

Whiteley Parish Council

Highways Working Party

Minutes of a meeting of the above working party held at the Meadowside Leisure Centre, Whiteley on Wednesday 12th November 2008 at 7pm.

Present:

Vice-Chairman Kairen Goves, Chairman Whiteley PC Highways Committee
Chris Cousin Parish Councillor
Roland Diffey East Whiteley resident & Highways Engineer
Andy Hickman WCC Head of Access and Infrastructure
Jan Hyde East Whiteley resident
Chris Jenkinson Fareham resident and public transport representative
Andrew Rollings Manager of Whiteley Village
Nicki Oliver Parish Clerk

To receive apologies for absence: Mike Evans, Chairman Whiteley PC,
Martin Rawlins Fareham resident, Brenda Hatch Parish Councillor

Meeting resumed to consider the following agenda items:

2.1 To receive update from HCC including progress of SATURN study and issues relating to Leafy Lane.

In the absence of HCC representation, it is understood that the SATURN study, which is covering a wide area, will not be completed until next year. However a number of surveys have been carried out in Whiteley and it was agreed to recommend to Full Council that HCC should be requested to fast track plans for local access improvements.

Parish Councillor Chris Cousin advised that HCC is working with WERA (Whiteley East Residents Association) to install additional traffic management / calming in the Leafy Lane area. Working Party members were broadly unsupportive of this move believing that commuters will not be deterred from using Leafy Lane rather than Junction 9.

2.2 To receive feedback from Whiteley Business Forum on highways and transport issues of concern to members.

The Business Forum no longer functions. In the past it has put forward suggestions for improved access to Whiteley that have not been supported by higher authorities.

Whiteley Village has been looking at possible improvements to the bus services with HCC, improvements are unlikely without the commitment of a significant funding contribution from HCC.

2.3 To receive feedback from Whiteley Winchester residents regarding highways and transport issues. **See below.**

2.4 To receive feedback from Whiteley Fareham residents regarding highways and transport issues. **See below.**

2.5 To recommend an action plan following the publication of the results of the Parish Plan.

Extract from the Parish Plan survey results

Local road management

Leafy Lane

Three-quarters of the respondents (73%) do not want changes to the current arrangements for Leafy Lane, while 18% would prefer peak time closure of the road.

Of respondents living in the Leafy Lane area, 57% would like to see peak time road closure, 20% no changes to the current arrangements, and 19% permanent closure of the road.

Rookery Avenue and Yew Tree Drive

90% of all respondents support the opening of Yew Tree Drive or Rookery Avenue or both roads to all traffic. 14% wish to see peak time closures to prevent commuter rat-running.

95% of Winchester-based respondents support the road openings. The opening of either Rookery Avenue only or Yew Tree Drive only are supported by 6% and 3% respectively.

86% of Fareham respondents support the road openings. The opening of either Rookery Avenue only or Yew Tree Drive only are supported by 21% and 6% respectively.

5% of respondents feel that both roads should be open to buses only (Fareham respondents 7%, Winchester 2%).

3% of respondents wish both Rookery Avenue and Yew Tree Drive to remain closed to general traffic (Fareham respondents 5%, Winchester 1%).

It was agreed to recommend to Full Council that it continues to campaign for improved access to and from Whiteley including the opening of additional roads.

2.6 To receive update on proposals for improvements to public transport in Whiteley following the opening of the Yew Tree bus link.

Complaints from residents about the reduced bus service since the opening of the Yew Tree bus link are ongoing. A number of bus users have been left with no service.

It was agreed to research the usage of the bus link by private and public buses.

It was agreed to recommend to Full Council that a campaign for improved bus services be planned.

Meeting closed 8.15pm