

TRANSPORT ACCESSIBILITY GROUP

REPORT ON MEETING HELD ON 20TH SEPTEMBER 2019

BY ROBIN OAKLEY

I attended the meeting of the Group held at the Queens Hotel, Hawkhurst, as a representative of Staplehurst Parish Council. There were eight members attending from various parishes within the Weald.

There was no representation from Arriva, Stagecoach or Kent County Council.

It was noted that I was replacing former Councillor Barrett Manning who has retired and I was asked to convey to him the thanks of the Group for his input to the Group's meetings and I agreed to do this.

Some discussion took place concerning Arriva Service 5 and the complaints received from residents. I explained that I had prepared a schedule of complaints received by Staplehurst Parish Council (SPC) during the period August 30th, 2018 to September 11th, 2019. I suggested that in view of the fact that SPC had met with a representative of Arriva on July 17th, 2019 and that this had not resulted in any improvement in the service, it might be appropriate for the Group to write to the Traffic Commissioner who is responsible for licensing bus routes, with a request that he should encourage Arriva to take urgent steps to improve the service. After some discussion it was agreed that the Clerk to SPC should be asked to write to the Traffic Commissioner as a letter from a parish council might carry more weight.

Dates for future meetings were confirmed as follows:-

December 6th, 2019 February 21st, April 17th, June 19th & Sept. 18th, 2020

POST MEETING NOTES

1. I called on Barrett Manning and was able to convey the Group's thanks.
2. After a discussion with the Parish Clerk I drafted a suitable letter to be sent to the Traffic Commissioner.

Robin Oakley. 23 September 2019