



Meeting (No) **TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE (6)**
Time & Date **5pm on 26 April 2022**
Place **Neston Town Hall**
Document **Minutes**

Present: Cllr Townsend (Chair), Mr J Allcock (non-voting member), Cllr Kynaston (substitute for Cllr Hinks) and Cllr Wastell

In attendance: Miss A Duncan (Governance & Operations Manager), CWaC Cllr Gittins

PART 1: Items considered in the presence of the press and public

45 Questions and comments from residents

There were no questions or comments

46 Apologies for absence

The Committee received apologies for absence from Cllr Hinks (personal) and Cllr Samuels (personal) and **RESOLVED** to accept the reasons for absence and to note other absence.

47 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interests.

48 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Transport Sub-committee meeting held on 11.01.22. The Chair signed the minutes.

49 Governance & Operations Manager's report

The Governance & Operations Manager's report was received and it was noted that the order had been placed for the replacement footer plate for the Chester Road car park sign to highlight EV charging facilities.

50 Rail update

- a The Sub-committee received an oral update from CWaC Cllr Gittins on the progress of Growth Track 360. Cllr Gittins explained the background and long-term aspirations of the project and highlighted current aspects of relevance to Neston, including an aspiration for improvements to the Wrexham to Bidston route within the Growth Track 360 Prospectus and submission of an application to round two of the Levelling Up Fund which, if successful, would incorporate a new Deeside station. Cllr Gittins also informed the Sub-committee that she had stressed to Transport for Wales (TfW) the negative consequences of not having ticket machines at stations.
- b Mr Allcock, WBRUA Chair, gave an update on rail developments relating to Neston and reported that:
 - a 15 minute service will be reinstated between West Kirby and Liverpool from 2 May improving connections at Bidston for passengers from Neston;
 - a new timetable will be operational from 16 May. Although online journey planners currently show additional Wrexham-Bidston services (an early morning train to Wrexham and two additional services each way in the evenings) TfW has not yet confirmed that they will run. The WBRUA believes that these additional services will be dependent on the introduction of the new trains which may be further delayed until later in the year;

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- should the current 'levelling up' funding bid be successful, construction of Deeside Parkway would enable more Neston residents to take advantage of the increasing number of jobs available in Deeside;
 - WBRUA continues to push TfW for incremental improvements to the service and stations to be implemented as soon as such improvements can be realised. As an example if freight movements preclude two trains an hour throughout the day until infrastructure work is implemented, additional trains should initially be operated at those times of the day there is no conflict with freight;
 - WBRUA held a meeting with TfW to press for signage improvements at Shotton station;
 - it was hoped that in December 2022, following the introduction of the promised more frequent service, there would be additional connection options via Shotton which could open up routes from Neston thereby increasing connectivity.
- c Oral feedback was received on the Transport for Wales station improvements briefing held on 12.01.21. It was noted that there was an aspiration to make improvements and Transport for Wales was moving forward with the consultation and survey phase but that funds to carry out the work had yet to be secured.

51 Traffic calming measures

Following consideration of paper T6/51, the Sub-committee agreed to recommend that Council makes a financial contribution from EMR 337 (CIL) towards the cost of the proposed traffic calming scheme in Ness and suggested that a smaller size of Scan Kerb should be installed to avoid drainage issues and prevent cyclists from being pushed into the highway. Cllr Gittins agreed to investigate this suggestion but expressed concern that it could significantly increase the overall cost of the proposed scheme which was currently estimated to be £10,700.

51 Parking in Neston

- a It was reported that discussions had taken place with the PCSOs about pavement parking causing difficulties for pedestrians and that the PCSOs had agreed to undertake more patrols to monitor the situation and issue tickets if appropriate.

52 Signage Task & Finish Group

It was noted that the group had not met since the last meeting. The Chair shared suggestions that had been forwarded by the Civic Society, confirmed that signage would shortly be added to the Chester Road car park entrance and also at the Station Road exit from the Wirral Way to encourage walkers into the town. The Chair stated that the addition of other signage would be dependent on funding.

It was agreed to investigate options for adding signs at Neston station advertising the Friday market.

53 Press releases

The Sub-committee decided not to issue any press releases on issues relating to transport-related developments.

54 Date of next meeting

It was noted that the date of the next Transport Sub-committee would be decided following the Annual Meeting of the Council on 17th May 2022.

The meeting closed at 5.50pm.

Signed Brenda M. Murgie Date 7/7/22