

YORK BUS FORUM

Open Meeting, 21 May 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ray Walker (Chair), Graham Collett (Vice-Chair), Andy D'Agorne, Jean Hart, Tony Hudson, Stuart Irwin, Doreen Magill, N McFarran, John Meredith, Brian Nye, William Owen, Ed Pearson, Diana Robinson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mick Gatenby (Arriva), Brandon Jones (First York), Brendan Murphy (CYC),

APOLOGIES: John Bibby, Mary Cannon, Debby Cobbett, Mary Fairbrother, Dave Merrett, Alan Robinson.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY: The meeting began with the cutting of a specially designed cake, to mark the third anniversary of the inception of YBF. Graham Collett was specifically thanked for his work in organising the production and delivery of the cake.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS: On behalf of all present the Chair congratulated Andy D'Agorne on being re-elected to CYC and being proposed (since confirmed) as Vice-Chair of the Council and Executive Member with responsibility for transport. He also congratulated Ed Pearson on being elected to the Council for the first time.

It was NOTED that John Bibby had resigned from the Committee but would remain active in YBF.

YORK STATION FRONTAGE: Brendan Murphy, CYC Project Manager for the station frontage redevelopment, showed plans of the proposed changes that they had now submitted for planning approval. Consultations were continuing with Historic England, Network Rail and LNER. Funding was in place for the demolition of the Queen Street Bridge which will first require the rerouting of the utilities that are currently attached to the bridge. The proposals also included

- short stay car park relocated to Parcel Square
- taxi rank eventually relocated to the area occupied by the short term carpark
- Tearoom Square paved and allowing for two way taxi traffic
- gyratory layout giving access to the station car park between ?
- possible multi storey car park (being considered by LNER)
- more emphasis on P & R to get to the station during the demolition and construction phase
- Portico area to be totally pedestrianised
- "tram shelter" to be used as a tourist information centre which could incorporate a bus information facility
- three long weekend road closures when the bridge is demolished but that can only happen when the services attached to the bridge are re-routed and an adjacent temporary road constructed

It was NOTED that road works for the York Central development will have started fairly soon but will have no impact on roads to the front of the station.

MINUTES OF MEETING 19 JANUARY, 2019 - AGREED

MATTERS ARISING - Caroline Mullen to be contacted re: further information she had promised to provide.

BUS TENDERS - It was NOTED that ten routes, financially supported by CYC, had been put out to tender with a closing date of 1 July. The tender documents were based on the 2016 decision not to support further evening and Sunday services. Members hoped that the new CYC political administration would review that decision.

FIRST YORK - Brandon Jones reported that

- taster tickets for services 1 and 4 would be delivered to households on those routes

- ridership on this new service was building up and that a drive for passengers had focused on staff at the hospital rather than on general publicity designed to raise public awareness
- First York had ordered 21 electric buses for the Park and Ride services and a demonstration bus was due in about four weeks for trials
- early indications are good for ridership on evening P & R services

TRAFFIC LIGHTS - It was NOTED that the Better Bus Fund was being used to ensure that traffic lights could be used to give priority to buses. The first lights to be upgraded were on Haxby Road and other, unspecified signals, were being considered.

OPEN DISCUSSION - The following issues were briefly considered

- more publicity needed to be given to the Plus Bus service
- Arriva reported that they will examine of routing the 415 service to Selby from the railway station once the station works are completed
- the chair reported that he had not yet been able to get information from CYC about the section 106 agreement for Germany Beck and any provisions within that for supporting bus services to and from the development - he would continue to pursue the matter
- members discussed the design of bus shelters and the need for them to be weatherproof and, at the very least, to have "perching bars"

YBF MANIFESTO - It was AGREED to bring a revised draft to another meeting and to find a term other than manifesto as a title.

WILDLIFE SITES AROUND YORK. Members COMMENDED the publication, by iTravel York, of a new booklet which specifically highlighted which bus services served the wildlife sites described in the booklet.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS: 18 June, 16 July, 20 August