

York Bus Forum Meeting Tuesday 15th June 17.30, by Zoom

Attending: Doreen Magill (Chair), Graham Collett (Vice Chair), Niall McFerran (Secretary), Marc Bichtemann (Speaker), Duncan Miller, Tony Hudson, Ian Anderson, Kevin Fradley, Mary Fairbrother, Ben Hughes, Julian Ridge (CYC), Alan Robinson (Membership Sec.) John Bibby, George Wood, Ian Mitchell, Roger French, Barry Thomas, David Stuart, Ian Mitchell, Peter Hitchin, John Slaughter, Elanor Tew, Eden Blyth, Donald Southall, Catherine Croston (First), Gail Shuttleworth

1. Welcome and Apologies – Chair reported apologies from: Stuart Wilson, Lionel Lennox, Barry Connor and Brandon Jones.

2. Minutes of 18th May meeting – accepted.

3. Matters arising – none.

4. Presentation by Marc Bichtemann Managing Director First York Ltd “Bus services in York-a customer led approach”.

DMag. Commented that the philosophy appeared to emphasise the need to be data lead with little scope for imagination. MB responded that only commercial considerations could be taken into account.

EB asked how the relationship between First and CYC worked? MB and JR responded that it was very successful which can be measured by passenger satisfaction surveys.

RP would be having more control of the bus network encourage the Council to reduce congestion. MB doubted this.

NM asked what YBF could do to support efforts to encourage greater bus use? MB asked that we generate more positive bus stories.

IA asked if bus reliability could be improved by reducing congestion? MB replied that no easy solution existed.

DM asked why First concentrate on journeys to and from city centre?

MB responded that data suggests few cross-city journeys are taken.

BH asked if ticketing could be made simpler along the London model?

MB said all options available.

DMag. Stated that the reason most people only go to the city centre is that it was their only choice. JR reminded members that First is running a commercial company and orbital services may not be profitable.

5. York Bus Service Improvement Plan

JR thanked YBF for their submission.

KF still felt that there is poor communication and direction for passengers making journeys across town, a central point would improve this position.

GS advised East Yorkshire working with Parish Councils to address bus improvement suggestions.

GC wondered if there was an opportunity to have organisations in North and East Yorkshire communicate with each other regarding bus improvements? This suggestion was welcomed, and GC will be liaising coordinator.

6. Accounts for 2020 still being produced.

7. AOB

DMag has produced an alternative version of our website for comment.

Action: AR to circulate link.

Piccadilly bus stops. GC updated the position and response from recent news release. CC agreed to look at this. **Action:** DMag to send news release to CC.

GC asked if we could post meetings on You Tube, it was agreed that prior consent would be needed from attendees.

8. Date of Next Meeting July 20th speaker Ben Gilligan from EYBC