

Bolsover LSP / CHART LSP Transport Action Group Meeting
Minutes of Meeting held on Friday 6th July 2007 at 9.30am
Room 3, Town Hall, Rose Hill, Chesterfield

Present

Jamie Singleton (Chair)	DCC
Kath Jephson	Private Sector
Richard Bennett	BDC
Catherine Rossall	CBC
Clare Greensmith	STAR Access Alliance
Malcolm Marshall	DCC
Richard Madin	Bolsover LSP
Janet Hodsdon	Bolsover LSP
Jill Meeds	Clowne & District Community Transport
Derrick Betts	CVP
Fee Unwin	CVP
Mark Shewring	CBC
Sandie Abberley	DRCC Wheels To Work
Mick Kerry	DCC Learning Disabilities
Cameron Philpot	NEDPAA
Chris Tann	Chesterfield Royal Hospital
Steve Lee	CHART LSP
Natalie Priestley	CHART LSP
Sue Dixon	CHART LSP

1. Introductions & Apologies

Rebecca Pennyfather (DCC), Steve Cannon (DCC), Mike Hayden (CBC), Sue O'Donnell (NEDDC).

The Chair introduced Sandie Abberley, Mick Kerry and Janet Hodsdon and welcomed them to the group.

2. Minutes of meeting of 20th April 2007

After amendments to item 1, Apologies - Richard Madin (Bolsover LSP); and item 4, Action Plan, paragraph 5 – “The group also discussed Community Transport and the various benefits and difficulties of running a scheme. Rebecca reported the three Rural Transport Partnerships in Derbyshire have ceased operating. In NE Derbyshire it may be possible to take forward some elements of accessibility through the STAR SSP Alliance Programme”, the minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

Item 4 – Action – Steve Lee reported that the meeting had taken place.

Item 5 – NE Derbyshire Local Transport Plan – The Chair reported that Rebecca Pennyfather had not received any suggestions for schemes. (Please see item 8)

3. Accessibility, Potential Schemes for 2008/09

The Chair reported that no suggestions have yet been received. Examples of the types of schemes that could be funded include strategically placed consoles for journey planning, raised kerbs at bus stops, purchasing community transport vehicles, cycle stands etc. Partners are asked to put ideas forward to the Chair or Rebecca as soon as possible as the deadline for suggestions is September 2007 to allow funding to be allocated in time for schemes to begin in April 2008.

Kath Jephson asked if the green travel plans are linked to this. The Chair said that they are and that lots of work has been done by DCC with businesses to encourage non-car use among employees.

Cameron Philpot said he had experienced problems with raised kerbs at bus stops when bus drivers do not get their vehicle close enough to the kerb. The Chair said that DCC are in contact with Stagecoach and have raised this issue, although sometimes the problem is caused by cars being parked in the bus bays which is a matter for the Police. If parking offences are de-criminalised in the future, the County Council will then take over responsibility for issuing penalties.

Richard Bennett asked if DCC has written to the three LAs represented at this group for suggestions for schemes. The Chair said he was not sure, but would check.

Derrick Betts felt that better consultation on cycleway provision is needed and noted that one near his home is under-used. Malcolm Marshall said that the greenways strategy should be the driver for cycleways which will be increasingly used by more people as the network develops.

There was further discussion about funding various types of scheme and Richard Bennett asked if information is available about the schemes that failed last year. The Chair agreed to investigate this with the district groups and inform Richard of his findings.

Action: Chair to provide Richard Bennett with details of last year's failed schemes.

4. Access Alliance Programme

Clare Greensmith updated the group. The first round of bidding ends on Friday 13th July 2007. Bids will be evaluated internally and recommendations for funding will be put forward to the Steering Group which will announce successful bids 10th August.

The Access Alliance Forum has been set up and the first meeting held on 24th May 2007. Four-monthly meetings will be held throughout the funding period

to look at issues and there is an open invitation to this group to attend the next meeting on 19th September 2007 at Kelham Hall. The focus will be Access to Employment and it is hoped that key providers will be there.

Clare said that meetings were being arranged at venues in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, and asked if it would be possible to book rooms at CBC. It was agreed that she would contact CHART LSP about this as only internal bookings are allowed, and CHART may be able to facilitate this.

Mark Shewring asked what types of capital projects help access to work. Clare said that whilst she did not want to be prescriptive, examples include organisations wanting to purchase minibuses, the wheels to work scheme etc. Talks are under way with EMDA about funding as revenue solutions are easier to find. Overall, £125k of match funding needs to be brought in, although the percentage is not specific.

Jill Meeds asked if volunteer time could be counted as match funding and Clare agreed to check on this and inform Jill.

Steve Lee asked if there is a limit on how much can be applied for. Clare said that there is not, although it should be borne in mind that between November 2006 and November 2008 20 projects need funding, which equates to £10-20k each. If this pilot is successful EMDA may fund the scheme longer term.

5. LSP Response to Local Government White Paper

Future Membership - Steve Lee reported that Steve Cannon will continue chairing this group as he is the County lead for Transport in this area. He and Steve will meet to look at membership of the group.

Performance Management - The suggestion to link with the LAA using the CORVU system is being developed by NEDDC. The Theme Group Action Plans (including the Bolsover Action plan for this group) will be updated via the CHART website instead of using the current system. The Economic Regeneration Theme group is piloting the idea and Bolsover LSP will be consulted about this.

6. Community Strategy Action Plan

Natalie Priestley led the group through the action plan and updated it where relevant. A revised action plan will be issued in due course.

Chris Tann said he would like to offer the Royal Hospital to be the pilot for a fully integrated travel strategy. In return for their help, partners could use the plan as a template for their own strategies.

There was further discussion about travel options to the hospital for patients and visitors and it was agreed to invite Judith Laverty from DCC to speak about travel plans at the next meeting.

Action: Chair to invite Judith Laverty to next meeting.

7. Bolsover Local Development Framework

Richard Bennett updated the group about how Bolsover DC is handling the LDF. He wanted a meeting of this group to look at the Action Plan; concern was expressed over the timescale given to do this.

8. Issues from the Community

Steve Lee reported that following a request from a District Councillor, he had been asked by the NEDDC's Equal Opportunities Officer to raise the issue of transport provision for elderly residents in Eckington, who want access from the health centre to services.

The Chair said that evidence of need is required before any public funding can be provided for such schemes. It is likely that this role could be filled by community transport or taxis, although there would be a cost involved to users.

Steve asked if any studies had been undertaken to assess access to health services on a district or county wide basis. The Chair said that county wide there are some problems with hospital access, but not GP surgeries. Within districts this varies due to the geography, although it is possible that problems in small areas can be overshadowed by the county figures.

Action: Steve Lee to respond to Bobbie Lawrence-Sykes.

The Chair reported that he had met with Sue O'Donnell regarding bus access from Eckington to the Royal Hospital, but since the bus services between Eckington/Chesterfield and Chesterfield/Hospital have been improved, the problem has been resolved.

Fee Unwin reported that she had carried out some community consultation work on Rebecca Pennyfather's request for recommendations for small schemes for the NE Derbyshire Local Transport Plan. The response had been very good and Fee handed the results to the Chair to pass on to Rebecca. (Please refer to item 2, matters arising).

Cameron Philpot raised the subject of the recent flooding in the area and asked what contingency plans the County Council had as he felt that not much had been done to evacuate those whose homes were affected. The Chair said that contingency plans had been put in place across the county, but that not everyone could be catered for as it is virtually impossible to predict such events – priority is given to larger numbers of people before individual issues can be addressed.

9. Any Other Business

Mark Shewring reported that CBC is undertaking a planning exercise for the Staveley Works site. Please refer to the attached paper for more details.

Richard Bennett reported that the Bolsover Citizens Panel, comprising 1000 residents, will be sent a transport focused questionnaire in September. Chris Tann asked if questions about transport to the hospital could be included in the questionnaire when it is circulated.

Sandie Abberley updated the group on the Wheels to Work scheme.

10. Date and time of next meeting

Date	Time	Venue
Friday 7 th September	9.30	Meeting Room, Bolsover LSP
Friday 30 th November	9.30	Meeting Room, Bolsover LSP