**Worthing and Lancing A27 Working Group**

**Summary notes of Meeting 4 held at Ricardo on 12 July 2016**

**Present**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Representing** |  | **Name** | **Representing** |
| Cllr Tom Wye | Chair |  | Andrew Swayne | Ricardo |
| Tina Tilley | A&W Chamber of Commerce |  | Helen Silman | High Salvington RA |
| David Stevenson | North Lancing RA |  | Maggie Winter | Findon Valley RA |
| Jim Deen | Labour Party |  | Martin Hinchcliffe | Offington Park RA |
| Chris Spratt | Worthing Town Centre Initiative |  | John Hughes | RA |
| Lance Allen | Equinity |  | Peter Webb  | ETI |
| Mandy Bridson | Lancing Business Park |  | Graham Haywood  | B&W |
| Sue Jelliss  | UKIP |  | Robert Smytherman | Liberal Democrats |
| Brian Boggis | Adur District Council |  | Mark Bailey | SARG |
| Tony Nicklen | Sompting Parish Council |  |  |  |

**Apologies (or substituted)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Representing** |  | **Name** | **Representing** |
| Geoff Edwards+ | B&W |  | Mike Tristram+ | SARG |
| John Haffenden | AWBP |  | Peter Bennett | Bennett Griffin |
| Dan Humphries | WBC |  | David Clark | Worthing Society |
| John Hollington | Lancing Parish Council |  | Tim Loughton MP | EW&S |
| Sir Peter Bottomley MP | WW |  |  |  |

+ Substitute attended

**Also invited (no apologies)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Representing** |  | **Name** | **Representing** |
| Abi Oluwande | Highways England |  | Peter Phillips | Highways England |
| Trevor Constable | FSB |  | Cllr Bryan Turner | WSCC |
| Stephen Gee | PB world |  | Damian Pulford  | Lancing Business Park |
| Mike Punter | Parafix |  | James Humphreys | Environment Agency |
| James Doyle | Green Party |  | Peter Rogers |  |
| David Carter | ETI |  | Iain Flitcroft | Manhattan Furniture |

**Welcome and Introduction (New Members)**

* Cllr Wye requested WG members title all email communications with ‘A27 WG’

**Minutes of previous meeting – 4 February 2016**

* Thanks to Andrew Swayne and Tina Tilley for minutes from previous meeting
* Minutes accepted by committee

**Actions from previous meetings**

* 1990 Spectre report action ongoing –**Action Cllr Wye**
* HE not sent apologies
* HE- share data when they have it. All actions for HE carried over.
* No indication the budgets have changed- response to dualing approach
* Question for big long gaps in work programme still unanswered
* Minutes secretary – MP have not actioned.
* More actions awaiting completion than completed– ongoing actions will be carried over to next meeting

No other open issuesthat were not covered in main agenda items

**Update on HE Stakeholders meeting – 18 May 2016**

* Cllr Wye, Martin Hynchcliffe and Tina Tilley all attended the HE stakeholder meeting
* Public consultation planned early 2017. - Only one route option currently.
* Northern bypass or tunnel are not viable – has been discounted by HE
* HE Stated that proper transport improvements won’t improve traffic demands
* Discounted completely the full dual carriage way service roads – 4/5x over budget
* Question over 4 lane road as oppose to dual carriageway– response they are still discussing.
* Cost was prohibitive of the preferred route with full dualling and access ways.
* John Hughes questioned whether a 4 lane road would double the traffic? Andrew Swayne stated that HE are focussing on keeping even amount of traffic along road- Reducing the bottle necks.
* Cllr Wye – advised that 40mph likely to stay along the whole route
* Challenges for HE are the roundabouts. David Stevenson – Have they stated this is a challenge?
* Budget including CPO’s is £50-100 million. Concerns this is sufficient
* David Stevenson – Need to find out exact budget – significant difference between 50-100 million not enough detail to derive a plan.
* Andrew Swayne – Arundel and our scheme combined with flexibility between both.
* More info on options **not** on the table to be requested from HE–**HE Action**
* Martin Hynchcliffe - Little information being provided by HE
* HE are tracking how much traffic is coming through is local to the area or straight through. Data won’t be released until a decision has been made
* Martin Hynchcliffe - Environmental survey has been conducted. However concerns over environmental impact if 4 lane road constructed. Many trees lost.
* Concern at meeting that widening road alone would not work. Examples in Chichester
* HE are aware of New traffic schemes such as Monk Farm development
* Option of bypassing Worthing using roads already there(283?) Bypass South Downs national park – would this alleviate traffic? HE unable to answer
* Worthing residents feel Worthing is being short-changed. Budgets amounts being given for alleviation of traffic is insulting. Very few towns have a main road through middle of it.
* John Hughes - Increase in bypasses is going to encourage commuters to use the roads. In near future we will be in the same situation. Question as to why HE don’t get involved in public transport
* Cllr Wye relayed to WG that HE said that increase in public transport won’t reduce traffic
* Residents feel by next year they will not have much choice in final decision. Take it or leave it option. Must find a palatable option for everyone
* Andrew Swayne – Question what will be palatable? When speaking of residents need to be clear what is residents association in affected area and what is general residents
* Helen Selman – We do not need to be objective. Residents take a subjective view as it affects them. Need to consider the impact to people in a time of great housing shortage. Representation of residents that are going to be impacted. During consultation of their residents no-one has been in favour of dualling the A27.
* Chris Spratt - Need to establish what WG are seeking to achieve –budget for new road, improved road scheme, eco-friendly route or a bypass. MP’s need to demand a senior member of highways agency to say what their ideal is?
* Unable to establish what seeking to achieve without data. HE have the data. Work out what we want based on what information we have. WG what is the best option. May waste time and money to in the long run not reduce the traffic problem- David Stevenson.
* Whoare the drivers on the A27?HE saying over half of traffic is local traffic. What
* Tony Nicklin – it is necessary to accept tunnel is not an option. Are we to accept the economic costs of business disruption? Need to think of a road that is suitable to become a motor way and it could be a northern route and not necessarily a tunnel
* Well documented in the visions for the future document. PG 159 Map shows the route for the express way. This should be considered in the decision. Osborne document - published in 2014.
* Cllr Wye to get a copy –**Cllr Wye Action**
* If only local traffic on A27 then why is increase in public transport not an option
* Andrew Swayne– plans for sub regional transport boards, about 6 in country in future. Southern England will be made responsible for this. Devolution maybe able to grow options locally, flow in to main plan. We do absolutely have to deal with joined up transport modes of public transport. Access to national park. National Park wants to have holistic conversation with HE about having an overall policy on public transport.
* This will have a significant effect on boundaries in national parks, not necessarily suitable.
* Tony Nicklin – There is a new duty of access to National Parks. National Park has no extra powers.
* Andrew Swayne – Yes the South Downs is going to become a national park and thus have more authority.
* Martin Hynchcliffe - 7 special qualities of National Park – although they have these principles still need to be mindful of the boundaries
* Must consider that 1000 new homes to be developed which will add to traffic issues.
* Additional infrastructure means we need to ask the HE should they really be discounting all these other options?
* Andrew Swayne–Plans for funding to improve junctions around Shoreham airport. This to assist plans for new homes
* Tina Tilley – WG need to clarify what our aim is. When talking to HE need to establish more information. WG need to see evidence for all the options and ideas of costing.
* Andrew Swayne – Largest brand Field Park will increase traffic to A283.
* Question to Senior member of HE –**Action Cllr Wye**
	+ Request senior civil servants of HE come to us and bring their aspirations and budget restraints. Provide evidence as to why they discredited certain options.
	+ Consideration of both cost and environmental impacts
	+ Christ Spratt - Whilst we appreciate the disturbance of road schemes and the impact it has on local community, it isn’t only from the point of a local community. We would like a senior (stress senior) to come talk about aspirations, ideas, and budget. Discuss certain routes, budget restraints and figures, to people with no knowledge of highways agency budget restraints is worthless.
	+ How will HE manage the traffic with the increase in housing developments?
* Thanks to Chris Spratt for advice on letter to HE

**Update on AWRA meeting**

* Councillor was present.
* No MPS were there as none invited.
* Cllr Wye – unaware of meeting till poster emailed to him
* Maggie Winter – Meeting was specifically for residents. Meeting called as both MPS concerned that constituents weren’t aware of plans for A27. MPs felt residents should have a say. Meeting was solely for this purpose. Opportunity for residents to express attitudes and concerns. Merely to gather information and inform residents. 300 people attended. Reported in media in order to inform general public as well.
* Follow on from meeting. A group of disparate residents formed a campaign group. “Bypass not through pass” group – public meeting called for 21st. Information of that is not official. ‘Street talk’. This group is not the same as the AWRA.
* Cllr Wye - Understand that A27 residents will have a very strong view. Lots of various interested parties to listen to both for and against. This WG needs to be kept informed.
* Helen Silman – Not just A27 residents, public concerned that this will have a dramatic impact on Worthing town. Roads south going in to Hove are now utterly blocked. Not just about NIMBY.

**Discussion on technical briefing for the WG prior to consultation.**

* End 2017- informed by relative groups to present to us as a group. Not to influence but to inform.
* Suggestion that technical experts talk to WG in order to obtain information from sources other than the HE.
* WG should talk to technical experts before meeting with senior HE in order to obtain relevant evidence and prepare questions for HE.
* Brian Boggis – These experts will prime WG to ask the correct questions to HE.
* Martin Hynchcliffe - Ask what role trees have for in respect of air quality.
* Andrew Swayne – Get some independent experts. Get information from sources other than HE. Technical experts to brief group on:
	+ Air Quality
	+ Objectives
	+ Best Practice for severance
	+ Noise impact
	+ Pollution
	+ Road design at junctions (include traffic statistics) **Andrew Swayne Action**
* Andrew Swayne – WG should meet every two months to cover a couple topics a meeting.
* Suggested these experts could come to meeting with HE. Andrew Swayne rejected as they would then need to be paid commercial rate to represent WG.
* Martin Hynchcliffe – Need to consider the total lack of land for housing on brown and green land. Residents having to travel out of borough to work.
* Andrew Swayne - Local plan should be on our list of requests for information.Speak to Worthing and Adur local plan. **Andrew Swayne Action**
* Worthing local plan is completed. Officers are often in position where cant consult but can brief us. This is a possibility and WG need to construct questions carefully to avoid confrontation.
* Legal advice on these schemes? –Andrew Swayne responded to keep it to technical briefings not legal.

**Appointment of deputy chair for WG**

* Cllr Wye proposed Andrew Swayne as co-chairman. Accepted by WG. Change the TOR

**AOB**

* Martin Hynchcliffe – Minutes from Stakeholder meeting not yet received. Include in HE letter. – **Cllr Wye Action**
* If representing organisations, organisations should be responsible for continuity – passing documents on from previous meeting.
* Cllr Wye – thanks to Andrew Swayne, Ellie Wilkins and Ricardo for hosting and minute taking.
* Lance Allen –What are the HE plans for safer driving - major accidents an often occurrence on A27. Seconded by David Stevenson
* 1990’s report is inspectors report in to Adur Lancing improvement scheme – 1996 exact year. John Hughes to send a link to Lancing improvement scheme to Cllr Wye**John Hughes Action**
* Martin Hynchcliffe - Inspectors report is difficult to locate. Only in London Central Library.

**Next Meeting**

* Back to MP’s Peter and Tim and Highways agency about date as they are key interested parties for next meeting. Technical briefings from ‘recorded list’.
* Mid September- as will allow us to look at Chichester bypass and learn from their process. Andrew Swayne and Cllr Wye to arrange and inform group.
* The date of the next meeting has been arranged for 15th September at 19.30 hrs in the Ricardo building.