

## York Bus Forum Meeting Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL 17.30, by Zoom

Attending: Doreen Magill (Chair), Graham Collett (Vice Chair), Niall McFerran (Secretary), Shaun Millar (Speaker), Mary Harlington, Duncan Miller, Tony Hudson, Ian Anderson, Kevin Fradley, Mary Fairbrother, Ben Hughes, Julian Ridge (CYC), Dave Merrett, John Bibby, Gordon Smith, Jim from Harbus, Richard Parker, James Outterson, George Wood, Roger Pierce, Nick Beckett, Huw Kane, Geoff Beacon, Chris Love, Cllr. D'Agorne, Ian Mitchell, Richard Parker, Dr C. Fletcher, Diana Robinson, Edwin Barry Connor, Roger French, Barry Thomas, David Stuart, Ian Mitchell

1. D. Mag welcomed delegates to the meeting and reported apologies from Ed Pearson, Tony May, Gwen Vardigans and Gail Shuttleworth. RF asked if we should delay the AGM until the Finance Report was available, but it was agreed we proceed with the main part today and save any financial issues until the next meeting. AR delivered a verbal reassurance that the cash balance of approximately £495 existed and there would be a return to membership fees for this year.
2. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and there were no matters arising. The omission of Davis Stuart and Diana Robinson from the attendees list was noted.
3. York Bus Forum AGM  
The Chairman's report was delivered and accepted.  
The Secretary's report was delivered and accepted.  
Finance report was deferred to the May meeting.  
The current officials were re-elected.  
There was no other business.
4. Presentation by Stuart Millar from Iziar, a Spanish based multinational provider of bus transport systems on Rapid Bus Transit.  
BRT bridges the gap between rail and regular bus transport systems. The key is dedicated lanes used to bypass congestion on high use routes. The system needs to be integrated with modern ticketing systems and traffic control mechanisms which prioritise BRT vehicles.  
To be successful it requires involvement of local authorities, transport operators and manufacturers to ensure effective application.  
Currently being used in Birmingham, Manchester, Cambridge, Gosport, Bristol, Kent.  
Vehicles can now benefit from modern fast-charging technology to extend daily running times.  
Amiens case study provided access to service for 65% of population with growth of use from 7% to projected 12%.  
BH asked if vehicles had right-hand drive option? Yes  
EBC asked if guidance system was mechanical or electronic? The current system is mechanical but electronic systems are in development.  
DR asked how comfortable the vehicles are? The specification can alter according to customer requirements.  
GB asked if Planning Gain was used to finance the Kent system? Not known.  
NM asked about accessibility for disabled passengers. This can be achieved by ramps.

DM asked about the vehicle price verses conventional buses. There is an initial high price but projected lower running costs.

MF asked if vehicles can be heard approaching? A noise can be incorporated to warn pedestrians. Also, destination boards are LED and audio-visual stop information can be included.

RP asked about land allocation on main routes. JR responded that as road width issues exist there may be the need to consider routes off-road, it could be considered for Elvington/University/City Centre route.

BJ asked if a hybrid version using part dedicated part general traffic route could be considered.

GB asked about mixing BRT with other traffic. Yes, this can be done but ideal is to have dedicated routes.

Cllr. DA asked how the smart ticketing systems work and can non-payment be eliminated. It depends on the system specified.

DM asked if CYC would be considering changes to the Local Plan to incorporate a BRT element.

D. Mag thanked speaker for interesting presentation.

5. Under any other business DMag asked about the current problems boarding buses in Rougier Street as on the west-bound side the glass panels often obscure approaching vehicles making it difficult to signal intention to board. **Action:** JR to look into this and report back.
6. The next meeting is the 18<sup>th</sup> May which will be a members forum opportunity to engage with JR in discussing the bus improvement plan which CYC will be presenting to DfT before October. It was suggested that written questions or ideas could be submitted ahead of the meeting.