

**MINUTES OF MEETING 14 MAY 2019**

**ILMINSTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**  
**TRANSPORT/SUB GROUP**

**THESE ARE THE POINTS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH BY THE SUB-GROUP AND ARE SUBMITTED TO HEREWITH TO THE ILMINSTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP AND TO MARTHA AT E.C.A. FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**NB** Not listed necessarily in priority order.  
**AND SHOULD BE REGARDED AS WORK IN PROGRESS !!**

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**PARK & RIDE**

- We would like to see a Park & Ride/Shuttle bus service set up to the west of the town, but with a frequent shuttle bus servicing the whole of the Ilminster and the hamlets in Ilminster without.

The shuttle bus must offer a reliable service to mothers with primary school age children who will face an increasingly long walk to access our existing primary/middle schools.

**PARKING WARDEN**

- The Sub-Group has little faith in the ability of SCC (or it's Agents) to provide an adequate parking enforcement in Ilminster. We believe Ilminser Town Council should employ a full-time parking warden.

**COMMERCIAL VAN PARKING IN TOWN CENTRE**

- There is a school of thought that parked vans are taking trade from the town centre (especially on market day). The Sub-Group would like to see fines or charges imposed on parked commercial vans (obviously not those delivering to Ilminster retailers).

## **BUS CONNECTION TO HOSPITALS**

- **The Sub-Group urgently wishes to see provided, a regular and reliable bus service to – Yeovil, South Petherton, Crewkerne and Musgrove Park Hospital. The service should start immediately after 0900 hrs. from Ilminster Town centre.**

**NB. Somerset NHS Foundation Trust are now proposing to outsource MSK**

**Podiatry services from Chard Hospital to either Crewkerne or Yeovil**

**(to where we have no public transport from Ilminster!)**

## **SHUTTLE SERVICE TO OUTLYING VILLAGES**

- **We believe it is vital for the viability of the town centre that a Town Council led shuttle bus is provided for shoppers coming in from outlying villages viz. Horton, Broadway, Ilton, Ashill and Donyatt.**

## **DITTON STREET “A COMMENT PERHAPS FOR THE FUTURE”**

- **We are concerned that the imposition of a ‘one-way’ system in Ditton Street has contributed to a feeling that the town has been cut in half. We would like to see Ditton Street restored to how it was before the advent of Tesco’s. (With traffic priority given to north/south traffic). Adopting this suggestion might encourage First Bus to re-route their northern service No. 30 back through the town).**

**In our view, our emergency services should be able to use Ditton Street in a northerly direction. (this would/could save precious minutes).**

## **CANAL WAY**

The creation of Canal Way has brought many problems to Ilminster (apart from cutting the town in two), in our view, the following improvements/changes should be considered:

**A/ SPEED RESTRICTIONS.**

The police must be encouraged to enforce the speed restrictions in Canal Way/ or delegate the matter to SCC.

**B/ MORE 30 MPH SIGNS.**

It is apparent that many drivers exceed the 30 mph speed limit on a regular basis. This is probably because there are no 30 mph signs!

**C/ 'KIDS' BARRIER**

The number of mothers and children walking to and from school will increase very considerably following development west of the town. We would like to see a pedestrian barrier between pavements/cycle paths and traffic.

**D/ SPEED HUMPS**

The Sub-Group would like to see the provision of speed humps in Canal Way to reduce traffic speed.

**E/ PARKING**

Parking in Canal way should be restricted ASAP (there is adequate parking in Wharf Lane and the Football Club.

**HOUSING/DEVELOPMENT – PARKING PROVISION**

- **We have noted that the 2700 new homes planned for Chard are going to have provision for 3 parking spaces per unit. It would be good if that practice was followed with all the new housing planned for Ilminster.**

**Additionally, Storage facilities for family bicycles would be mandatory if we are to encourage cycle use.**

### **ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING POINTS**

- **The major petroleum companies have announced the plans for charging points at filling stations. However, charging points at new housing units should be encouraged (until Government legislation demands them). The current time taken to charge one vehicle means our plans at present are totally inadequate.**

### **RAILWAY STATIONS (Access by Public Transport).**

- **If we want to drastically cut car journeys, then we feel it is essential that there is an adequate bus service from Ilminster to both Crewkerne and Taunton railway station.**

**We note the last bus from Axminster station is 18.30 (no service on a Sunday).**

**NB. Pre-booked bus tickets by apps. would help bus companies with their planning.**

### **BUS SERVICE/PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

- **We attach Colin Bailey's report on public transport dated October 2017 and note that apart from Clr. Linda Vijeh, there has been no interest at all from Ilminster Town Council or SSDC.**

**Clr. Vijey and Colin Bailey are due to meet Marcus Fysh MP. On 14 June 2019 to discuss bus services further.**

Minutes 14 May 19. Ilm. Neighbourhood Plan. Transport/Sub-Group.