**York Bus Forum – Members Monthly Meeting 17.30-19.00 Tuesday 15th April 2025, by Zoom**

Attending: Doreen Magill, Andy D’Agorne (Secretary), Roger French (Finance and Membership), Dave Merrett, Jason Murgatroyd, Graham Collett, Ian Anderson, Wayne Blackburn, Tony Hudson, Eleanor Tew, Glen Simpson, Ian Overton (EY Buses), David Stuart, Duncan Miller, Eden Blyth (Moorbus), Gordon Campbell-Thomas, Nick Murray (Knapton and Rufforth P.C.), Ian Craven(Haxby Town Council), Lionel Lennox, John Hart, Roger Pierce, Robert West (Copmanthorpe Parish Council) Mary Fairbrother, Catherine Odell, Penny Stables, Fran Postlethwaite, Peter Monk-Steel, Chris Thompson (Pullman) and Terry French.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Doreen Magill welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Stephen Fenton, Dave Merrett, Kel Pizzuti,  Robin Jorimann, Anna Courtier, Joel Bradley, Dee Boyle, Niall McFerran, Christine Cooke (New Earswick Parish Council) , Cllr Philip Holder, Iris Wells, Tom Horner, Debby Cobbett, Judy Illing (York High Street Forum), Gail Shuttleworth and Mary Cannon.

1. Minutes of the 18th March meeting and matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda

The Minutes were approved with one correction:
Kel Pizzuti Head of Transdev Operations for Yorkshire agreed to take action to address the overcrowding on singled decker use on the Coastliner service.

1. Penny Stables, Wetherby Councillor, potential Wetherby- Tadcaster- York service

Penny Stables explained her ambition to improve cross border bus services for her area, in particular a bus service offering a direct link to York. To date Transdev have shown interest, West Yorkshire will consider contributing, and approaches have been made to N Yorkshire and the YNY Combined Authority. Andy D said that financial support for bus services would remain with York and N Yorkshire councils for the 2025-26 year but a longer term (3 year) support package would need to involve the CA.

1. Presentation Fran Postlethwaite- Better Buses Campaign

Fran showed 3 case studies from their June 2023 launch conference in York attended by 80 people in person and a further 40 online. Their aim is public control and ownership of bus services, with integrated ticketing option as a first step. Campaigning experiences from Derbyshire villages, Glossop, Sunderland and Sheffield were highlighted, and a Barnsley campaign to retain a service to a hospital when Stagecoach announced the loss of a service linking with the Broadway area. A limited service was secured with S Yorkshire mayoral funding. For more info https://betterbusescampaign.uk or email betterbusesnational@gmail.com

1. Enhanced Partnership-

Doreen Magill would attend Enhanced Partnership Meetings on behalf of YBF following Niall McFerran stepping down from the Committee.

1. YBF Meeting with Councillor Kate Ravilious 31st March 2025- Doreen Magill

Doreen Magill and Andy D’Agorne reported on a recent YNF Meeting with Councillor Kate Ravilious the City of York Council (CYC) Executive Lead for Transport.

The Council was to be restructured with decisions/ issues being shared across Heads of Departments to try and ensure better co-ordinated across departments with all implications being considered.

1. City of York Council issues

Due to Tom Horner not being able to attend the meeting little progress could be made on some of the issues

1. Dial a Ride Progress report- no update to report
2. Bus stop information screens list of new screen locations, progress update- no update to report
3. Paper timetables- reminder to operators of obligations- no update to report
4. Service 412 Knapton Services- Nick Murray reported that Rufforth and Knapton Parish Council has met with Guy Wallbanks and Cllr Ravilious from CYC to highlight concerns.
5. CYC/Bus operator respective responsibilities re road works clarification - It was noted that we should thank Joel (First Bus) for the prompt paper signs at Merchantgate recently when the no 10 and U1 services had to be diverted because of a burst water main on Walmgate.
6. Route champions proposal for pilot- no progress to report
7. Clifton Green stop for the Nos 2 and 30 services- The Clifton Green stop has now been a temporary arrangement for 14months. It was felt that urgent work should be done to move a bin and install a seat at the very least.
8. First Bus

Joel Bradley was unable to attend the meeting no progress could be reported on the issues on the agenda as below

1. Changes from April RE No 1 A service to improve early morning reliability actions proposed- Ian Craven reported that Haxby Town Council’s biggest issue was the routing of the number 1
2. Nos 10 and 11 improvements in service reliability actions proposed- no progress to report
3. Extended layovers at Railway station University buses- no progress to report

In Joel’s absence a number of issues were discussed as follows:

No 8 Park and ride and University buses blocking stops at timing points. It was suggested YBF should invite itravel representatives and Joel Bradley (First) to discuss at a future meeting
Ian Anderson said he had written to the council leader and James Gilchrist about Wiggington Rd congestion.
Andy D'Agorne highlighted the forthcoming proposed bus corridor to help tackle delays in the city centre. He suggested strongly that organisations represented on the YBF such as parish councils should lend weight to the changes as key to improving bus services that pass along the route from the station to Clifford St. Ian suggested a template letter of key points could be sent to members - Andy agreed to draft.

It was noted that the nos 6 and 11 now stop at Clifford Street, which was welcomed, and the suggestion was made that notices needed to be placed on bus stops to inform passengers.

1. Transdev

Due to the lack of a representative from Transdev no progress could be made.

1. Extended layovers- Stonebow and Rail station causing congestion- no progress to report
2. Extended layovers –Service 30 at Exhibition Square- no progress to report
3. East Yorkshire
4. Changes to improve service reliability
5. Service X45 to be shown on bus stops in York- Dave Overton (EYMS) will liaise with Tom Horner about the X45 service.
6. My service 16
7. Service My16 Revised service – transfer of contract to Pullman 7 April 2025
8. Route 16 has just started being operated by Pullman- it was reported that passengers have noticed a big improvement with helpful drivers - Chris Thompson will report this back to the staff.
Peter Monk Steel - wheelchair user expressed nervousness that he could get stranded using the bus which has only one wheelchair space and is an infrequent service. Chris responded to say that they had enquired about a different design but delivery time would be at least 18 months longer.
9. Any other business

The need to have more committee members to fill vacant posts (Vice Chair and Secretary and Accessibility roles need filling) or reduce activity was discussed. Roger Pierce expressed interest in helping in some way. It was suggested that members be invited to express views on in person meetings - Dave Merrett will enquire about room availability in West Offices.

1. Date of next meeting- 20th May 2025 5.30 p.m. by Zoom