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SUSSEX TRANSPORT COMMUNITY STADIUM WOODSIDE ROAD WORTHING WEST SUSSEX BN14 7HQ

PROPOSED GROUND IMPROVEMENTS

TRAVEL PLAN STATEMENT

Issue	**Issue A**
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1.00 Introduction

1.01 This Travel Plan Statement (TPS) relates to the proposed improvements to the home ground of Worthing FC in Woodside Road, Worthing. The club is proposing to build a new covered stand for spectators on the north side of the pitch, along with a WC and food and beverage bar building. The north side currently accommodates 940 standing spectators. The new north stand will have a minimum capacity of 1,800 spectators.

1.02 The ground is located in a mixed suburban neighbourhood to the west of Worthing town centre. It is conveniently located equidistant between Worthing and West Worthing railway stations, being some 640 and 900 metres away on foot from the train stations respectively. The surrounding area is densely populated, comprising suburban housing and a range of community facilities.

1.03 Travel Plans for this type of "development" will mostly be about informing visitors of the available alternatives to the private car, particularly lone users. Unlike most uses, a football ground has limited traffic through most of the week with sudden bursts every other Saturday and occasional mid-week evenings. Allowing for the closed season the club estimates 25 home matches per year.

1.04 These bursts comprise the odd mix of regular home supporters together with away supporters which will comprise a different group each match. Dependant on the distance to be travelled, the number of away supporters will vary greatly.

1.05 The core of the Travel Plan will be to provide information to supporters, particularly the away supporters on the facilities available for getting to the ground, particularly the location of stations, and bus stops for more local visiting teams.

1.06 The key place for this information will be the clubs' website. It should be noted that their website already contains travel information for all the away grounds they will visit this season coming and information for visiting supporters to Worthing FC can also be found. We have however, discussed with the club making this information much easier to find and giving it as much prominence as other aspects of the website.

https://worthingfc.com/

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2.00 Existing Facilities in the Surrounding Area

Walk and Cycle

2.01 In common with other football grounds, the majority of spectators travel to and from matches. either by walking, on public transport, or on arranged group coach travel. Being a local football club, most home supporters live locally, either within or close to, the town. Away supporters chosen modes will depend on the distance to be travelled but even those using the private car are likely to car share with other supporters, probably taking it in turns as to who drives.

2.02 Worthing FC is very well served by public transport by train and bus services, giving match day supporters a range of non-car based options for travelling to and from the ground. The club estimates that three-quarters (70-75%) of all match day attendees travel to the ground by public transport or organised group travel. Supporters typically use Worthing and West Worthing rail stations and local bus services. A significant proportion live in the neighbourhood and walk to the ground.

2.03 It is traditional for many football supporters to meet up prior to the match in local pubs, for food and drink, and then walk to the ground. This pattern of behaviour results in a much higher level of public transport use than would usually be expected. Football supporters also walk further than they would normally, turning the journey to the ground into part of the social occasion. Many Worthing FC supporters will walk from the pubs in the town centre to the ground before the match. Pubs such as the Three Fishes Wetherspoons on Chapel Road host many supporters on match days. This behaviour also staggers the arrival time of supporters into the town, and arrival at the ground.

2.04 The modal split for football matches is therefore generally has much lower private car use and higher public transport use compared to other uses.

2.05 The club has eight cycle racks for visitors, and it is known that these are all used on home games. The club intend doubling the number of racks as part of the improvement works.

Bus

2.06 The football ground is well served by local bus services with many under 600m on foot and laying on South Street, Tarring Road and South Farm Road. Services, operated by Stagecoach and Compass Travel include the numbers 7, 10 and 16 which, whilst predominantly serving local settlements, will be used by home supporters living in the surrounding residential area. The local routes are: -
No. 7: Lancing to High Salvington,
No. 10: Durrington to Worthing
No. 16: Lancing to West Tarring via Worthing

https://bustimes.org/localities/worthing-w-sussex

Rail

2.07 Worthing rail station is 640 metres away on foot, and West Worthing rail station 900 metres. Both stations are on the mainline from London Victoria to Southampton Central and Littlehampton, with regular hourly services.

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2.08 The club has a partnership with the operators of both rail stations. The manager of Worthing railway station, Brandon Graham, has provided a statement on the use of Worthing rail station on match days, both before and with the proposed north stand development.

2.09 Many Worthing fans live in Brighton and travel to matches by train from Brighton and Hove. This is evidenced by an increase in turnstile receipts on days when Brighton & Hove Albion play away. It is estimated that up to 200 Albion supporters come to Worthing FC on these days.

https://timetables.southernrailway.com/SN/#/timetables/2795/Table%20S
https://timetables.southernrailway.com/SN/#/timetables/2796/Table%20T

Away Supporters Travel

2.10 Away supporters usually travel in groups, many on coaches organised by their own clubs. This is common for football clubs across the country and saves supporters on the travel costs over the course of the season, particularly for those diehard supporters who attend many if not all away matches.

2.11 Worthing FC has an arrangement with Worthing High School for away coaches to park in their car park on South Farm Road, 500 metres from the ground. The club has use of three designated coach parking bays, for 52-seater coaches. Coaches drop supporters off at the ground and then park up at the school, returning to the ground to pick up supporters at the end of the match.

2.12 As mentioned, travel by away supporters will depend on several factors including distance, size of club, how well they are doing that season as well as if it is a mid-week evening game. One example given by the club is the visit of Torquay United last season (23/24) when they brought 305 fans with them, of which 50% came by club coach, and a further 40% by train. Due to the distance involved, many Torquay supporters made a weekend of it, staying overnight on Friday and Saturday in guest houses and hotels in Worthing. Worthing FC held a quiz night in the clubhouse on the Friday evening, which many Torquay supporters attended.

Private Car

2.13 Spectators who travel to the ground by car park on-street on nearby roads. There is no controlled parking zone so parking availability is on a first come, first served basis.

2.14 Fans are respectful of the neighbours, and it is very rare for the club to receive complaints from neighbours in respect of car parking. On match days the surrounding streets are patrolled by Council Parking Enforcement Officers, to enforce parking restrictions such as yellow lines.

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3.00 Objectives

3.01 The main objectives of the TPS are to clarify the measures that are available to supporters to reduce the number of single occupancy car trips associated with the improvements by promoting more sustainable alternatives such as walking, cycling, public transport and car sharing. The transport objectives are:

- Increase awareness of public transport, pedestrian and cycle facilities at the ground and the surrounding area
- To promote changes in travel behaviour and travel awareness and encourage the use of Public Transport and car-sharing.

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4.00 Travel Plan Measures

Information

4.01 The internet is now a primary source of most information and Worthing FC, along with many other football clubs, has a website which provides travel information, not only for those Worthing FC supporters attending away games but also for away supporters visiting Worthing FC, many for the first time.

4.02 The website contains information for travelling to the ground on foot, cycle, car and train. It also identifies the residential nature of surrounding parking but also identifies the nearest public car park to the ground, located off Queen Street approx. 1km walk from the ground.

4.03 The club, for this coming season, have creating a bespoke travel page on their website "Visit Us" which brings together the available information for home supporters, particularly new ones, and for visiting supporters. They also currently have a travel-guide page for all their away matches.

4.04 A great deal of the clubs' commercial activities will be done by e-mail; season tickets etc. and links to the website can be promoted when issuing tickets to supporters. It should be noted that regular e-mails are sent to season ticket holders and subscribers about upcoming matches and any other events and will be used to provide any new travel information.

Walking and Cycling

4.05 Worthing FC is a community club with many supporters in the local area, who walk to the ground on match days. As with those travelling by train, supporters living in the neighborhood meet in local pubs beforehand and then continue their walk to the ground.

4.06 Walking and cycling are the best forms of transport both in terms of individuals' health, cost and impact on the environment and the location of the ground already allows for encouraging supporters to cycle or walk. The website itself does encourage those who can, to consider walking and/or cycling to the ground.

Public Transport

4.07 As stated in 2.06 above, there are a number of bus stops within walking distance of the ground and serve several routes taking in the local residential areas. Bus information will be added to the website "Visit Us" page.

4.08 Worthing and West Worthing stations are just a 10-min walk from the ground with local services to Lancing, Goring, Durrington and more distant locations such as Brighton and Bognor Regis. Directions to the ground from these stations are on the website.

Parking

4.09 On street parking in the vicinity of the ground is generally unrestricted but is known to be heavily used. Some of the roads to the east of South Farm Road (nearer to Worthing station) are in a controlled parking zone which restrict parking, in particular between 2 -3 pm Saturday.

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4.10 Early in the new season (October 2024), parking surveys will be carried on two Saturdays', one with a home match taking place, and one with no match, the intention being, to consider what impact that matches may have on local parking stress. The scope (range) of the survey and indeed the opposition for the home match will be agreed with the LPA/HA.

4.11 The results of the surveys will be discussed with the LPA/HA and if concerns arise, then options will be considered for alleviating the problems. It is known for example, that some roads around the Amex Stadium in Brighton have "Permit holders only Event Days" restrictions in place.

4.12 The club can also discuss with the owners of "spare" parking to make if available on matchdays and supporters can be directed to these on the website. From personal experience, a local church provides 50+ matchday parking spaces 400m from Gillingham FC and a local school provided parking for supporters visiting Watford FC.

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Appendix A – Current website pages

- Front page showing tabs;
- “Visit Us” information;
- Travel information for away grounds.

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Worthing FC – Official Website
worthingfc.com
Metcheck | UK weather - Met O... | Mail | BBC Sport | GFC | Gills | Nationwide | Santander | Historical Football K... | Brennan B2 | TRICS® User Support | Cads 3D | BMaps | Google | Wikipedia | Imported From IE | Colours Of Football... | All Bookn



Men — Next Fixture

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN
WORTHING
14:00

Friendly
Sun 4 August
MKM Arena

Match Centre

Men — Latest Result

POOLE TOWN	2
WORTHING	0

Friendly
Tue 30 July
BlackGold Stadium

Match Centre | Report

Sammy Quayle returns for the 2024/25 season

Sammy Quayle becomes the 11th Red to commit for the 2024/25 season

Club News • 1 day ago

Search
ENG UK
03:20 PM 01/08/2024

Visit Us

Worthing FC's home matches take place at the Sussex Transport Community Stadium, situated in Worthing, West Sussex.



The Sussex Transport Community Stadium
Woodside Road
Worthing
West Sussex
BN14 7HQ

Getting here

We encourage visitors to travel to the ground by public transport wherever possible to reduce congestion and emissions.

Parking is available on local streets but please check parking restrictions and respect our neighbours by not blocking driveways.

On foot

If you live within a reasonable distance of the stadium, then please walk. There are several safe and well-lit footpaths approaching the stadium which make access on foot easy.

By bicycle

If you feel you live just a little too far from the stadium to walk, then how about cycling? The stadium is equipped with a secure cycle parking area to lock up your bikes safely.

By car

Get directions

Parking

Queen Street Car Park

An additional 80 spaces are available at the public car park situated behind the church in Queen Street. The post code for the church is BN14 7BJ and the entrance to the car park is on the left hand side of the church.

Walking from Queen Street Car Park to the ground: Turn right out of the car park into Queen Street and walk to the junction at the end. From the junction, turn left into South Farm Road. Go straight over the mini roundabout by Worthing High School and after around 200 yards take the second turning on the right, Bulkington Avenue. The second turning on the left down this road is Woodside Road and the stadium is 75 yards down the road on the right

If choosing to park in the roads surrounding the ground please remember to do so with respect and consideration to our neighbours.

Train

Both Worthing and West Worthing station are just a 10-minute walk from the Sussex Transport Community Stadium.

From Worthing Station From the front entrance turn right out of the station and walk adjacent to the train line along Cross Street to until you reach the crossing. Cross over the train line onto South Farm Road. Take the first left onto Pavilion Road, after around 300 metres Woodside Road is on your right.

If exiting the station via the back entrance exit the car park onto Southcourt Road and turn left, follow the road round until you meet Westcourt Road and turn left again. This will lead you onto South Farm Road where you can pick up the remaining directions above.

For Southern timetables, please visit southernrailway.com.

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Worthing
West Sussex
BN14 7HQ

Get Directions

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Travel Guide – St Albans

Handy information for Worthing supporters planning to make the trip to Clarence Park to support the Rebels at St Albans this Saturday (13th April)

Club News 3 months ago



Travel Guide – Dartford

A handy guide for supporters planning to follow the Rebels at Dartford on Tuesday night (9th April).

Club News 3 months ago



Travel Guide – Yeovil Town

A handy guide for supporters planning their journey to Huish Park to follow the Rebels on Saturday 6th April.

Club News 4 months ago



Travel Guide – Havant & Waterlooville

A useful guide for supporters planning their trip to the Draper Tools Community Stadium this Friday.

Club News 4 months ago



Travel Guide – Chippenham Town

A handy guide for supporters planning their journey to Wiltshire this weekend.

Club News 4 months ago



Travel Guide – Chelmsford City

Following the postponement of Saturday's trip to Dartford, Aarran Racine prepares for his first game in charge of Worthing as they face Chelmsford City on Monday night (4th March).

Club News 5 months ago



Travel Guide – Welling United

The Rebels make a midweek trip to South East London as they look to continue their impressive form in the National League South.

Club News 5 months ago



Travel Guide – Weymouth FC

The Rebels make the trip to the Bob Lucas Stadium on Saturday (17th February) as they target a fifth consecutive away win. He

Club News 5 months ago



Travel Guide – Aveley FC

The Rebels and the Millers will both be looking to extend their respective unbeaten runs this Saturday (3rd February) as Worthing make the trip to Parkside in the National League South.

Club News 6 months ago



Travel Guide – Tonbridge Angels

The Rebels are back on the road on Saturday (20th January) as they travel to Tonbridge Angels in the National League South.

Club News 6 months ago

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Woodside Road
Worthing