

Meeting- Job Chat

Date – 23rd & 24th April 2024

Location – Red house

Chair – Guy Padfield-Wilkins

Minutes by – Debbie Clarke

Agenda

- **Contracts**
- **Vehicles**
- **Premises**
- **Garage**

Announcement: Carol Magras is taking over from Sheila Rapley as Society Secretary, Sheila will remain as the Society Chairman.

Contracts

Dial a ride

After a few years of uncertainty we are now heading to a period of stability.

As we have lost the funding from WBC in regards to dial a ride, we now have a service level agreement (SLA) to provide one bus for WBC, although we are actually providing three buses. The hours are now restricted from 9:30am to 2:30pm during term time with longer hours during school holiday times.

Fares have remained the same with an introduction of a yearly membership fee of £26, at present we have 158 members signed up in the first month and the aim is for 300 to make the service work, this enables us to pay to provide a further two buses.

DDRT

We started this service in September 2023 and have been providing two vehicles covering two routes. From September 2024, we will be providing 10 vehicles covering the west of Surrey. The service will run same as the current time, Monday to Friday 7am to 7pm and Saturday, 8am to 6pm. This contract is for three years.

We are looking at areas for charging points and have a number of areas to consider, this will be finalised by September.

Wisley shuttle bus

The main Wisley shuttle bus has now stopped due to Wisley requiring the need for a larger vehicle than we can provide, Stagecoach have now taken this over. We are currently still providing an extra bus for one month to accommodate the A3 roadworks.

There is the potential for us to run the service again over the autumn / Christmas period.

NEPT

NEPT is now taken over by EMED and from the 1st April we will be providing three buses on this service where originally it was one. This will be reviewed in six months. This is a seven year contract.

Woking Hubs

No change at present, the contract finished last year and has continued to roll over, a conversation is required with the NHS regarding the service going forward.

Woodhatch Shuttle bus

We are providing a shuttle bus service from Woodhatch council offices to and from Reigate and Redhill, this will run until June. We will apply to continue this route when the tender process opens.

Surrey Choices

The current contracts will end in September, we hope to arrange talks with SCC to find out if the contract is to continue, it may be likely that the contract could roll over for another year.

Schools

SCC are currently putting out block tenders for schools and we are in the process of applying for all routes into Pond Meadow School. If this is successful we will cancel all other school routes and have all staff going into Pond Meadow. This is up to a six year contract. If we are unsuccessful in this bid, all our current routes into Pond Meadow will end and we will tender for alternative routes for the existing staff working on the Pond Meadow contract.

Vehicles

We will be receiving four more E Deliver 9 vehicles in the near future, and a further six in September when we take over the DDRT contract. This will grow over the next few years.

Range capacity of the E Deliver 9 is between 140-180 miles weather dependant.

Going forward (2025/26) we are hoping to have the new E deliver 9 L4 which has 16 seats, we would look to use this on group hires or mainstream school trips.

Premises

There has been discussions for the last few years of us having our own purpose built premises, however we now have confirmation that this will not be the case. This is due to WBC financial situation. We looked at a number of ways we could have facilitated this with no avail.

As part of the SLA with WBC it has been agreed that we can stay at the Red House for the foreseeable future. If the Red House gets sold then one option is Midas House in Woking, which is situated by the Poole Road carpark. Poole Road carpark is a secure carpark that we have leased with

16 charging points being put in. This car park is secured by an automatic gate that is accessed by a code. There will also be a car wash port on site.

In addition to this the new garage premises has a further 21 parking spaces with five EV charging points. SCC will help to fund a 50 kilo watt charging point to allow fast charging.

The new garage premises are in Cherry Street, which is round the corner from the Poole Road carpark. The premises are currently in the process of being refitted and will be operational by mid-May.

There is accommodation above the garage that will be used for training i.e. first aid, MIDAS. It can also be used as a rest room for staff on DDRT, there is a separate entrance from the garage and a code to enter will be provided.

Summer BBQ

We are looking to arrange a summer BBQ at the end of August and partners are welcome. Details of this to follow.

Questions raised:

Can we continue to park at Moorcroft? GPW – we will continue to park there until WBC say not to and provides us an alternative option.

Are we going to change our name from Woking Community Transport? GPW – We will use and promote Bustler more and come away from WCT.

Do we continue to wear a uniform? GPW – wearing a uniform set us apart from others, looks professional and let passengers, SCC know who we are.

Request to wear polo tops all year round rather than white shirts, not all ladies like the white shirts – GPW – will discuss this with the board.