

Minutes of the Transport Partnership

Tuesday 12th September 2017, Jubilee Library

Attendees:

Cllr Gill Mitchell (BHCC, Chair)
Andrew Renaut (BHCC, City Transport)
Mark Prior (BHCC – City Transport)
Simon Newell (Brighton & Hove Connected)
Samuel Rouse (BHCC, Environmental Protection)
Alistair Hill (BHCC, Public Health)
Emily Robinson (BHCC)
Stephen Young (Living Streets)
Martin Harris (Brighton & Hove Bus and Coach Co.)
Mike Best (Brighton & Hove Bus and Coach Co.)
Cat Fletcher (Community Works)
Mark Greening (Brighton MAG)
Mark Buchanan-Smith (Churchill Square)
Kate Walker
Tony Barnard (City Car Club)
Chris Todd (Biosphere Partnership)
Chloe Sands (BHCC)
Ian Davey (Hourbike)
Tim Caswell (Hourbike)

Action Table:

Responsible	Action
Cllr Mitchell	To ensure Chris Todd's letter and response are distributed to members of the partnership.
Cllr Mitchell	To distribute points for clarification from Tony Green to members of the partnership.
Mark Prior	To follow up on the motorcycle parking missing from the plan.

1. Welcome and Introductions

1.1 Apologies were received from:

- Tony Turner
- Mark Strong
- Dave Brookshaw
- Roger Blake
- Tony Green
- Cllr Lee Wares

2. Chair's Communications

- 2.1 Cllr Mitchell advised that the response to the letter from Chris Todd is being finalised and will hopefully be sent this week. It was confirmed that Chris Todd is happy for the response, along with the original letter, to be distributed to members of the Partnership.

ACTION: Cllr Mitchell to ensure Chris Todd's letter and response are distributed to members of the partnership.

- 2.2 Cllr Mitchell advised that after the previous meeting Tony Green raised some points for clarification. These will also be circulated to members of the partnership.

ACTION: Cllr Mitchell to distribute points for clarification from Tony Green to members of the partnership.

3. Minutes & Matters Arising from Meeting on 1st August

- 3.1 Minutes were agreed as a correct record.

4. Coordination of Actions to Address Air Quality

- 4.1 Simon Newell introduced the presentation and advised that this has come as a result of items discussed in the previous few meetings.
- 4.2 In relation to the slide on industrial strategy Andrew Renault confirmed that the reference to 'productivity' is the same as that in the Transport Investment Strategy which discusses the importance of rebalancing the economy, between the North and South for example.
- 4.3 Samuel Rouse and Alistair Hill presented on air quality. Some additional information that was noted includes:
- It was advised that Public Health is hoping to carry out more work on health impacts and risks of air pollutants on overall health over the coming months. He also stated that co-benefits in reducing air quality will also be looked at, e.g. increasing activity thus reducing diabetes.
 - The reduction in Nitrogen Dioxide levels in North Street have fallen from around 64 to about 47 since 2013. This reduction has occurred since fitting buses with clean exhaust technology. This technology has also been downsized so now taxis are retrofitting their exhaust on mini buses and saloons.
 - There is interest from power companies for having a hydrogen refuelling area near Brighton for fuel cell vehicles.
 - It is planned that the low emission zone will be taken to committee early next year for review.

- 4.4 In response to questions the following was discussed and clarified:
- BHCC officers were unable to comment on proposed parking on the Preston Barracks development as this is the subject of a planning application that is currently being considered. It was confirmed that the submission will be assessed against existing policy and active discussions are still taking place so the proposal may change. It will be presented to Planning Committee on 27th September.
 - It was suggested the council have a statement of intention about reducing car parking on developments such as Preston Barracks. In response it was advised that there is a strict policy on the council website which is based on levels of access to public transport. As the Lewes Road corridor has good accessibility it is expected that there would be lower levels of parking.
 - No provision exists in policy for charging points for electric bicycles but this could still be achieved within the wider infrastructure programme.
 - Hydrogen fuel stations are believed to be very safe and the infrastructure provider has advised they have a first class safety record. Planning guidelines would also exist to ensure they are created and located appropriately. They also generate energy on site so unlike petrol it would not be transported around.
- 4.5 Discussion took place around tensions that may exist between being a greener city and allowing it to grow and provide homes and jobs. It was suggested that the city should be able to provide homes and jobs without the additional car parking that has the potential to increase traffic and congestion. Not allowing more parking than what already exist should not impede developments.
- 4.6 In relation to the slide on Emergent Technology it was advised that new pilots on rapid EV charging are currently taking place (full charge within 30 minutes) to see if this is a form of on-street charging that would work, however the equipment is very large.
- 4.7 It was suggested and agreed that policy objectives should be framed in terms of the outcomes to be achieved, e.g. air quality.
- 4.8 Concern was expressed around the possibility that increased use of emerging technology will have little impact on improving congestion. It should be ensured that it does not just result in all petrol cars being replaced with electric cars and that prioritisation of the most efficient use of road space is considered.

5. Project Update

- 5.1 Andrew Renaut introduced the update and a hard copy was distributed in the meeting.
- 5.2 Mike Best stated that, despite the meeting in 2014 with the traffic commissioner, he was disappointed by the fact there are now multiple major schemes now happening together at the busiest time of year for Lewes Road (start of academic year for universities); Preston Barracks, North Street and Elm Grove. He stated that BHCC “could not have planned this any worse”. Cllr Mitchell confirmed that officers had been working to explain why these works are happening at the same time. It was also commented that commitments were made within constraints of managing an active city but could not recall committing to not having more than one scheme at a time.
- 5.3 It was clarified that a bus network review would be carried out to look at the delay points and junctions to see if there is a way to enable buses to move smoothly through the city. Owen McElroy is the lead officer for this. The review will be with the bus company and will include external support and experts from the council. Traffic network management strategy will be going to committee soon to gain a wider understanding of how the network can be improved.
- 5.4 Motorcycle parking that was missing from a plan has been reported back to Tracy Beverly.

ACTION: MP to follow up on the motorcycle parking missing from the plan.

6. Bike Share Scheme

- 6.1 Ian Davey and Tim Caswell from Hourbike attended the meeting to provide an update on the new scheme. The scheme was launched on 1 September 2017 after the business case, submitted in 2014, was agreed and funding was secured which was matched through the transport investment plan. The procurement process appointed Hourbike which has installed a fairly unique system of fixed hubs and dock-less technology. They are successfully approaching installation of 50 total hubs ensuring the bikes are being introduced at a rate to keep up with the new docks.
- 6.2 In response to queries the following was clarified:
- The space used by Hourbike is licensed so they have the power to remove unauthorised bikes from docking stations after a period of notification.
 - Most registrations so far have been with a ‘BN’ postcode.
 - Journeys can be looked at to gauge if they are for leisure or commuting purposes. Many people have been signing up between 2-3am which can be assumed that this is for people to get home after a night out.

- There have been user queries on how it works and also people asking when it is going to be installed in their area so there appears to be a fair amount of demand outside of the city centre.
- Bikes are being collected when they are off-rental and returned to docking stations. This also helps make people aware they are tracked.

6.3 The meeting was closed and the board was given the opportunity to have a demonstration of the bike.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 14th November 2017, 16:00-18:00, Conference Room 2, Jubilee Library, Jubilee Street, BN1 1GE