

Present: The Chairman, Councillor David Nimmo Smith
The Vice Chairman, Councillor Jane Smewing
Councillor Julian Brookes
Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak (substituting for
Councillor Ian Reissmann)
Councillor Simon Smith
The Mayor - Councillor Lorraine Hillier (ex-officio)

In Attendance: Ms C Adams – Committee Administrator / Minute Taker

Also Present: 4 Members of the Public

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Mayor called for nominations for the election of a Chairman for the Transport Strategy Group.

Councillor Simon Smith proposed and Councillor Lorraine Hillier seconded that Councillor Julian Brookes be elected Chairman for the Transport Strategy Group.

Councillor Julian Brookes proposed and Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak seconded that Councillor David Nimmo Smith be elected Chairman for the Transport Strategy Group.

Councillor Julian Brookes withdrew his candidacy and it was **RESOLVED**

that Councillor David Nimmo Smith be elected Chairman of the Transport Strategy Group.

Councillor David Nimmo Smith took the Chair.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman, Councillor David Nimmo Smith, called for nominations for the election of a Vice-Chairman for the Transport Strategy Group.

Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak proposed and Councillor Jane Smewing seconded that Councillor Jane Smewing be elected Vice-Chairman for the Transport Strategy Group.

It was **RESOLVED**

that Councillor Jane Smewing be elected Vice-Chairman of the Transport Strategy Group.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ian Reissmann. Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak attended in his place.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

David Dickie, St Katherine's Road - David Dickie stated that there had been major reviews of traffic in recent times. Madrid has banned people driving in the city centre and it has been shown that in London 4 out of 5 children are subjected to unacceptable pollution levels on their way to school. He sought reassurance that the Transport Strategy will look at doing something regarding air pollution. This is a key objective.

Secondly, he felt that there should be a councillor with responsibility for air pollution. It has been an item in the Conservative Party manifesto for several elections and should now be followed up.

Roy Atkin, Elizabeth Road - Roy Atkin said that he had passed a note on traffic gating to the committee administrator for circulation. He felt that for historical reasons, traffic in Henley was not gated from the West. Therefore, it could enter freely from the West in the morning, but be gated on the return journey in the evening. This was partly in support of the SCOOT system. This doesn't deter people entering in the morning, but leads to terrible queues later down Remenham Hill and complaints from residents. This had not been mentioned in the Peter Brett Associates report, but he hoped that it would be looked at as part of the Transport Strategy. It is a fundamental consideration when you have a sensitive area surrounded by a non-sensitive area.

Stefan Gawrysiak, Councillor - Stefan Gawrysiak suggested the adoption of the Townlands Steering Group approach to Public Participation, where there is also a later opportunity for the public to speak. The Chairman suggested that this should be raised during discussion of agenda item 7.

6. **APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS**

It was suggested that representation should be sought from various groups, including neighbouring parish councils, the police, educational establishments, retailers, taxis and bus operators. After discussion, it was felt that, by and large, opinions should be sought from various sector representatives during the life of the Transport Strategy Group, but that not all should be members of the Transport Strategy Group. It was **RESOLVED**

to invite representation from Harpsden and Remenham Parish Councils, invite Justin Bowles and Dave McEwen to join the Group and also to co-opt Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak to represent SODC on the Transport Strategy Group.

The Transport Strategy Group membership is therefore proposed as:

The Chairman, Councillor David Nimmo Smith, Oxfordshire County Council
The Vice Chairman, Councillor Jane Smewing, Henley Town Council
Councillor Julian Brookes, Henley Town Council
Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak, South Oxfordshire District Council
Councillor Ian Reissmann, Henley Town Council
Councillor Simon Smith, Henley Town Council
The Mayor - Councillor Lorraine Hillier (ex-officio), Henley Town Council
Dave McEwen, Henley in Transition
Justin Bowles, Henley in Transition
Member from Harpsden Parish Council
Member from Remenham Parish Council

The Terms of Reference will therefore need amendment.

Dave McEwen was invited to the table at 8.10pm.

A Member queried who was able to vote. This was agreed to be all members except officers.

7. **AGREEMENT OF WAY FORWARD**

Discussion revolved around the objectives for the Group. There were mixed views as to whether the Group could influence public transport, such as increasing the frequency of the Whites Buses that circulate in the town and extending their route to the station. A Member stated that a survey carried out in conjunction with The Henley College had shown that a large number of journeys of less than two miles were undertaken by car. If there were more frequent services, people would be more likely to use them. Although financing is a problem, there is money available to prime new services.

The objectives were agreed as being Air Quality, HGVs, Public Transport, Congestion and Traffic and Walking and Cycling.

Officers from OCC and SODC will be invited to the next meeting. Following this meeting, it will be decided in which order to address the objectives. It was also suggested that the potential actions from the Peter Brett Associates Report should be considered.

Action: *Councillor David Nimmo Smith to obtain possible attendance dates from officers at OCC and SODC.*

The meeting closed at 8.39pm.

ca

Chairman