

## Devizes Air Quality and Transport Strategy Group Meeting

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019, Crammer Room, Devizes Community Hub

### Notes

Present: Peter Evans (Wiltshire Council); Jasper Selwyn; Jeremy Cross; Philippa Morgan; Andrew Jack (Wiltshire Council); Richard Ormerod; Martin Aldam (Wiltshire Council)

Item	Notes	Action
Apologies	Kate Freeman; Kelvin Nash; Gary Tomsett (Wiltshire Council)	
Recap / Funding Summary	<p>The air quality summary from Gary Tomsett was circulated at the meeting.</p> <p>Windsor Drive – no further progress with trees Shane’s Castle – no further progress Gain’s Lane crossing – this has been updated</p> <p>JC commented on the number of vehicles he sees around the town with engines left idling. This can be a considerable contribution to air pollution. MA says that traffic orders can be used in specific locations to try to prevent idling but feels an order across the whole town can be difficult to monitor.</p> <p>AJ said how this came up in Marlborough, for the bus stops at the High St. Local bus companies had been contacted, who responded that they frequently remind their drivers to turn engines off and it is monitored via tachographs. He had spoken with Transition Marlborough about voluntary no idling areas outside schools, shops, etc but this had not got far before he left that area. Bradford on Avon had used street theatre actors to approach drivers sat in stationary cars whilst in congestion to remind them to turn off engines.</p> <p>PE says he will bring this up at the next area board meeting, when local headteachers will be present.</p> <p>PM said that CUDS were finding that levels of litter through the town were low and they were having to look for parts of town in which to carry out new litter picks.</p> <p>Funding: MA circulated the budget before the meeting. There is £11,753 available for modelling, which is a contribution from developers. £157,256 in the non-discretionary budget which is allocated: £84k for the River &amp; Canal Trust towards work on the towpath and £69k community highway works for Bishops Cannings parish council. Passenger Transport Unit has £357k plus an expected £160k and are working at developing the No.2 and No.49 bus routes.</p>	

	<p>MA confirms this money does not have to be used within the financial year.</p> <p>JC points out there are very few electric vehicle charging points within the town.</p> <p>MA said how there is £11.5k of the wayfinding project remaining. PE says how this is linked to a CATG project and is about directing cars towards the town centre and the nearest car parks.</p> <p>MA confirms work at Windsor Dr is the junction and the funding is all spent. He said how Highways does not monitor the benefits of schemes they complete, but they will be using Google stats to look at the differences in traffic flow after completion. There will also be some travel times surveys taken.</p> <p>JC asked about progress towards getting streets swept more frequently as he says this is a major source of pollution.</p> <p>Devizes TC has not taken over the street cleaning from Wiltshire Council but is enhancing it with their own work.</p> <p>PM offered to write to the DfT to ask about Devizes becoming a pilot.</p>	
Air Quality Summary	<p>Gary Tomsett had sent through trend data for Devizes covering 2006 to 2018 which is collected from diffusion tubes throughout the town. This has had correction bias applied.</p> <p>MA showed that although the overall trend appeared to be a reduction in NOx levels over this period, there were still three locations in 2018 that were non-compliant. These were Shane's Castle, The Nursery &amp; opposite Wadworth's. Figures for 2017 appear to be a low outlier and a number of local reasons for this were discussed.</p> <p>Volumes of HGVs through the town were felt to be increasing. Road improvements elsewhere in Wiltshire were looked at as reasons why operators were sending vehicles through Devizes instead.</p> <p>MA mentioned data from other AQMA in Wiltshire, many of which were far greater than in Devizes. These other areas had seen the dip at 2017.</p> <p>It was suggested the group writes to local businesses with large fleets of vehicles, either to look at cleaner vehicles to routes that avoid the town.</p>	
Windsor Drive update	<p>Work is complete, all in place and working.</p> <p>Not much to update as no issues coming back. Agree on the need for better evidence of success here to support any work going ahead at Shane's Castle</p>	
Key Existing Projects	<p>Shanes Castle:</p> <p>No update on work.</p> <p>It was asked if the existing funds to be used to move it</p>	

	<p>forward. MA felt this was no. The work at Shane’s Castle is expected to cost about £600k but is likely to go over this. MA pointed out the exceedance is not only at this point but along the whole stretch and work just at Shane’s Castle might not bring levels down by much.</p> <p>RO suggested constructing a ‘green wave’ along this route to encourage smooth traffic flow. MA said there should be modelling data from a previous bid that could be used here. PE said how there are no more big developments taking place in Devizes to generate the S106 income used to fund these projects.</p> <p>Canal Towpath: £195k is available for this work. The Canal &amp; Rivers Trust is happy to spend this money on this work, however they will not commit to beginning the work until the money is transferred from Wiltshire Council. Although Wiltshire Council will not release funding until they have agreement on the project from Canal &amp; Rivers Trust. MA is confident agreement can be reached.</p> <p>The next phase of development at Quaker’s Walk will bring 120 new homes and will bring in £115k, but this is already committed to specific projects</p>	<p>MA to look up modelling data from approx 18 months ago.</p> <p>AJ to find out what green travel vouchers are?</p>
<p>Other updates and AOB</p>		
<p>Next meeting</p>	<p>No date was set at this meeting, but next date will be soon and when officers from Passenger Transport can attend.</p>	