

**YORK ENVIRONMENT FORUM
MINUTES OF MEETING ON Feb.10th.2015**

Present:

Philip Crowe	York Tomorrow
Carole Green	Bishophthorpe PC
Cllr. Andy d'Agorne	CYC Green Group
Cllr.Dave Merrett	CYC Labour Group
Anna Bialkowska	Tang Hall Big Local
Richard Lane	YRAIN/York Community Energy
Alison Sinclair	YOPF, Cons.Area Advisory Panel
Ron Healey	CTC N.Yorks.
Penny Bainbridge	Edible York
Mick Phythian	YNET
Ivana Jakubkova	St.Nicks
Barry Otley	Wheatlands Community Woodland
Linda Maggs	Friends of Hagg Wood/YNET
Adrian Lovett	Schumacher North
Alastair Cooper	York Quakers Friargate
Hugh Cripps	Yorks Energy Partnership
Tony Clarke	CYC
Mike Southcombe	CYC
David Short	CYC

Chair: Phil Bixby

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies;John Cossham; Welcome to Tony Clarke, Mike Southcombe, David Short

2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

agreed.

3 MATTERS ARISING

PB reported that comments on the Local Plan (mainly on the built environment) had been sent in. PC reported that he had put forward the YEF additional comments on safeguarded land at a further meeting of the Local Plan Working Group on Jan.29th.

4 REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP and SUBSCRIPTIONS

Penny B.noted that there were now 26 paid-up members of the. YEF. She had attended the Parish Council workshop on Jan.22nd.and would continue contact with the PC's. AS reported that the Planning Forum accounts were almost complete and ready for signing off.

5 TRANSPORT STRATEGY UPDATE-Tony Clark, Mike Southcombe

TC reported the following points:-

- ◆ a congestion commission was to be set up.
- ◆ the high car usage in York's catchment area, particularly commuting from the east, was a cause for concern.
- ◆ the aim was to offer "quality options" as alternatives to car travel, encouraged by a programme of behaviour change through better information.
- ◆ city centre living was to be encouraged, if this led to a reduction in car use.
- ◆ there would be increased emphasis on city centre parking restrictions.
- ◆ development of Park and Ride would continue.
- ◆ the area round the station would be improved as an interchange point, and bids had been submitted.
- ◆ better access to the rear of the station was being considered.
- ◆ there would be improvements to the real-time bus information system.
- ◆ there would be development in electric bus services via grants, in conjunction with the Quality Bus Partnership.
- ◆ bids had been submitted for northern ring road junction improvements.
- ◆ the potential benefits of better links with Sheffield and Birmingham through HS2 would be explored.

MS reported the following points:-

- ◆ it was important to reduce small particulate emissions city wide.
- ◆ York was being promoted as a "low emission champion", with a "holistic" low emission strategy, and funding was being pursued.
- ◆ electric buses could make a significant contribution. One local taxi firm was now using low emission vehicles.
- ◆ there was to be a roll-out of fast charging points to encourage electric vehicle use.
- ◆ a compressed gas station for HGV's was being considered.
- ◆ low emission car clubs were being discussed with adjoining authorities.
- ◆ clean air zones for buses, with an anti-idling strategy, are under consideration for 2018.

6 TRAVEL BEHAVIOUR CHANGE-David Short-iTravel York

DS reported the following points:-

- ◆ it was intended to initiate a "one stop shop" for all travel initiatives and enquiries by 2016, and funds were available.
- ◆ there had been considerable success in promoting personal travel plans in the NE quadrant of the city, and to reduce single occupant car journeys.
- ◆ sustainable A-B journey planners were being developed, and car share encouraged.
- ◆ the take-up of secure cycle lockers at P+R sites was growing.
- ◆ social media as well as extensive field work were being used to provide information and encouragement in the use of alternative transport modes.

Members asked:-

Was congestion charging being considered, and if not why not?

Was it accepted that a green infrastructure network would make cycling and walking attractive options?

Was match funding available to businesses to provide cycle storage and changing facilities?

Was P+R being promoted in hotel publicity as part of any tourist initiatives?

How were the projected outcomes of these initiatives being evaluated?

Were these messages being circulated through estate agents to potential house buyers, and through schools programmes?

Would CYC support urban street tree planting as a medium to long term contributor to reducing air pollution in order to reach targets?

Members thanked the speakers for their informative presentations.

7 TERRY'S CLOCKTOWER FORUM - Alison Sinclair

not discussed due to meeting overrun.

8 A.O.B.

BO&MPh. reported on progress on their infrastructure report for inclusion in the Local Plan.

NEXT MEETING

Date	Tues. 10th.Mar.2015 4.00-6.00pm.
Venue	West Offices - George Hudson room
Agenda	tbc

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