

.Minutes of the Transport and Traffic Sub Committee
Held at the Civic Hall Lee Street, Uppermill
On Monday 9th June 2008

There were present Cllr. Mr. R. Franklin – Chairman
 Cllr. Mr A. Hodgkiss – Vice Chairman

 Cllrs. Mr. P. Bagley
 Mrs. A. McInnes,
 Mrs. A. Parry
 Mrs. D. Shaw

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. Mrs. P. Lord

2. **Frames of Reference**

It was agreed that the frames of reference for the sub-committee should be:

Transport

1. Buses - Timetables; bus stops and complaints.
2. Trains - Support for new station Diggle; Greenfield Station provision and frequency of trains seeking hourly on Sundays and two per hour during the week.
3. Affiliation to STORM

Parking

1. Involvement in decisions about yellow lines.
2. Involvement in discussions about Uppermill parking facilities and other villages as appropriate.

Highways

1. Road signage – assessment of signs in villages and quest for more, or less as appropriate.
2. Overgrown vegetation obstructing signs rendering them useless.
3. Speed limits.
4. Roadworks – their length of stay.
5. Street lighting

It was agreed that representatives of the following groups / organisations should be invited to join the sub-committee:

 Oldham MBC Highways Department
 Uppermill Parking Action Group
 Greater Manchester Police

Discussions with the Police have indicated that they be willing to attend meetings as appropriate. The proposed frames of reference and membership of the sub-committee will be discussed at the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

3. **Bus Shelters** - Concerns were raised about the replacement of glass bus shelters that are regularly damaged. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact GMPTE to ascertain their current policy and provide examples of shelters that are regularly damaged, two such examples are adjacent to the Grotton Hotel and approaching County End. It was also agreed that all Councillors should keep a record of damaged shelters and pass that information to the Clerk for consideration by the Sub Committee.
4. **Trains** – Councillor Franklin informed the group of the current position of the possibility of a station in Diggle. Alterations are currently being carried out at Greenfield Station, these include a better waiting area, ticket office and toilet facilities. A bus lane will be provided at the front of the station. Members discussed the possibility of the re-opening of the path that ran from the station up to Oldham Road near to the junction with Oaklands Road. Councillor Franklin will raise the issue with representatives from Network Rail. STORM was originally formed to oppose the closure of the Oldham – Rochdale – Manchester line some years ago, it now provides a range of useful information about rail services in the area and suggested improvements.
5. **Congestion Charging** - The proposals were announced earlier in the day, there is now a three month consultation period. The only direct benefit to Saddleworth is longer trains. The Council agreed in October to hold a public meeting to discuss Congestion Charging once the proposals have been announced. The issue will be discussed at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting.
6. **Parking** – we should be consulted on any future parking proposals in the area. Additional funding is being identified to carry out the work on Saddleworth Baths Car park. Problems exist with the yellow lines in Grotton, on the corner facing the Grotton Hotel, the lines need to be re-painted, it was agreed that the Clerk will contact Oldham MBC. Double parking is a problem in a number of areas, it was agreed that a Traffic PCSO be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss this issue and their role in parking management.
7. **Highways** – some signage is overgrown with vegetation and other signs need cleaning. The group will also look at the level of signing and quest for more or less as appropriate. It was also noted that a large number of advertising signs are appearing on pavements and at the roadside. It was agreed that the Clerk will raise the concerns with Tony Noblet. The phasing of the traffic lights at the Viaduct needs reviewing, the Clerk will request an update on the progress of the work.
8. **Land at rear of Hare and Hounds Car Park** – Uppermill Methodist Scouts group would like to turn this unused and overgrown piece of land into a peaceful reflective garden brimming with plants and flowers and a place to rest for the local people of Saddleworth. The Clerk has contacted Oldham MBC to confirm that they own the land and what action the group need to take to move the project forward.
9. **Future meetings** – It was agreed that the next meeting will be on Monday 7th July at 6 p.m..