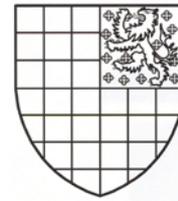


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**LEWES
TOWN
COUNCIL**

To: Cllrs Catlin (Wischhusen); Dean; Li; Milner; Murray (S); O'Keeffe

A Meeting of the Working party formed to address traffic-related issues in Lewes will be held on **Thursday 28th November 2013** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lewes** at **6:30pm** which you are requested to attend.

S Brigden, Town Clerk
14th November 2013

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

To receive apologies from members of the working-party who are unable to attend.

2. MEMBER'S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

To note declarations of any personal or prejudicial interests in matters on this agenda.

3. MINUTES

To agree minutes of the meeting held on 21st February 2012

(attached page 3)

4. QUESTION TIME

To receive any questions regarding items on the agenda for this meeting.

5. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

To continue the work of previous meetings, in assessing practical issues involved in addressing the remit of the working-party, and evaluating information gathered so far.

In particular; several interested parties have been invited to this meeting, with a view to discussing the opportunities* offered by the present situation with regard to proposed or imminent projects, such as improvements to the road bridge at the Railway station; developments at North Street, Waitrose, the Bus station site, etc. These will all have wide-ranging implications as they impact upon Rail; Road; Parking; Bus; Cycle; and Pedestrian needs for Lewes, and could benefit from a coordinated approach insofar as that may be practicable.

***Please see notes overleaf**

For further information about items on this agenda please contact the Town Clerk at the above address.



PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: Members of the public have the right, and are welcome, to attend meetings of the Council – questions regarding items on this agenda may be heard at the start of each meeting with the Chairman's consent, and subject to time available. Questions or requests to address the Council should, whenever possible, be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk at least 24 hours in advance. PLEASE NOTE: As space is limited we would appreciate advanced warning if you plan to attend in a group; perhaps with neighbours, or to bring a party of student observers. We may be able to arrange for the meeting to be held in an alternative room. General questions can be raised at our offices between 9am-5pm Mons- Thurs; 9am-4pm on Fridays – our staff will be pleased to assist.

Distribution: Cllrs Catlin (Wischhusen); Dean; Li; Milner; Murray (S); O'Keeffe
and ESCC Cllr C Maynard, ESCC Cllr R St Pierre, Mr Rupert Clubb ESCC Director of Transport & Environment

Copies for information:

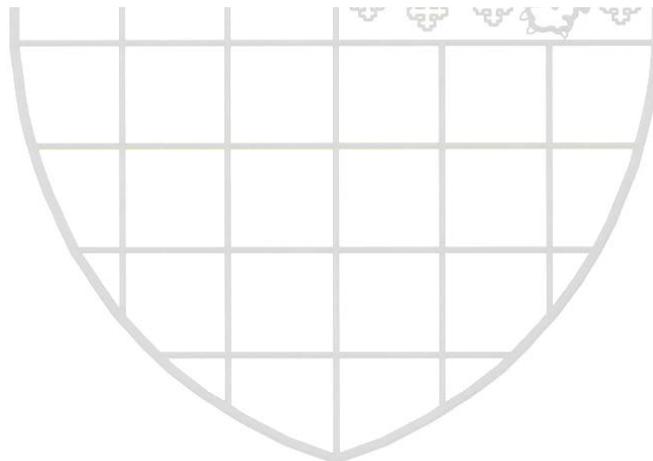
All councillors; T/hall; LTC website; Lewes Library, Sx. Express, E.Argus, Mayor's Chaplain, Sx. Police, N Baker MP, LDC, ESCC, Fr'ds of Lewes

Recent Press release:

“Lewes needs an integrated transport plan for the next twenty years” says Lib Dem Town Councillor Merlin Milner. “Now that the railway bridge is to be finally repaired, it is the perfect opportunity for us to collectively look at the County Town’s rail and bus provision, road, bicycle and pedestrian traffic routes and parking provision”. The Town Council will be organising a special meeting of its Traffic Issues Working party with the key providers and local authorities. So far we have the following who have agreed to attend; the South Downs National Park Authority, East Sussex County Council, Lewes District Council, Brighton & Hove buses, and Norman Baker. “The results of this and further meetings will provide valuable information for Lewes’ Neighbourhood Plan that the Town Council is facilitating. In addition the forthcoming developments in North Street, the possible developments at Waitrose and the current bus station site must be part of an integrated transport plan that enhances Lewes” adds Cllr Milner.

Invitations extended to:

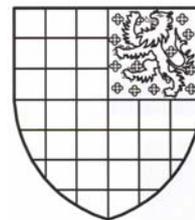
Lewes District Council
East Sussex County Council
South Downs National Park Authority
Brighton & Hove Bus Company
Southern Rail
Network Rail
Sussex Community Rail Partnership
Community Transport in the Lewes Area
Cycle Lewes
Lewes Living Streets
Santon Group
Norman Baker MP



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**LEWES
TOWN
COUNCIL**

MINUTES

of the meeting of the **Working Party** formed to address traffic-related issues in Lewes held on **Thursday 21st February 2013**, in the **Yarrow Room, Town Hall**, Lewes at **6:30pm**.

PRESENT Cllrs S Catlin (Wischhusen); L F Li; M Milner (*Chairman*); S Murray; R O’Keeffe. Also present (*not nominated to serve on Working party*): Cllrs D Lamport and R Murray

In attendance: S Brigden (*Town Clerk [TC]*); Mr M Wood and Ms A Soudain (*Chris Blandford Associates – Consultants*)

TIWP2012/09 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** There were none. No message had been received from Cllr A Dean.

TIWP2012/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were none

TIWP2012/11 **MINUTES:** The minutes of the meeting on 16th August 2012 were signed as an accurate record.

TIWP2012/12 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS:** There were none. (No public or press were present)

TIWP2012/13 **BUSINESS OF THE MEETING:**

i) Presentation – Lewes District Public Realm Framework - The Chairman introduced Mike Wood and Adrienne Soudain, from the Environment, Planning, and Landscape Consultancy; Chris Blandford Associates (CBA). Mr Wood explained that CBA had been retained jointly by Lewes District and East Sussex County Councils, and the South Downs National Park Authority, to prepare a Public Realm Framework for Lewes District. He went on to describe how this would “identify high-level strategic issues, with a particular emphasis on the five main urban settlements within the District, and translate a series of interventions, or solutions”. This should reinforce the special characteristics of individual areas and lead to a policy framework that would inform streetscape projects and improve the integrity of planning and design decisions. Other towns would receive similar presentations shortly, and a collective workshop was planned in March, all designed to elicit and include local ideas, and confirmation (or otherwise) that the emerging content of the Framework was “on the right track”. An interesting presentation followed, during and after which Members raised a number of questions, and introduced several ideas. It was noted that many of these had, encouragingly, already been identified by CBA in their preliminary research, such as: additional pedestrian bridges over the river; better use of the river and its banks; architectural “quality” in the pedestrian precinct; recognition of the town’s industrial past/avoidance of “gentrification”. After some lively discussion, Mr Wood and Ms Soudain were thanked for their informative and clear presentation.

ii) 20mph speed limit for Lewes – East Sussex County Council (ESCC) had recently reported that public objections to the introduction of the town centre scheme had been considered by their Planning Committee and discounted. The scheme could now go ahead, and installation of signage etc was scheduled for early March, with completion anticipated before Easter.

iii) Pedestrian crossings and traffic-calming - ESCC had confirmed that the design of two crossings for Church Lane Malling, to be paid-for by the Town Council’s agreed contribution, was now confirmed; statutory consultations were complete, and installation was planned for the next suitable school holiday period, to

Continues...

minimize disruption. Some discussion followed on other matters such as the traffic re-flow proposals in the area of White Hill/Mount Pleasant/Sun Street. Cllrs Milner and O’Keeffe had recently attended a site visit with ESCC officers in Southover High Street, following public requests for a formal crossing. This had identified some opportunities, and several constraints, and the highway engineers were continuing research into any practical solutions. This may be brought to a future meeting if appropriate.

iv) Lewes Bus Station – there had not yet been a “round-table” meeting with stakeholders, although this would now be progressed with the added impetus of the Public Realm Framework consultation described above, as this was seen as a gateway to the town for visitors arriving by bus.

v) Bus shelters – Research was progressing into the practical aspects of the suggested locations. It was understood that two sites would not be acceptable due to the width of footway, and precise information related to underground utility service connections was not yet confirmed on the others. The visible pavement adjacent to the County Court was understood to be only partly adopted footway. This would be investigated further.

vi) Bicycle racks – ESCC, who had recently been successful in obtaining funds for sustainable transport initiatives, had considered locations put forward and provided maps of their suggested sites. They asked whether Members would support replacement of existing “Heritage” designs at certain sites with simpler and more space-efficient modern designs. Members had no objection in-principle, but several asked that ESCC consider the “Penny-farthing” design that was already installed at some off-street locations. This was considered to be more readily-identifiable as to its purpose, and to offer some interesting sculptural aspect to the streetscape when not in use. Members’ response would be passed-on to the project officer.

vii) Revisions to Lewes District Off-street parking Order – Members noted that the consultation deadline on this had been extended to 1st March. Several Councillors had made comments, and it was agreed that the Working party would register formal comments as:

- Objection to the reduction of maximum stay at Westgate Street to two hours. This should remain at four hours. (it was suspected that the reduction was an error)
- Charges should not increase. No convincing economic case can be seen for the proposed rise, which will further damage the viability of local businesses.
- Removal of charges on Bank Holidays is welcomed.

TIWP2012/14

As there was no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

The meeting closed at 8:15pm

Signed:

Date: