

Minutes of a meeting of the Transport Working Group held at Longdon-Upon-Tern Village Hall on Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 7pm.

Present Cllr Sue Hodgskin from Rodington Parish Council. Seven residents.

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Sue McGavin and three Longdon-Upon-Tern residents.

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated and were agreed.

Matters Arising

There had been one addition to the incident file since the last meeting (7.3.25).

It was important that as many incidents on the bridge as possible were reported (with dates, times etc).

Action

SH to put another appeal in the Parish Magazine asking residents to report any incidents.

SIDs

SIDs data sheets for the last three months were circulated. The data showed that drivers were generally going faster than the limits (30% of drivers at Millers Row SIDs and 52% on Cotwall Road). There were also some occasional very high results (101 mph recorded 3rd & 22nd March 2025. SH had looked at the data and unfortunately there seemed to be no pattern to the very high speeds.

SH had raised the question of moving the SIDs to other locations at the Parish Council. However, RPC felt this wasn't possible as the sites had been agreed when the devices were originally installed. There would also be a financial implication. The purpose of the SIDs was to educate not enforce and it had been observed during the transporter survey that drivers were slowing down as they approached the devices.

This raised the issue of the speed limits as drivers came into Longdon-Upon-Tern and the meeting discussed what they felt should be the appropriate levels:

Millers Row – the current 40mph sign should be 30mph

Cotwall End – Should be graduated from 60mph – 40mph – 30mph

It was acknowledged that only Telford & Wrekin Council could change the speed limits, and this was a legal process. However, it was noted that the SIDs data demonstrated the current level of traffic which was only likely to increase with the planned new housing developments.

Road safety was another issue – a solid white line on the bank going into Longdon towards Millers Row past the church would stop overtaking. Also, the overgrown hedge at the top end of the village meant the pavement had narrowed and it was unsafe to walk.

The bridge was discussed and the feasibility of setting up a camera to record incidents on the bridge.

Action

SH – to download SIDs data monthly (and report to RPC)

SH - to ask the Parish Clerk to write to T&W to ask what measures are being taken under planning laws (s106) to mitigate the problems that will be caused by the increase in traffic as well as potential damage to the local infrastructure when the new developments are built.

SH-To check out which Heritage Authority the bridge came under and ask the Parish Clerk to write on behalf of RPC to express concern that it was not being maintained adequately.

To send photos of the current state of the bridge to T&W

Transporter Survey

The transporter survey had been carried out w/c 3rd March 2025. Transporters were counted on Monday 3rd (51). Wednesday 5th (31) and Saturday 8th (NIL). MC had been livestreaming the road the whole week and was going through the footage. So far, he had counted 39 transporters on Tuesday 4th. The numbers for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday were way above the limit allowed by the planning permission (19 per day) which showed a clear breach. The meeting felt enough data had been gathered and that an approach should be made to T&W to enforce the operating agreement.

Action

HF – to confirm with T&W that the operating agreement we have been looking at for the permitted numbers is correct. Once this is confirmed, SH to contact the Parish Clerk and ask her to formally request on behalf of RPC that the planning decision be enforced. A face-to-face meeting would be preferred (to allow the TWG group to present the evidence).

Action

SH to bring the above to the attention of the Parish Clerk

Rural Bus Services

RPC felt the TWG should forge links with the Shropshire Bus Users Group. SH had emailed three times without a reply. She had also telephoned and left a message.

The Dial a Ride Service run by T&W was only available to residents with mobility problems.

Action

SH – to pursue Shropshire Bus Users Group

To ask RPC Clerk to obtain guidelines for transport

Any Other Business

i). JH asked if there had been any recent police enforcement. It was agreed to invite the police to the next meeting.

ii). VS – raised the issue of road signs being covered with vegetation. This had previously been raised with the RPC clerk, and it was important to keep reporting incidents to T&W with photos if possible.

iii). SH – a resident from Isombridge Lane had written asking if the Parish Council would support an application to designate it a 'Quiet Lane'. The full council felt this should be considered by the TWG. The meeting agreed.

Action – SH to investigate what is involved.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 9th July 2025 at 7pm at Longdon-Upon-Tern Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.