car. Tina asked if Dick could talk to Steve Caddy about an article in Pure. Richard said that it was an aspiration to increase the use of e bikes in the market towns and this aspiration does have infra-structure challenges such as charging points and bike shelters. He added that DCC was looking to apply for European funding (Nottingham Council also exploring option) for charging points for vehicles and bikes.

**Action:** Dick to discuss the merits of electric bikes with Steve Caddy (Pure).

## 8. Pedestrians / Walkers

Tina said that she had met with the Friends of the Peak district and they had agreed to move the official opening of the Peak District Boundary Walk to October 2017. This has been timed to coincide with the Literary Festival.

Peter was asked if the students could review the Waymarking Strategy and see how it fits within the context of the needs of the town.

**Action:** Peter and students to review Waymarking Strategy.

## 9. Other topics

Coach survey not discussed.

Actions and issues from previous meeting not discussed.

- Discussion about information about coach parking with Visit Peak District and feedback from projects such as Grand Tour - **Peter**
- Photograph signs to Buxton on outskirts of the town and car park signs - **Tina and Claire**
- Crescent redevelopment - where are the boundaries - **Dick**
- Ask for an audit of the conference findings from DCC/HPBC - **Tina**
- Information on candidates for the next local elections - **Simon**

- Pollution levels in Buxton - **Simon**
- Parking on Fairfield Common - discuss with Roger Floyd - **Simon**
- Contact the Opera House about coach recording - **Tina**
- Investigate whether HPBC might have a way of getting information into Google Maps such as location of parking areas and number of spaces - **Sarah**
- How the new road to Manchester Airport might affect the 199 bus - check when the road is due to open, and at an appropriate time ask High Peak Buses what their plans are - **Tina**
- Noted a BTT member is considering producing a series of walks using buses and trains to reach start and finish points.
- Query re the status of the White Peak Loop – no news.

#### **10. Date, time and place of next meeting**

Tuesday 10th January 2017 at 3pm in the Dome.

CEM

07/12/16