

# Haslemere Vision : Transport Group

## Notes on meeting 5 held in the Town Hall on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 7:30

**Present:** Nikki Barton, Stephen Bennett, David Boyd, Ken Griffiths, Stephen Mulliner, David Round, Robert Serman, David Simmons.

**Apologies:** Andy Braithwaite, Cyndy Lancaster, Paul Megson, Marianne O'Brien, Richard Workman

**Absent:** Sandra McHugh, Chloe Nash, David O'Brien, Dominic Walton.

**Chairman:** David Round, who also took notes of the meeting

**1. Minutes of Meeting 4.** They had been agreed and were approved. No matters arose.

**2. Letters to the Herald re MSCP and the MP's website.** Robert Serman had written to the Haslemere Herald expressing reservations about the support of our MP (J Hunt) for an MSCP at the station. He and Nikki Barton had been interviewed, or referred to, as part of the main lead story on the front page of the 21<sup>st</sup> November issue. David Round had also written to the Herald in support of the Town Council's and MP's initiative (28<sup>th</sup> Nov). He had referred to this Transport Group, part of Haslemere Vision, and had first cleared such reference with the Vision Chairman. Both Nikki and Robert felt the Vision should not have been mentioned, and a lively discussion ensued. David subsequently conceded that point.

**3. Vision Checkpoint session on 30<sup>th</sup> November.** David Round showed the Group the slides prepared for this meeting, in two days' time, where the substance of the Group's ideas would be presented, based on our earlier Report. They illustrated the ideas for the Town Centre, Car Parks, Green Routes, the Station and other issues such as through traffic (HGV). We would only have 5 minutes to present our ideas and David's rapid presentation took 6.5 minutes...

**4. Transport Consultant view on our Report – main subject of the meeting.** Mark Chessell was welcomed to the meeting. He is a Transport Consultant, from "Planning Aid", made available to us free of charge as a volunteer, as part of the Vision process. He has over 30 years' experience in numerous Transport and Logistics projects. He helps groups do Neighbourhood Plans. He was Community Transport Officer at Surrey County Council for many years. He was kind to say that he liked the report from our Group. He liked the description of our ideas for the Town Centre, and the Station, and the "Green Routes" but felt that there was perhaps too much emphasis on them, and we could have focussed more on:

- Traffic issues for areas outside Haslemere. (We agreed we hadn't done much there)
- There could be more emphasis on busses
- In our one-way system idea we could include more on traffic calming measures
- Maybe the "green routes" could tie-in with NT land
- We could focus even more on the station issue

Mark's overview was very helpful and he was thanked for his time and interest. We also asked for his views on issuing a commuter questionnaire – good idea - and on what other areas we might benefit from consultant help – not a lot right now, but probably later.

**5. Additional evidence data; commuter questionnaire.** This was discussed briefly. It will be raised at the next meeting.

**6. Car parking – specifically commuters (long-term parking).** Having spent some time on this earlier in the meeting the view was expressed that some members of the group – particularly those who had joined recently – may not be "up to speed" on all the issues and it might be helpful to devote the next meeting to this subject. Subsequently, many emails had circulated almost – but never quite! - exhausting the subject but nevertheless "Parking" will be addressed, in part, at the next meeting.

**Next Meeting** was arranged for Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. While Parking would be covered to some extent, the main subject to address is the identification of **Alternative Futures for Haslemere** – the Big Picture alternatives or scenarios. We would all give the matter some thought meanwhile.