

WAAFA Meeting

Held 17 January 2013 - Volvo Room, WACA.

1. Present: Keith Hatter (Chair Sight Loss), Sylvia Smallwood (University of Winchester, Disability Advisor), Andy Cadle-Mills (Spinal Injuries Assn.) Ian Barrett (WCC Equalities Advisor), Nick Coe (HCC Access Officer), Janet Chierchia (Win & District Mencap and Win & District Carers Forum) Penny Parkinson (Osborne School) Margret Gunn, Jackie Porter (HCC Councillor)

2. Apologies: : Kim Walsgrove (HCC Senior Access Officer) Vicki Weston (WCC Councillor) Baroness Thomas, Fiona Whitehouse (hearing impaired) Bruce White (WACA)

3. Minutes: Of meeting held 6 December were read and agreed.

4. Matters Arising:

Letter - re benches in High Street - KH had written again but no reply Action KH to chase

How Accessible is Winchester-

Cyclists – This is on every ones agenda, JP will continue to monitor progress in purchasing of “clickers” and handing out to free cyclists **Action JP**

“gold badge” scheme for accessible shops – Action KH still to contact Chris Turner of WCC Access Guide – KH to ask RH of Eastleigh Disability Forum.

SS had contact students to help with this, just needs to contact Tutor. - Action SS

5. Treasurers report: Money for the Forum is held by WACA – Balance at 31.12.12 £4703.85

6. Winchester District Strategic Partnership for Transport

KH Attended this on 16.1.13.

- a) Easton Lane at Junction with Motorway – JP reported that work will be undertaken Shortly and she will ensure “dropped curbs” for access to underpass is in the plans so pedestrians and cyclists are safe. **Action JP and KH to write to Pete Boustred At HCC**
- b) Tom Waterhouse from Stagecoach was present and long discussion on “Traffic Flow” and inability of busses to keep to time at peak periods of congestion. Coaches stopping in the Broadway to drop off and collect passengers, is also a big issue.
- c) Traffic Management – Car Parks looking at different colour coding and pricing to encourage people to park further from city centre and walk. National Cycling Network – encourages people to cycle, but also to walk.
- d) Presentation from Liz Kestrel – “Walking as a mode of Transport” Drawing up a “round the city” route and “across the city” route showing crossings, pavements etc.

7. Accessibility at Particular Venues

Intech – will be done by Hotel soon

Hotels – the Holiday In is excellent, asking guests on arrival of any additional facilities they may need – including help with showering – will also provide accessible transport to City.

Chesil Theatre – KH saw Tom Williams – new planning application in to make better disabled access.

Action MG will also contact Tom Williams

Action IB will contact WCC Planning Dept.

Cathedral – A C-M had done an access audit of the out-side of the Cathedral which had been circulated. Ramp so steep cannot access, also steps to covered picnic area at rear of is inaccessible. He has contact Alice Templeton with his findings. Still not been in side.

Action PP agreed to take students from Osborne on a visit and will report back

St John House – ground floor is accessible but A C-M could not attend meeting on first floor As lift is unsafe and too small. MG had also experienced difficulties at this venue.

Action KH to contact Dean of Cathedral to ask if he would like to attend a future meeting of the Forum. – Be positive and say we could make suggestion to increase the “visitor numbers”.

8. Market Stalls – Crowding - KH had reported an incident on 21 December when he was walking on pedestrian precinct near the fountain and ramp/step entrance to Brooks Shopping area, due to lots of “clutter” next to a stall. Reported incident, but no Market Manager could be contacted. Eventually got name and emailed before Christmas, also to Managing Director of the Market Company, had not yet had an acknowledgement. Would like to sit down and see what could be done to make it safer. KH sent further email last week – but no response to date. **Action KH will chase again with copy to Chief Executive of WCC.**

9. Cyclists’ Awareness Training – Karen Doctree? from “Steer Clear” will be invited to come to meeting in February – **Action KH**

10. CCTV footage of vehicles stopping on pedestrian crossings. After KH reported several incidents, Police can request CCTV footage if time can be recorded, but not clear enough to see car registration number. Main areas of concern are Friarsgate, near Iceland, Southgate Street into Jewry Street. KH is in discussion with PC Shears from North Walls about putting “rumble strips” or raised road crossings, as cars do not tend to stop on these. A C-M reported these were in Eastleigh and the crossings were always clear. Issue of barriers at Brooks Car Park when busy resulted in cars parking on pedestrian crossing. AC-M raised point that those car Parks with barriers at entrance are not free for “Blue Badge holders” This needs to be highlighted at entrance to car park. **Action KH to ask Andy Hickman to come to next meeting as he could answer these questions.**

11. Communications with other organisations.
Action KH to contact Eastleigh Disability Forum.

12. AOB

- a) Barton Farm Planning Forum – JP had asked that a feasibility study is carried out on to how “People with disabilities” can access the new development as residents, for work, and visitors. She suggested they contact WAAFA
- b) JC read out email from Baroness Thomas regarding access issues in Winchester, and also that she has tabled a bill (with second reading due shortly) which makes the law clearer for local authorities about the miss-use of Blue Badges (perhaps stolen) and that parking wardens/police can check national data base and can retain the badge.
- c) PP reported that a proper crossing opposite Osborne school on Andover Road is due shortly.
- d) Theatre Royal is doing a lot of work for Autistic children to be able to access the venue.
- e) Disable Go web site – Consultation event to be held in Eastleigh on 13 February 2013

Date of next meetings – 21 February 2013 – 2pm – Volvo Room at WACA

21 March 2013 – 2pm – Volvo Room at WACA

18 April 2013 – 2pm – Volvo Room at WACA