

York Bus Forum Open Meeting Tuesday 19th September 2019

Attendees: Ray Walker (Chair), Graham Collett (Vice-Chair), Niall McFerran (Secretary), Alan Robinson (Membership Secretary), Debby Corbett, Brian Nye, Tony Hudson, Barry Thomas, Tony May (Speaker), John Whitworth, Mary Falkirk, Dee Boyle, Jean Hart, Stewart Irwin, David Stuart, Sam Basford, Doreen Magill, Debby Corbett, Geoff Beacon, Cllr. Andy d`Agorne, Denise Craghill

1. Apologies: Cllr. Edward Pearson, Gwen Vardigan, Dave Merrett
2. RW introduced the speaker, Professor Tony May, who gave a presentation on the work being currently undertaken by the York Civic Trust Transport Advisory Group to examine ways in which the people of the city and visitors to York can participate in the forthcoming Local Transport Plan for 2020. The input was to be wide ranging covering most of the transport issues and relied on a public consultation process to establish its findings.
3. RW congratulated the Civic Trust for its initiative and encouraged members to participate in the consultation. Cllr. d`Agorne confirmed that the officers of the council would produce the plan, but the impartial input from YCT was welcomed.
4. Comments regarding the out of town access to the city were raised and it is hoped that the Citizens Forum events that were part of this process would address these issues. RW requested that CYC should give consideration to supporting the process.
5. There were also discussions regarding those who had experienced cuts to their services and whether they would be consulted. TM outlined the efforts to engage with all sections of the community.
6. Station Front Project: AR brought the group up to date with his work on the revisions to this scheme, he was again thanked for his work. RW reported that an urgent meeting had been sought with Cllr. d`Agorne and Cllr. Fenton and the Project Manager Brendan Murphy. There is a problem of timetabling as the money to demolish the Queen St. Bridge is limited to March 2021.
7. David Stuart (DS) said that he had contacted Graham Collett (GC) about Connexions services and the conversion of their commercial services (especially No 13) to comply with the Bus Clean Air Zone (CAZ) . GC had sought advice from CYC who had indicated that Connexions would have a high priority for conversion grants and DS had passed this welcome information on to Connexions MD. The CAZ will be implemented in January 2020 with a 12 month grace period for bus operators to comply.
8. RW raised the issue of the transparency of the bus tendering process which has led to a considerable amount of confusion and lack of available information. Cllr. d`Agorne stated that some of the issues raised were liable to be subject to commercial confidentiality but agreed to look at improving this in the future
9. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 16th October

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