

Evesham Transport Strategy

Evesham Transport Stakeholder Group

Meeting Notes

Meeting of 6 November 2018

Held at the Northwick Hotel, Waterside, Evesham WR11 1BT

Apologies: Councillor Bob Banks, Worcestershire County Council
Nigel Hudson, Worcestershire County Council
Councillor Gerry O'Donnell, Wychavon District Council

Attendees: Councillor Dr Ken Pollock, Worcestershire County Council (**Chair**)
Councillor John Smith, Worcestershire County Council
Henry Harbord, Worcestershire County Council
Councillor Bradley Thomas, Wychavon District Council
Councillor Martin King, Wychavon District Council
Councillor Mark Goodge, Evesham Town Council
Phil Merrick, Wychavon District Council
Shawn Riley, Wychavon District Council
Brian Chilver, Vale of Evesham Civic Society
Deborah Rolls, VECTA
Clive Bostle, Ramblers
Robin Walker, Cycle Evesham Vale
Colin Tether
Sarah Gilmour, Worcestershire County Council
Gavin Loach, Worcestershire County Council

Please note: many of the Councillors attending the meeting represent constituencies at more than one tier of Local Government; for simplicity, only one tier is set-out here.

1 Issues Discussed at Previous Meetings



Issue	Comment
Repaint 'arrows' on the carriageway surface at Abbey Road/ Cheltenham Road junction.	This is being looked into.
Pedestrian crossing on High Street (near Lawrance's Bakery); can the timings be amended so that they take a bit longer to revert to the pedestrian phase?	Done; trial underway. The timings have been changed

For comparison, an equivalent plot for traffic volume in Droitwich shows the more normally seen peak-trough-peak profile:

The high volume of traffic throughout the day indicates that Evesham is the destination for a lot of locally-generated trips accessing businesses and services within the town. This suggests a 'healthy' inwards flow for those businesses and services, but of course the downside is the congestion that this brings.

Since the closure of the Old Brewery Car Park rat run, traffic volume on High Street has risen by 20%.

- Traffic sig

Question/ suggestion	Comment
<p>It was suggested that the pedestrian phase at Abbey Road/ Cheltenham Road signals does not 'self-cancel'.</p>	<p>This will be checked.</p>
<p>Improvement of the functioning of the Greenhill/ High Street junction was called for, including the introduction of pedestrian facilities on all arms of the junction (currently provided only on the Greenhill arm).</p>	<p>This will be assessed. The biggest problem at this junction for road traffic is exit blocking on High Street (i.e. stationary traffic on High Street blocking traffic heading towards the town centre). But if the mooted changes at Avon Street/ Swan Lane junction prove to be possible, some improvement might be seen at the Greenhill junction.</p> <p>There has been a call for a pedestrian crossing in the northern stretch of High Street. It would not appear that such a crossing would be feasible currently, but the proposed parking review might suggest a rationalisation of the provision of on-street parking, which in-turn might free-up the space needed for a crossing. It must be borne in mind that capacity for any improvement at this junction is highly</p> <p>c</p>

4 Key messages for sharing

4.1 Members of the Group are asked to share what it is discussed at the Group with their own organisations and, where possible, more widely too. Key messages from the 11 June meeting are:

Worcestershire County Council and Wychavon District Council are working in partnership to develop and deliver the Evesham Town Transport Strategy.

Evesham's issues with poor access and congestion cannot be remedied by a simple, single solution. A measured, incremental package of schemes that considers all modes of transport is needed.

The Strategy seeks to assess what schemes there might be that can be delivered in the shorter term, it seeks to develop medium term schemes, and all the while, to build the business case for longer term schemes.

A computer-based traffic model of Evesham's road network has been 'constructed', founded on the results from the town-wide traffic surveys to ensure that it properly reflects how Evesham's roads function.

Worcestershire CC had before it a large number of proposals for improving transport in Evesham: some from Worcestershire's Local Transport Plan fourth edition and many kindly shared by residents of Evesham. An independent assessment into which of these proposals could work on Evesham's roads has been done. This assessment will be shared on Worcestershire CC's web site, and the results determine which proposals now go on to be tested in the traffic model.

The model-testing will determine what package of measures will then be put forward for funding, with the aim of delivery in the short term.

Work continues on the development of a proposed network for walking and cycling in the town and Worcestershire CC is working in partnership with Highways England to develop a bid for funding for improvements to the A46 junctions in the vicinity of Evesham.

The results from the traffic surveys have been published on Worcestershire CC's web site.

Concerns over communication are understood and are being acted upon; the Stakeholder Group is the first component of a communication plan for the Evesham Transport Strategy.