EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Exmouth Transport Partnership

Notes of the Zoom meeting held at 10am on Tuesday 25th June 2024

Present

Cllr Tim Dumper	TD	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Cllr Pauline Stott	PS	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Olly Davey	OD	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Ian Kirvan	IK	Exmouth Town Council
Mike Tucker	MT	DCC Public Transport
John Petty	JP	Active Travel Exmouth, & Exmouth Community Association
Richard Easthope	RE	EDDC Parking Services Manager
Tony Jackson	TJ	ALRUG (Avocet Line Rail Users Group)
Joe Beckley	JB	Stagecoach Operations Manager
David Whiteway	DW	GWR Regional Growth Manager
Lisa Bowman	LB	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Greenway	LG	Exmouth Town Council (Notetaker)

Apologies

Cllr David Poor	DP	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Fred Caygill	FC	Exmouth Town Council
George Shorters	GS	Exmouth Taxi Drivers Association
Jan Gannaway	JG	Active Travel Exmouth, & Sustrans
Stuart Jarvis	SJa	DCC Principal Transportation Planning Officer
Hannah Clark	HC	DCC Transportation Strategy Manager
Sam Jeffcoat	SJ	DCC PROW Warden for Exmouth

---

1. **To elect a chairperson**

   LB welcomed members and asked for nominations for chair of this working party, PS nominated TD and OD seconded that TD be re-elected as chair. No further nominations were made.

   Members were asked to vote, and TD was duly recommended as chair.

2. **Welcome, introduction and apologies**

   TD welcomed members to the meeting and noted apologies. Members introduced themselves to JB the Stagecoach Operations Manager.

3. **To approve the previous meeting notes from the 27th of February 2024**

   PS proposed and OD seconded the accuracy of the notes from the meeting on the 27th of February 2024. The meeting notes were approved.

4. **Matters arising from the previous meeting**

   TD reported that the bus shelter sedum living roofs are growing well.

5. **Stakeholder reports:**

   a) **Stagecoach**

JB confirmed that various changes have been made since April and is aware of concerns raised over splitting the 57 service, the 99 split route has settled. On a recent visit to Exmouth JB spoke to Stagecoach supervisors and drivers about the split service who provided positive feedback although reliability issues were raised with the 57 service which the commercial team are currently investigating.

JB reported that the 95 service has seen a 15 percent growth from last year and they have just entered into a 70 day registration period with DCC for some changes that will come into effect on the 1st of September, an update will be provided in due course.

TD has noticed that the 99 service is frequently running ahead of time and stopping in various places along the route, the 95 service has been diverted from the Avenues and cut off half of the seafront which is a particular problem now as the privately owned land train is currently out of service so there is no beach access. JB will be visiting Exmouth this coming Friday and will look at the 95 route and speak to the commercial team.

OD made JB aware that when the split to the 57 and 99 service was suggested a disabled member of the public contacted him to advise that they would not be able to get across the Magnolia Centre to catch the bus to the hospital in Exeter which would result in them having to travel by car. OD witnessed two 57 buses arriving at the same time on Sunday even though they are supposed to be every 30 minutes, there is also a problem with inconsiderate parking in bus route roads which is causing issues for passing buses, so maybe a polite letter drop to residents would help.

TD has seen bunching of up to three 57 buses and wondered if Stagecoach were using the strategy of moving people onto another bus and returning the other, JB advised that it depends on the controller who is managing the traffic situations but if buses follow each other around action is taken.

PS has been contacted by Littleham ward residents who live in the Avenues and have been affected by the 95 route change as they struggle to get to Salterton Road, the bus stop opposite the Pavilion is not fit for purpose as the path is a dual use path which is too narrow to allow commuters to be dropped off. There is still an ongoing issue with buses using Featherbed Lane as a cut through late at night, JB will investigate all issues on Friday when he visits Exmouth and will come back with some answers.

TD was originally informed by Stagecoach that the reasoning for diverting the 95 buses away from the Avenues and Beach would speed up the service but now we have no open top bus serving the length of our seafront. IK provided JB with feedback on numerous bus service changes and bus stop issues. JB confirmed that he was aware of some of the issues raised by IK and will push for the common stops to be reviewed rather than people having to walk to another stop.

JB confirmed that there will be a big change for the 58 service from the 1st of September, once signed off by DCC the details will be shared. TD thanked JB for his contribution.

JB left the meeting.

b) DCC Public Transport

MT updated members that DCC have re-written the bus service improvement plan, changes to buses will be solidified 7 weeks prior to the 1st of September. Aspirations are that the 57 bus runs a 15 minute service, a night service will operate into the early hours of the morning and the 98 service will extend to the leisure centre near the train station rather than the town, but these are all aspirations. MT confirmed that next year 20 electric vehicles will be

introduced to Exeter and there is an aspiration that if funding is received electric vehicles will be introduced to Exmouth.

c) EDDC Car/Cycle, Coach & Lorry Parks & Electric Vehicle Charging

RE confirmed that National Grid are carrying out the upgrade work to double the electricity capacity of the sub stations in the Imperial Road car park for the EV chargers, they will go live between the 15th and 17th of July, once work is completed the heras fencing will be removed.

The work to extend the estuary car park will commence on the 8th of July providing an additional 73 new spaces in the Estuary car park by using part of the lorry/coach park. This will not impact the coach park spaces as it will move further down to the boatyard end providing 17 coach/lorry spaces.

RE took part in an EDDC workshop where slight changes were made to the £2 winter parking offer in the Imperial Road and London Hotel car parks which will allow shoppers to park rather than commuters. New signage has been installed in Maer Road car park and additional enforcement is in place to move van lifers on.

EDDC Cabinet will consider plans to install EV chargers for residential use in Exmouth car parks in collaboration with DCC, they would not be installed for a couple of years if agreed. RE is keen to move commuters to the outer carparks to free up space in town for shoppers.

d) Active Travel

OD thanked ETC for providing the gazebos for the Active Travel Day. Attendance was low so maybe more promotion signage would be required in the future as although the event was in a prime position on the seafront people were just walking past, they are considering going back to the Strand for future events. JP informed members that the Bapton Valley Park improvement works are underway, TD confirmed that they are scheduled to finish next month.

e) Taxis

There was no Taxi representative at the meeting and no report was received.

f) GWR

DW has no current rolling stock plans but hopes to announce some deals soon as extra rolling stock is required within the business to meet the longer term aspirations. DW provided members with the list of rolling stock that are currently in use.

DW left the meeting.

g) ALRUG

TJ is still waiting for new rolling stock, but this is probably about 4 years away. TJ continues to monitor trains every day but did not have any stats to provide to members.

h) DCC Highways

There was no DCC Highways representative at this meeting and no report was received.

6. To receive an update on the Levelling Up project

LB advised members that the community were hoping to use the money that was allocated to the Gateway for another project in the town but after speaking to Richard Scott he advised that during the Cabinet meeting Meg Booth had said quite explicitly that the scope

for this is very limited but there might be scope to put in a variation request to the Department for Transport Levelling Up Fund to ask that some of the money is used to incorporate additional active travel improvements on the remaining part of the Dinan Way scheme.

LB reminded members that the funding for the Dinan Way scheme is secure although the scope under the variation request is more doubtful because of the impending change in government.

JP attended the Cabinet meeting where plans were discussed to direct the money to the existing Dinan Way, LB confirmed that they are also looking to improve access points on the Dinan Way extension.

7. Any other business

OD mentioned that more cycle parking is required in the town as well as secure cycle parking as there is a growing problem with the theft of bicycles.

8. Dates of 2024 meetings:

17th September

3rd December

The meeting closed at 11:39