

Winchester Area Access For All (WAAFA) Meeting

Held 21 November 2013 at 2:00pm

Volvo Room, WACA, The Colebrook Centre, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LH

1. Present: Keith Hatter (Chair, Sight Loss), Margaret Gunn, Andy Cadle-Mills (Spinal Injuries Association), Janet Chierchia (Win & District Mencap and Win & District Carers Forum), Penny Parkinson (Osborne School), Zanell Neethling (Minutes secretary).

2. Apologies: Sylvia Smallwood (University of Winchester, Disability Advisor), Kim Walsgrove (HCC Senior Access Officer), PC Craig Shears (North Walls Police Station), Peggy Jones (Winchester Live At Home Scheme), Dr Ian Barrett (WCC Equalities Advisor)

3. Minutes: Of meeting held 17 October 2013 were agreed.

4. Matters Arising:

4.1 Buses: Announcements on buses still not working, the visual display was also switched off, this is now reinstated, but the audio is still not reinstated as of last Thursday. The BlueStar Operations Manager, whom Keith is in contact with replied that it is still being looked into.

4.2 Reporting of incidents to PC Shears: Not enough people are reporting incidents, discussion around difficulty of capturing the car details. ACM has not yet passed details to Church's, but will do and ZN will deliver PC Shears' details to Halfords and KH will do to Hargroves.

4.3 WAAFA e-newsletter: ZN gave an update on the e-newsletter. We have a few articles covering on the first issue. If anyone has any ideas for further articles, please let her know.

4.4 Walking Strategy Group (Independent Scrutiny Group): Looking at specific routes, rather than locations, meeting next Thursday after doing a walk-about, KH and Liz Tesla have done a trial "walkabout". The group is looking at making routes pedestrian friendly, looking at particular routes in and out of the city centre. City Councillors Robert Hutchinson (Chair of the ISG) and Vicky Weston (Portfolio for Built Environment) and County Councillors for East and West Winchester are members of the group. The route the group is looking at starts at the station, along upper High Street to Westgate, up Romsey Road, as far as West End Terrace, crossing over and down Elm Road, through the two station car parks, along Andover Road as far as the Worthy Lane, Andover Road junction with a view to proceeding into City Centre if people have parked in cattle market car park, via Church Street (to North Walls Park) and along King Alfred's Terrace (short road in front of Leisure Centre) then along Gordon Road, through car park to North Walls, down North Walls and then to Lower Brook Street, crossing North Walls at junction of Eastgate street, along Lower Brook Street, across Norm Street and then from there through Cross Keys back to Guildhall. The group is looking at these several routes into town from Romsey Road, and making the routes pedestrian friendly. They will put forward a proposal of the routes in the hope that one can be adjusted up to standard for being pedestrian friendly. Some discussion around this route and wheelchair access. The walk is from 2-4pm and the

meeting of the ISG from 5-6.30pm next Thursday 28 November 2013.

4.5 ACM Railway Document: ACM has completed his railway document; KH has forwarded the document to Catherine Oldham of Network Rail and South West Trains, acknowledgement received. Discussion around the parking issue in car park at station, accessibility of pay stations and pay by phone option - no option for one day only, only multiple pay options. KH to contact WCC parking and raise these issues with them.

5. Treasurer's Report:

JC has balance at £4181.32. Elizabeth McKerracher wanted to explain it remains at the discretion of WACA. The 'gold badge' stickers and Andy Thomsen's time are being paid by South East Network of Disabled People's Organisation (SENDPO) directly.

6. Discussing 'Destination Access Audit of Winchester – March 2009' by Brian Seaman:

KH has listened to the 60p document. At p.34 KH raises that there is a relevant point where mentioning Debenhams and WHSmith's where access *is reasonable* regarding level access, but this is only to the ground floor. Discussion about this. The document also mentions station etc. but KH was hoping we could take it and compare to what is relevant to the 'Gold Badge Scheme'. MG will forward document she has on buildings/shops access.

7. Access Awards ("Gold Badge") – Update:

ZN will take up the task of surveying the shops in the High Street. She will have the list of shops completed and surveyed on Friday 22 November 2013. On Tuesday 26 November at 11.30am there will be a meeting to assess the completed surveys at WACA in the Volvo Room. An email has been sent to the distribution list to see if anyone would like to attend, ACM, KH, MG and ZN will be in attendance. Venue for delivering the award is discussed, possibly one of the suites in the Guildhall (although there is not a lift available to the 3rd floor), training Room or performance hall at Discovery Centre or the hall at St Peters Room. Mayors date to be confirmed. The badges have arrived from printing and were shown at the meeting today. ZN has the hard copy of the stickers with her.

8. Communications with other organisations:

8.1 Dental Surgery: New dental surgery at corner of Chesil Street and Magdelene Hill, nowhere near to park except Chesil Street car park, questioning if planning application for conversion of usage to dental surgery took that into account. This issue will be raised with VW (WCC Portfolio for Built Environment).

8.2 Dementia Friendly Communities Project: Vessi Wharton is interested to attend meetings, but cannot. KH is in contact with her, she has taken over from Jenni Alcott, for this area, on behalf of Andover MIND.

8.3 HCC Consultation on strategy for service provision for disabled people: next Wednesday 27th November, 1.30-5.30pm at Wells Place, Eastleigh. KH circulated details.

8.4 KH and issue with scaffolding completely blocking pavement in HydeSt. KH submitted two reports under a reference number to HCC, "if structurally essential, there should be a barrier pathway with ramps". They agreed in principle, however no such

changes have been made yet. HCC Roads and Transport said that they would reply within 7 working days, but no reply has been received after 3 weeks.

9. AOB:

JC gives her apologies for the December meeting.

The meeting ended at 3.35pm.

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 12 December at 2pm at the Colebrook Centre,
Colebrook Street, Winchester SO23 9LH (Volvo Room).