

**Age Action Alliance Transport Working Group  
17 November 2016**

**Attendees**

Roger Mackett	Centre for Transport Studies UCL (Chair)
John Kerry	East Midlands Later Life Forum
Joe Oldham	Age UK
John Welham	Future Years
Deborah Clarke	Action with Communities in Rural England
Julia Pride	SEEFA
Gwynneth Pedler	Transport for All
Victoria Shortland	CTA
Ben Spencer	Oxford Brookes University
Kit Mitchell	AGE UK
James McCall	Campaign for Better Transport
Ron Douglas	President NPC
Sarah Tilley	Edinburgh University

**Apologies**

Charles Musselwhite	Swansea University
Chris Cornwell	Hartley Wintney & District Over 55s Forum
Rachel Lee	Living Streets
Bill Ions	Years Ahead
David Sinclair	ILC

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Roger welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the speakers for agreeing to attend the meeting. He advised the Group that he is happy to continue as Chairman of the Group, but will no longer be able to provide and organise the venue for the meetings. It was suggested that meetings could be held at DWP offices as other AAA Groups meet there. Joe Oldham also offered space for meeting at AGE UK's offices.

**2. The Minutes of the last meeting were accepted**

**3. Action Points from last meeting**

- John Kerry's paper on bus shelter facilities needs better quality photographs before it can be finalised and uploaded to the AAA website.
- Deborah Clarke had circulated the Living Streets and FSB Research Reports as agreed.
- Roger reported that he had spoken with the DfT in relation to their Accessibility Action Plan which should be out for consultation in December.

- There had been no further progress regarding the recommendations from the ILC Report despite Roger's efforts in organising a meeting and attempting to create some action.

#### **4. Victoria Shortland, Community Transport Association**

Vicky explained that CTA's aims were to encourage accessible and inclusive transport that is available for all, connecting people and ideas, and raising standards. The aim for the Buses Bill is to ensure that community transport is integrated from the bottom up.

The CTA Conference will take place in Westminster next week. For more information contact [tracey@cta.org.uk](mailto:tracey@cta.org.uk)

The second round of the Community Minibus Fund has been launched and will close for applications on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. More information can be found [here](#).

Vicky referred to a recent report relating to the social value of community transport and health which would be of interest to the Group. Deborah will send a link to members of the Group

Vicky was asked about insurance for over 70s driving minibuses and commented that some minibus insurance providers now require drivers over the age of 70 to be named on the actual policy and this only happens once the insurance company has seen the driver's driving licence with the proof of PCV medical requirement on it.

Other discussions were related to:

- Connecting with CCGs
- Minibus regulations – in particular volunteers and insurance
- Success or otherwise of the Total Transport Projects. Vicky agreed to send an update separately for Deborah to circulate.

#### **5. Ben Spencer, Oxford Brookes University, Cycle BOOM research project**

Ben gave an interesting presentation about the Cycle BOOM project and provided copies of the Key Findings and Recommendations of his research. The research considered cycling in later life in the UK and the benefits of cycling for lifelong health and wellbeing. He will send his presentation to Deborah for circulation.

#### **6. Kit Mitchell AGE UK – Older Driver Task Force Report**

Kit Mitchell explained about the work and research that he has been involved in and will share the presentation with the Group via Deborah. He explained that he had been lobbying and raising the profile of the problems facing prejudice against older drivers.

#### **7. Feedback from Chris Cornwall delivered by Roger Mackett re Over 55s Forum on Hospital Transport**

Chris is struggling to find a solution to the problem of people finding volunteers to get them to their essential medical appointments, when they have no transport of their own and there is no public transport available either. The reason is that different

organisations, in different parts of the country hold information, but few have it all – there is no central repository and there are difficulties in keeping it up to date.

He provides examples:

- i. Hampshire has the most complete and up to date listing of any Shire County that I know which is available on the Good Neighbours Support Service Hampshire website. There are 120 Care Groups listed and all that are missing is a handful of informal groups in tiny villages, who do not appear because they do not do DBS checks on their volunteers, so are not eligible for inclusion.
- ii. Surrey Community Action hold a spreadsheet of most voluntary groups, but not all and you need to know to contact them in the first place to find out whether there is a group where you live.
- iii. Oxfordshire Rural Community Council is a similar set up to Surrey
- iv. The best information that I can find for Kent is held by Age UK
- v. In Gloucestershire Healthwatch is the best bet, but who would think of calling them?
- vi. Many CCGs hold lists but people would not think to contact them.
- vii. Most GPs will know their local ones but that is of little help to those whose pride would not allow them to ask for help so end up paying for taxis.

## **8. James McCall, Campaign for Better Transport – Update on Buses Bill**

The Buses Bill is part of the solution to the loss of bus services over the last decade. The Bill is designed to give City Mayors more powers, similar to London. The 3 areas of interest to Better Transport are enabling franchising (a priority for City Mayors), powers to create partnerships and the availability of open data available in real-time. The Bill is a third of the way through the legislative process. Three amendments have been proposed: requiring provision of audio as well as visual information, franchising everywhere not just for City Mayors and (I don't have a note of the 3<sup>rd</sup>) There is due to be consultation on the guidance accompanying the legislation between January 2017 and the Summer.

The Campaign for Better Transport interests are in what the guidance will look like and how it will be used, to make sure all the powers are used and to encourage public action to get MPs involved with bus users.

## **9. Julia Pride, SEEFA – Age Friendly Businesses**

Julia explained about the work of the SEEFA Policy Panel and a new organisation, English Age Network, which aims to provide a positive voice for older people. SEEFA believes there are 5 pillars of a more positive view of ageing and that it is important for there to be wider recognition of the contribution older people make. If older people are valued they are likely to have a better later life.

In particular a seminar was held on 31<sup>st</sup> October, Our Ageing Society: Challenges or Opportunities for Business? Julia would like examples of personal experiences in business and any transport related issues that could be fed into ongoing discussion. They can be sent to her at [juliapride@gmail.com](mailto:juliapride@gmail.com) and more information can be found at [www.seefa.org.uk](http://www.seefa.org.uk)

## **10.Action Points**

- Kit Mitchell and Ben Spencer will send their presentations to Deborah for circulation to the TWG.
- Victoria Shortland will send information regarding progress on the Total Transport Project and the report on the Social Value of Community Transport
- Deborah will contact Russell Taylor at DWP regarding the possible use of their building for the next meeting.
- James will advise when the Buses Bill guidance is available and keep the group updated.
- Group members will send examples and experiences of ageism particularly in relation to businesses and transport related marketing and media campaigns to Julia Pride.

**11.Date and venue for next meeting:** To be confirmed