**York Bus Forum Meeting Tuesday 16th February 17.30, by Zoom**

Attending: Doreen Magill (Chair), Graham Collett (Vice Chair), Niall McFerran (Secretary), Alan Robinson (Membership secretary), Cllr. Kim Groves and David Pearson (Speakers), Duncan Miller, Tony Hudson, Ian Anderson, Lionel Lennox, Elanor Tew, Roger French, Kevin Fradley, Mary Fairbrother, Ben Hughes, Brandon Jones (First), Richard Hampton (CYC) David Stuart, Dave Merrett, John Bibby, Mary Harlington, Tony Hudson, Sharron Smith, Cllr. R. Melly, Gail Shuttleworth, Tony May, John Slaughter, Gordon Smith, Ann Briggs, Christian Martin, Diana Robinson, Jim from Harbus, Eden Blyth, Martin Higginson,

1. DMag welcomed delegates to another meeting especially our speakers from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.
2. There were reported apologies from Ed Pearson, Stuart Fillingham, Julian Ridge and William Owen.
3. Matter arising from Last minutes. NM had still not been in contact with A. D’Argorne regarding Green Party Meeting neither had we been successful in meeting with the parties involved in the Station Front decision.
4. Cllr Groves and Davis Pearson gave a presentation of the experiences of building a modern public transport network throughout West Yorkshire. This will be achieved by building a better bus partnership, focussing on new, young passengers making improvements to road networks to give priority to buses. The expansion of bus interchanges was also key but changes to commuting patterns will alter details of the business model. The target is to increase bus use by 25% by 2027.

JB asked if DRT was a part of the plan. KG suggested that driver costs may impact adversely the profitability, but it is being trialled in Leeds East.

TM asked if 2027 could be brought forward considering the environmental targets but KG responded that the pandemic had set the timetable back.

DR asked if driverless vehicles may form part of a future DRT option DP said this may be a future consideration.

BH asked why modern buses were not constructed with two doors for entering and leaving as this would speed up alighting times? BJ said this is in consideration, but it removes seating.

EB asked if long-term running costs outweighed the initial high capital cost of electric buses? BJ to respond.

MH asked about the value of long-term alliances in a changing environment and that focus has to be on future growth.

RP asked if with volume production the price of electric buses will reduce? KG replied that she was concerned about the low number of manufacturers in the UK.

NM asked if regional rather than local approaches to transport problems worked better. DP said that although there were a range of differences in the West Yorkshire area, were adopting a successful strategy.

1. AR reported on the outcome to the Station Front Planning Application. He reported that although we had only asked for small improvements these had not been adopted. He restated that the principle of transferring Station car parking capacity to the Park and Ride sites was inevitable. Cllr. Melly asked why this had not been considered, AR asked her to take this forward?

EB asked about the quality of the bus shelters at the Station Front, would they be adequate, RH responded that no specification had been submitted yet, but he would look into it.

NM reported that we had been asked by Lib Dem Councillors to submit ideas for promoting of post pandemic bus services. These had been submitted.

GC reported on first attendance at Quality Bus Partnership meeting, which was successful. He raised the issue of on bus audible and visual warnings of approaching stops and was awaiting an answer.

GC updated progress on bus stops campaign and welcomed presence of Richard Hampton who is now managing this function in the city for CYC. He also reported a forthcoming meeting with Age Concern and York Disability Rights Forum to agree a wider lobby. RH pointed out that bus shelters should carry no smoking notices. He stated that the programme to improve York’s shelters in under way with several being constructed and planned.

1. The date of the next meeting is 16th March and the subject Very Light Rail.