

Congleton Integrated Transport Working Group Meeting

NOTES OF MEETING – Meeting called to discuss CEC Bus Back Better Response and Way Forward

Date: Thursday 3rd June 2021

Location: Bridestones Suite

Time: 5.15pm – 6.15pm

Present: Cllr Suzie Akers Smith (Chair), Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr Kay Wesley, Ant Bolding (Active Travel), Jackie MacArthur.

Apologies

Item	What was discussed / description	Actions	By whom	By when
1	Apologies	Cllr Duncan Amies; Cllr David Brown, Cllr Margaret Gartside		
2	<p>Cllr SAS gave a summary of the meeting with CEC Councillors following the submission of the Bus ideas for Congleton. It appears our assumption that CEC would be able to get a fair share of the £3bn bus back better funds is not correct and there is no Government or CEC funds available for improving our bus services. If we want to see improvements the emphasis was on CTC finding the funds and working through CEC Transport Services Solutions team to deliver. CEC agreed to help in practical terms and if we gave them our top 2-3 ideas, they would cost out prices.</p> <p>Discussion was held on various options and more research needed before group able to give CEC any recommendations to get a price.</p> <p>Survey people at Congleton Station to see if they would get a bus rather than pay for parking – and what the barriers are.</p> <p>Data for rail use at Congleton (suspect timings and usage will have changed significantly since COVID-19)</p> <p>Ask Beartown Buses is feasible for the Number 90 to reroute to include Bath Vale - or if not into Bath Vale, then to the bridge leading into Bath Vale</p>	<p>Carry out a general residents' survey on bus use – Kay to write first draft, group to refine, Jackie to distribute via Bear Necessities and social media</p> <p>Suzy F to draft survey - members of team to agree when and who will go to train station</p> <p>Jackie contact the Rail Service to ask for data</p> <p>Contact the Bus company to see what is possible. if yes to survey Bath Vale (knock and drop) to see if households would use the survey.</p>	<p>KW / JMacA</p> <p>SF/ team</p> <p>JMacA</p> <p>JMacA – ask KW – draft survey</p>	<p>June/July</p> <p>July?</p> <p>W/c7 June</p> <p>W/c 7 June</p>

	<p>Look at the cost of running the no. 90 bus free for a set time to encourage behaviour change rationale – 90% of passengers ‘free’ anyway so likely low cost, deprived area so there may be need, some people get taxis home with shopping so this may really change behaviour and save them money</p> <p>Ask Beartown Buses to give an approximation of funding needed to deliver the proposal given at the meeting in April.</p> <p>Potential interest in a service to cover Lower Heath and West Heath – but rather than following route of 38 to take in Daisy Bank and Giantswood Lane?</p> <p>Other areas to get an idea of price/ feasibility</p> <p>Free local buses around Congleton on a Saturday Re-route 91 to take a loop around Kestrel and Goldfinch Close</p> <p>What are the rules/ insurances around the Partnership minibuses – could they be used for a shuttle service for the public to use?</p> <p>Data on Bus use in Congleton</p>	<p>Jackie to contact Bus Company and see what is possible</p> <p>Jackie to contact Bus Company on these issues</p>	<p>AM –delivery JMacA</p> <p>JMacA</p>	<p>W/c 7 June</p> <p>W/c 7 June</p>
3	<p>AOB - Ant Bolding gave out a flier about the Rickshaw Project and asked for help with finding a location to store the Rickshaw – would need regular access to the bike.</p> <p>SAS mentioned that electric charging points for electric buses but also other vehicles will be important part of the transport mix</p>	<p>Ideas for storage of the bike</p> <p>Add to a future meeting</p>	<p>All</p> <p>JMacA</p>	
5	Date of Next Meeting	To be agreed		