

Stratford upon Avon Town Transport Group [TTG]

Minutes from a meeting at 9.30am - 11.30am

on Thursday 11 September 2025 at the Town Hall

Present: Steve Albon, Elizabeth Dixon *Secretary*, Ian Fradgley, Jenny Fradgley, Stuart Green, Richard Lees, Andy List, Lindsay Macdonald, Caroline Nash, Kate Rolfe, Louisa Slator, Colin Stewart, Steve Turner and Janet Palmer and Liz Pacione from Stratford Climate Action for part of the meeting.

Circulated to Members of the TTG and

WCC Councillors: George Finch, Interim Leader; Edward Harris, Chair; Jennifer Warren Transport Portfolio Holder; Stuart Green, Cabinet Support for Transport.

WCC Officers: Mark Ryder, Strategic Director for Communities; David Ayton-Hill, Assistant Director Communities, Transport Planning.

SDC: Officers: Tony Perks, Deputy Chief Executive; Councillor Susan Juned, Leader

Town Council: Caroline Nash, Town Clerk; Councillor Dani Hunter, Mayor.

Member of Parliament: Manuela Perteghella

Additional information can be found on the Stratford Town Council website, <https://stratford-tc.gov.uk/town-transport-group/>

- 1 **Welcome** by Colin Stewart Chair to a 'live' meeting with speakers expected from Stratford Climate Action and Network Rail.

Apologies: Aaron Corsi, George Cowcher, John Deegan, Lorraine Grocott, Mark Haselden, Dani Hunter, Jann Tracy.

- 2 **Minutes** of 11 July 2025 were approved.

- 3 **Actions and Matters arising and not on the Agenda:**

Trains: Feedback awaiting from Geoff Grant [West Midland Trains] or Vicky Mumford [WCC] from a previous meeting. ED to chase. ED

- 4 **Stratford Climate Action:** Janet Palmer and Liz Pacione gave a presentation about the bus services in Stratford upon Avon. (*see paper attached*). CS advised that John Morgan sent regular updates to ED & CS on the current state of buses in the area, particularly cancellations, and these were forwarded to WCC and as noted in the last minutes. CS also noted that the Transport Strategy & Action Plan section on buses and Park & Ride aligned with Janet & Liz's presentation, and TTG supported it.

The presentation called for Government monies awarded to WCC for the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) to be spent resolving the issues raised. SG has a copy of the BSIP for Warwickshire and will forward it to ED for circulation with the minutes. SG ED

CS asked who was on the WCC Buses Group representing Stratford Area, now that Tim Sinclair was no longer a councillor. KR commented that one of the

three Stratford County Councillors should be a representative. **SG & KR** to action.

SG/KR

5 Network Rail: Steven Ireland was unable to attend the meeting.

6 South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP): SDC is still going through the consultations which is reported to be on schedule.

LS

Due to its significance, CS referred to the **Bordon Hill Planning appeal** which has granted outline permission for up to 130 homes on land adjacent to the old Chutneys.

Implications:

Stratford DC no longer has a 5-year planning supply.

In summary, the implications are that planning permission for applications should be granted unless:

1. It damages assets of particular importance (eg: heritage assets)
or
2. Harm significantly and demonstrably outweighs benefits when assessed against the NPPF taken as a whole.

Consequently, it will make it a lot easier for developers and will make planning infrastructure more difficult. The implications are serious.

7 Transport Strategy & Action Plan

Town Bypass: CS noted that SDC had earlier requested TTG be involved, so had requested an update on progress on the current study, as Stage 1 was expected to complete by now. Atkins-Realis (WCC's outsourcing consultant) had replied.

In summary,

- Objectives have been developed
- Long List of Options created
- Traffic Model in Final Stages to reflect emerging SWLP
- Options being shortlisted
- Autumn Completion

CS noted his key concerns that:

1. The solution needs to be affordable
2. The route then needs robust safeguarding, which does not appear to have always been the case historically.

In this regard he noted the current proposals from IM Properties for the SuA2 Business Park, which in its present form could preclude some bypass options.

He recorded that he had provided Atkins with a pack of information and proposals, which they had advised would be taken into account. CS chase John Careford.

CS

AL

Cycle Racks: Three have now been installed in different locations on the Rec.

8 Projects: See attached schedule

9 Planning Applications: CS reminded all of the current situation following the Bordon Hill appeal and requested members to notify ED & CS if they became aware of Planning Applications that had transport implications, or which could impact the ability to provide sufficient infrastructure.

All

- 10 Any Other Business:** KR advised that the Environment Agency had recently updated their flood map database, increasing some flood risk categories, which would make it more difficult to build in some areas.

Steven Ireland, Network Rail, did not attend the meeting.

The meeting ended at 11.30am

**The next TTG meeting is from 9.30am - 11.30am
on Thursday 9 October by Zoom**

Stratford-upon-Avon Town Transport Group (TTG)

Update: 11 September 2025

Stratford-upon-Avon Transport Project Status

| | Project | Status | Action | Last Update |
|---|--|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Pedestrian priority of Bridge Street & High Street | <p>WCC have advised the a pilot will now have to be 12 months duration in order to get a TRO. At the last Strategic Partnership meeting (July), an implementation date of mid-March 2026 was agreed. WCC to progress and update costings for approval. Revised proposal awaited.</p> <p>CS understood approval to go ahead and acceptance of some costs were required by WCC. SG requested copies of the paperwork.</p> | <p>WCC</p> <p>CN /CS</p> | <p>11.9.25</p> <p>11.9.25</p> |
| 2 | Birmingham Road | <p>LG held a meeting with residents voicing concerns at the current installation which has 2-lanes inbound, and consequently difficult or dangerous side road entries and exists.</p> <p>CS noted that this design has been going on for many years, and TTG had voiced concern since first seeing these drawings in 2022. Since that time TTG has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stated 2-lanes inbound was wrong lane balance for the town (mid 2024 WCC advised it would be one lane in each direction, then changed back) (<i>2 lanes in and 1 out means more traffic arriving in the town than can get out, increasing congestion. The other way could point drivers to the Park & Ride</i>) • Suggested the Tesco slip road wasn't needed - now removed • Proposed "left out" only at Western Road - now implemented • Raised the Justins Avenue layout as a potential problem • Showed disconnections in cycle track - some were corrected | | |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questioned bus lay-by removal in March - 6 months later reinstated • Phase 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Block Paving on cycle track removed & replaced smooth • Private access priority removed to allow continuous cycle tracks <p>CS noted that the design of roads like this is commonplace, there are design standards to be adhered to, a Safety Audit to be carried out before implementation, and it would seem unacceptable to construct a scheme with flawed lane configurations like this.</p> | LG | 11.9.25 |
| 3 | Clopton Bridge / Tiddington Road Junction | <p>Original scheme withdrawn. Project now limited to replacing the pelican crossings outside Cox's Yard with a signal controlled junction. Timing expected after B'ham Road.</p> <p>WCC is now controlling this scheme. Phase 1 construction is targeted for Autumn/Winter 2025, subject to receipt of favourable traffic modelling and Streetworks Permit approvals.</p> <p>KR advised the scheme has run into difficulties as a sliver of land is required to allow for the circulating lane on the gyratory to be widened to 2-lane. CS and AL repeated their comments from when this proposal was first aired two years ago, questioning whether 2-lanes were need.</p> | WCC KR KR | 12.6.25 15.07.25 11.9.25 |
| 4 | Evesham Roundabout | <p>Now open, WCC to decide how to connect cycle paths through the junction. WCC still to commission design work. SA to investigate.</p> <p>Stephen Rumble WCC says is work in progress. We've commissioned feasibility design for a scheme to better connect the new route alongside the relief road to the existing cycle lanes on Evesham Rd and to connect down to the disused railway line that runs from Luddington Road towards the town. The design is quite well advanced but needing some input from other disciplines to complete the design and prepare the</p> | WCC SA SA | 14.12.23 12.6.25 15.07.25 |

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| | | cost estimate. Peter Corkill will almost certainly be in touch with you in due course in relation to our work to bring forward a cycle scheme on Alcester Road | | |
| 5 | Alcester Road A46 Roundabout (Shottery Relief Road) | Meeting 28 Feb. arranged by our MP, confirmed this work will start once Birmingham Road is complete. Advised this work will start shortly. | WCC CS | 8.5.25 11.9.25 |
| 6 | Alcester Road Cycle Tracks | Stephen Rumble presented proposals to TTG at 11.7.24 meeting. CS wrote with simple suggestions to accommodate LTN1/20 requirements at junctions on 12.7.24. No response. Councillors to chase. Plans have been shown to Cycle Forum and there will be consultation. Connection to A46 OK, but connection to town is still an issue. AL to discuss at meeting with three Councillors. No further news and no meeting yet with CC's. | AL AL | 12.6.25 15.07.25 |
| 7 | Western Bypass | Route options study has started in two stages. TTG requested to input. Initial meeting held WCC, SDC, Atkins. See item 7 on agenda | CS MH CS | 8.05.25 14.07.25 11.9.25 |
| 8 | Greenway All-weather Surfacing | Phase 1: Milcote to SuA works complete, however the surface which was understood to be bonded all weather tar & chip, appears to be loose unwashed round gravel including significant fine material and dust. It has been noted it is difficult to wheel through on bikes, push chairs. S106 wording, which specifies a “sealed all-weather surface on the Greenway between the site and Stratford-upon-Avon, to make the route suitable for cycle commuting and other utility journeys from the site.” Which clearly is not what has been constructed. Still unresolved. KR, CS, AL and ED have met, and formalised reply to WCC's latest response, which included quotations from various user groups, demonstrating that contrary to WCC's assertion, the surface meets no user needs and is dangerous. | WCC | 12.6.25 |

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| | | Response still awaited. | WCC | 11.9.25 |
| 9 | Canal Quarter Regeneration | Waiting for a decision after the site is bought. | SDC | 8.05.25 |
| 10 | Gateway | Work commissioned for Arden Street Car Park. | SDC | 8.05.25 |
| 11 | Warwick Road | Complete. Cycle Forum had been discussing extension into town using existing wide paving in front of Grosvenor Hotel, with TS. Works are mainly signing. LG requested to chase. Request from LG again | LG | 8.05.25 |
| 12 | Tow Path improvement, Bishops Lane to Timothy's Bridge Rd. | S106 Funding available from Bishopton Housing development. SDC negotiating with Canal & Rivers Trust to do the work. Third Party insurance claim is the hold up. GC requested to follow up possibility of SDC doing the work to remove the landslip and recharge land owner. | SDC GC | 12.10.23 8.05.25 |
| 14 | Banbury Road cycle route extension to Sonnett Park. | S106 funding received from development. Feasibility study being undertaken | WCC WCC | 20.3.24 8.05.25 |