**York Bus Forum Meeting Tuesday 19th January 17.30, by Zoom**

Attending: Doreen Magill (Chair), Graham Collett (Vice Chair), Niall McFerran (Secretary), Alan Robinson (Membership secretary), Peter Kennan (Speaker), Duncan Miller, Tony Hudson, Ian Anderson, George Wood, Richard Parker, Lionel Lennox, Elanor Tew, Roger French, Kevin Fradley, Chris Love, Peter Jarman, Mary Cannon, Mary Fairbrother, Ben Hughes, Brandon Jones (First), Julian Ridge (CYC) David Stuart, Dave Merrett, John Bibby, Geoff Beacon, Mary Harlington, Colin Speakman, John Slaughter, Barry Thomas, Tony Hudson, Gwen Vardigans, Sharron Smith, Chloe Laversuch, Cllr. A. D’Argorne, Paul Chattwood, Chris Nash, Dave Flasher, Helen Grundy, Jim Forrest, Cllr. Ed Pearson, Lionel Lennox, Fran Postlethwaite, Gail Shuttleworth, Gordon Smith

1. D. Mag welcomed all to the meeting and recorded apologies from Tony May and Peter Scott
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and the matters arising would be taken in the agenda.
3. Peter Kennan, Chair of the Sheffield Chamber Transport Forum gave a presentation on the steps being undertaken in South Yorkshire to make improvements to the bus services. This involved surveying local bus users and stakeholders, visiting local authority regions that had implemented improvements and trying to establish a better framework for managing the relationship between suppliers and users of buses.

In order to make improvements issues of quality, poor connectivity and reliability have been identified. Attempts to introduce ticketing across the different bus companies and transport modes had been unsuccessful, transport funding has been cut and lack of local political leadership have held back progress.

To make improvements it is recommended that: a proper leadership structure is implemented, reforming the tendering/partnership mechanisms, improve funding with carbon neutral aim, work alongside planning authorities and adopt economic growth strategies.

It was pointed out that Covid had delayed process and that there was still a long way to go.

RP pointed out that problems having bus routes too far from users houses.

JB asked what sort of leadership is required? PK responded that a key local citizen would be an asset.

FP stated that many of the bus problems are rooted in the deregulation of the 1980’s and that Sheffield’s experience was not unique.

KF suggested that Sheffield and York suffer similar connectivity issues particularly regarding railway station access.

Cllr. D’Argorne suggested that this is the time to consider improvements to all transport infrastructures and that new technologies may change the way people make journeys.

1. In the officer’s reports, AR said that we were still awaiting a response from LNER to our pedestrian access paper. JR suggested that the measures put forward for a two-crossing solution would not offer great benefit according to his calculations. **Action:** to request a copy of JR’s work? In view of the short time to the Planning Meeting which will consider the work it was asked that we have an urgent meeting with Cllr. D’Argorne. **Action:** GC to arrange

**NM** reported on progress with our political campaign, we had conducted several meetings with Council members and were awaiting meetings with York MP’s. **Action:** NM asked Cllr. D’Argorne to follow up a request for a new meeting with the Green Party.

GC reported that we had a meeting with the York Disability Rights Forum who are also concerned regarding the quality of bus stops in the city. Work is continuing to identify likely sites for improvement.

GC also confirmed that we had secured speakers for meetings up until June and that our next meeting would be addressed by Cllr. Groves of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority

1. The only other business item was for GC to confirm that he would attend the next Quality Bus Partnership meeting on behalf of YBF. Cllr. Pearson was thanked for his help; it was suggested that we would need to agree our key issues ahead of the event.
2. The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 16th February