

## Minutes of a meeting of the Longdon-Upon-Tern/Rodington Transport Working Group held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at Longdon-Upon-Tern Village Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Sue Hodgskin & Sue McGavin from Rodington & Longdon-Upon-Tern Parish Council (RPC). Twelve Longdon-Upon-Tern residents attended. No one from Rodington attended.

### Introduction

SH introduced herself to the meeting.

### Context of Meeting

The TWG had been set up in 2022 to identify traffic issues affecting Longdon-Upon-Tern & Rodington & explore ways to address them. The issues had been previously identified and were well documented. The main areas of concern were – speed of vehicles, the number of HGVs (with consequent problems with noise, vibration and pollution), issues relating to the bridge in Longdon, footpaths difficult to negotiate because of overgrown hedgerows and verges and problems in the area of Tern Lane. Three meetings had been held which had been attended by residents.

RPC had ordered SIDs (speed indicator device) for Rodington & Longdon-Upon-Tern and these had been installed and some data collected.

A mitigation scheme was drawn up and sent to Telford & Wrekin Council (T&W). No reply was received until March 2024 and the response was a blanket 'no' citing lack of available funding and design time at T&W. A meeting to discuss T&W's response held on 20<sup>th</sup> June. At RPC meeting 31<sup>st</sup> July it was suggested that the TWG needed to be revived. SH had agreed to chair.

### Moving on

The purpose of the meeting was to look at ways of moving forward and convincing the authorities to act. Realistically, major changes would be a long-term project, although short-term goals could be identified and may be more easily achieved. It was vital to collect hard evidence. There was a lot of info in the SIDs but the data hadn't been downloaded for months.

A traffic survey had been carried out in Longdon-Upon-Tern between 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024. It showed the highest volume of traffic was at drive time. Over the week 30,917 vehicles went through of which 7,083 were above the speed limit (22.9%). Of those 1461 were at a level where the police would prosecute.

Enforcement was going to be an important aspect and better links with the local police could be one of the ways forward. There were mobile drop-ins for the police at Rodington Village Hall– next Sunday between 2 – 3. Also, on 28<sup>th</sup> Sept in the Tayleur Arms car park between 1.30 – 2.30. SH was going to go to both, to get the ball rolling.

### Terms of Reference (TOR)

These had initially been agreed back in 2022. The TWG was an advisory group reporting back to RPC and the TOR set the parameters. The meeting voted by a show of hands to readopt the TOR.

### Community Bus Services

The TWG had been asked by RPC to include this in their remit. This request was noted, and it was agreed to raise it at a future meeting.

## Workshop

SM - Four tables had been set up with a different worksheet on each with questions for discussion. There was also opportunity to raise any other issue.

## Police Worksheet

1. How can we best work with the police to make sure traffic enforcement is appropriate. What action is needed?
2. Who in the police should TWG build links with? How and why? What actions need to happen?
3. How do you think the TWG could get involved with a local Community Safety Partnership? What would it take?
4. Any other ideas.

## Telford & Wrekin Council Worksheet

1. How should TWG best work with Telford & Wrekin Council to resolve the traffic issues? What action is needed?
2. Which key players at T&WC should we engage with? For example, head of highways, community safety, councillors with transport portfolios. Anyone else?
3. How should TWG go about this? What do we need to do? What will the engagement be like?
4. Any other ideas.

## Community Involvement Worksheet

1. What would be the best way to raise awareness of the traffic issues in Longdon-Upon-Tern?
2. What would encourage people to volunteer on the TWG? What other roles are needed?
3. We are thinking of applying to the Community Pride Fund for 'white gates' at each end of the village. Do you support this?
4. Any other ideas.

## Parish Council Worksheet

1. How can RPC best support residents to solve traffic issues?
2. What would be the best way to use the SID data collected by RPC?
3. How frequently would like to receive the information – monthly/quarterly/annually?
4. Would you be prepared to be trained to download the data (depending on RPC permission)
5. Any other ideas.

Each table to elect a spokesperson. After 10 minutes discussion, all but the spokesperson would move to another table. After the rotation was complete, each table gave feedback, and their suggestions written down on a chart as a basis for an action plan.

It was agreed that as it was getting late, the action plan would be discussed at the next meeting and priorities decided. Sue H & Sue M would meet in the meantime to pull together the group's suggestions.

## Next Meeting

The group consensus was to keep the evening's momentum going. Therefore, it was agreed the next meeting would be on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 at 7.00pm at Longdon-Upon-Tern Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.