

Enhanced Partnership Board

Bus User Group

7th March 2024

Are The meeting was held at Glanville House at 2 pm. In attendance were Dean Sargeant (T&W), Ray Wickson (BUG), Kim Anderson (T&W), Matt Powell (T&W), Richard Emery (Arriva), D. Flanagan (Chaserider) and Alexander Ford (SATH NHS Trust).

I raised on behalf of the BUG questions supplied to me by Nick Eyles 4 questions.

Due to the lack of pick up in Back Lane, Tibberton is it possible for the 103 to be re-routed to cover Cherrington as per the old 519 route as there are no safe stop at Cherrington Cross Roads? **Answer:** Chaserider agreed to look into the option.

The Bus User Group would welcome a face to face meeting with T&W even a couple of times a year. **Answer:** The Enhanced Partnership Board is the only engagement option at present.

Would it be possible for the Council to provide the BUG or Parish Councils with options to those who are not on a bus route. **Answer:** This is covered under Network North Funding.

Who is responsible for Roadside Publicity for the 102 and 103 routes? Please could Parish Councils access timetable holders to allow a more professional roadside publicity. **Answer:** Chaserider are producing timetables for all the 100 routes. (I requested that some be given to Parish Councils to put in shelters) Chaserider / T&W did not respond to the second part of the question.

The new routes uptake figures are increasing on some routes, but T&W are now compiling data which routes are struggling to grow numbers. They are also looking at daily numbers (i.e. Peak times etc)

Network North Funding and aspirations was presented by T&W. As Telford have been given funds from HS2 they are now looking at improving public transport in the North part of the Borough. 50% of the fund will be released in April 2024 and the second tranche April 2025.

There was to be (is) an Easter Break Promotion of a 50p ticket on all bus routes to encourage more usage over the Easter Period.

T&W have launched Citymapper App. This enables customers to plan their routes by bus and rail. I have it on my phone and I must say I am impressed on how easy it is to use.

Both Bus operators are working with T&W on allowing ticket cross over option to enable customers to use their tickets on either bus companies.

I requested the possibility of introducing a bus service between Newport and Shrewsbury Direct. Specifically whether Chaserider could provide costings for one day a week. I also requested consideration of extending the rural service to include weekends. This I believe they will consider especially as there is new funding available from HS2.

Alexander Ford gave an update on bus services between both Shropshire Main Hospitals. SATH continue to engage with both authorities on improving the connection.

The next scheduled meeting of the board is in September despite my suggestion they should be at least quarterly.