

## **TRAFFIC CONGESTION WORKING GROUP**

**10<sup>th</sup> February 2014 @ 4pm**  
**Roger Parkin's Office, St Martin's Place**

### **Attendees**

Roger Parkin:	Director Customer & Community Services, SBC (Chair)
Tony Browne:	Head of School Services, SBC
Savio DeCruz:	Acting Head of Transport Services, SBC
Councillor Malik:	Councillor for Wexham Lea
Maria Nolan:	Deputy Head teacher, St Joseph's School
Michelle Perkins:	PA to Roger Parkin (notes)

### **1. Welcome and apologies**

- Apologies from Clair Prosser (TVCC) and Debbie Richards (Arbour Vale School). No other apologies were received.

### **2. Previous minutes and actions**

- Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013 were agreed as a true and accurate record.
- RP will speak to Bob Jones again.
- A briefing note regarding summary of works was circulated to schools via the gatekeeper system as agreed.

### **3. Local Transport Plan (Savio Decruz)**

- SD provided an update on the Local Transport Plan as follows:
- Phase 1 of Farnham Road works has been implemented.
- Phase 2 works at Buckingham Avenue and Whitby Road have started.
- Cycleway Langley Road, A4 Langley Road, A4 Langley High Street, junction 5 to Sutton Lane, A4 Upton Court Lane, A4 Tuns Lane are all being upgraded in terms of signal modifications and software infrastructure.
- Additional bus lanes are being created on Buckingham Avenue A4 junction and Lynwood Avenue Upton Court Road.
- Road widening on the A4 is taking place.
- These works are designed to improve the bus service from Slough to Heathrow and general traffic flow.
- 8 junctions in total are being upgraded.
- A new pedestrian crossing will be installed outside the Tesco junction – due to start end of March.
- SCOOT has been rolled out on Farnham Road; this measures traffic day by day and how many cars are travelling through that stretch. Stoke Road will follow in March and be completed by the end of March.
- 20 mph part time speed limits outside schools has been approved by the DFT and will be rolled out. The first one will be outside Claycots School on Montem Lane.
- Transport for Slough webpage was launched in December which includes live traffic information and is accessible by the public. We will

also be launching our own traffic monitoring cameras over the next 5-6 months so the public can log on and access the information.

- Air pollution monitoring – working with Jason Newman to compare the before and after data from the capsules that measure air quality.
- Better Bus Scheme – will re measure the how long it takes to travel from Slough to Heathrow Terminal 5 when junctions are completed and then compare it to the before data.
- Slough Bike Hire scheme is going well.
- Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF): 7 schools have signed up to the scheme to improve their facilities for bikes to encourage more cycling and walking.
- Money is still available for other schools to participate. There is one more year of funding, ending in March 2015.
- 3 officers have been going into schools to work on Travel Plans or come up with alternative measures.
- A reminder about the scheme was included in the briefing note that was sent to schools.
- **Action:** SD will send another briefing note via the gatekeeper regarding the scheme.

SD

#### 4. Effects on Schools and Businesses

- First buses want to operate incentives on a school by school basis and come up with a plan to best suit each school.
- RP said we need to get sign up from schools as a whole and we need to look at how to take this forward as a group – what can we do to encourage pupils to use public transport or cycle – i.e flat rates or oyster type cards.
- Pick up incentives with First Bus.
- Engage with schools with an offer and get sign up.
- Look at what the deal will look like, check funding.
- Discussed Bikeability scheme.
- **Action:** SD to send information to schools via the gatekeeper.
- MN raised the issue of children not wearing cycle helmets.
- SD confirmed that wearing cycle helmets is part of the Bikeability Scheme although the government haven't made a decision on whether to make it illegal not to wear a helmet.
- The bike has to be fit and a helmet has to be worn to take part in the training.
- **Action:** SD will attend SSEF to have an initial discussion then invite First Bus to a future SSEF meeting. TB will find out meeting dates.
- First Bus are also working with big businesses to offer cheaper services.
- More work to be done with businesses.
- **Action:** RP will pick up with Shabnam Ali, via 'Open for Business' and the various Boards she attends.

SD

TB/SD

RP

#### 5. AOB

- MN raised the issues regarding parking at St Joseph's School and that the school bus service costs £70 per child per month to use.
- SD suggested officers make a visit to the school to have initial dialogues about alternatives.
- 20 mph scheme – three on their way and are being designed.

- Lynch Hill already have one which was introduced last year.
- Part time 20mph using variable speed limit signs.
- Currently working on one from Whitby Road to Stoke Poges.
- Also a few others, no funding available yet but working on designs to get them ready.
- RP said there is a need to monitor the number of incidents, accidents where these schemes are introduced to indicate they are working and compare data from areas with/without the schemes in place.
- SM said she wanted to make a request for a sign/crossing in Wexham – SD advised her to send the request to [fs@slough.gov.uk](mailto:fs@slough.gov.uk) so that it can be picked up by the official channel.

**Next meeting: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014 @4pm, Mercury 2, St Martin's Place**