

**YORK ENVIRONMENT FORUM
MINUTES OF MEETING 13th.Nov.2018**

Present:

Philip Crowe	York Tomorrow
Penny Bainbridge	Edible York
Roger Pierce	Friargate Quakers, York Bus Forum
Ron Healey	CPRE Nth.Yorks
John Bibby	York Bus Forum
Andy d'Agome	Green Party/individual member
Sara Robin	Yorks.Wildlife Trust
Graham Collett	Rail Future York, York Bus Forum
Tony Clarke	CYC Head of Transport

Chair Philip Crowe

1 WELCOME, APOLOGIES, MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Apologies: Barry Otley, Carole Green, Cllr.Mary Cannon, Tom Waring, Audrey Miller, June Tranmer, Cllr.Denise Craghill, Adrian Lovett, Dave Merrett

2 minutes agreed.

RH reported on the "Foundation for Integrated Transport" and the "Transport for New Homes" campaigns for rationalisation of the planning system (info@transportfornewhomes.org.uk) .

JB reported on the anti-terrorist measures being introduced, with concerns over the safety of passengers at pavement bus stops, and the benefits of a central bus station. A d'A noted that these measures had to be locally funded, were to be introduced in three phases, and that disabled people would inevitably be marginalised in the interest of the greater good.

SR reported on continued involvement in the Drax applications to move towards gas, with unresolved environmental implications, particularly regarding the use of wood pellet fuel as a bridging solution.

A d'A reported ongoing concerns over fracking and the associated research. Northern Gas Networks was considering its long term conversion to hydrogen.

3 FOSSGATE IMPROVEMENTS

The YEF had already made representations in response to the latest proposals. Members were concerned over the consultation procedures, as it appeared that firm and detailed decisions had been made well before any public response to an outline design brief for the scheme had been called for. As a result there has been considerable criticism of the proposals, which might have been avoided if a master plan had been put forward for comment before a costly detailed design had been produced. If these difficulties cannot be resolved there is a risk that the scheme could be delayed until 2019-2020. Many issues related to pedestrian safety, disability access and cycle and vehicle circulation. It was not clear how the scheme fitted in with a comprehensive traffic management policy for the city centre, and appeared to have been considered in isolation. There needs to be a structure in place to mediate between the conflicting interests if the public are to have confidence in the result. It was not clear if the proposals met the criteria embedded in the CYC "One Planet

York" principles. In summary, members were disappointed in the way this scheme has been handled, and hoped that CYC would look closely at its procedures in future if public concern was to be allayed.

4 OUTER RING ROAD + OTHER PROJECTS - Tony Clarke

Overall funding for improvements to the A1237 had not yet been confirmed. Improvements to the seven roundabouts had been confirmed in principle, with Wetherby Road approaching completion, to be followed by Monks Cross. This is a phased programme. It was hoped to secure funding for dualling from the A19 to the Hopgrove in line with Govt. announcements, but this is not yet confirmed, and subject to a staged bidding process. Total cost of both schemes could be c.£60 million. The DfT is now prepared to look at dualling from the A59 to the A19 as a long term project.

The provision of a P+R at Wigginton Road had been discounted some time ago, and it should be noted that the existing P+R sites were not being used to capacity. Whether any sites could be used as "after hours" car parks would be a matter for the operator, currently First York.

A six months design programme was under way to rationalise traffic flows within and around the city centre. Changes in traffic management technology has influenced the finalisation of the Local Transport Plan, not yet incorporated into the CYC Local Plan submissions.

Members thanked Tony Clarke for his update, and looked forward to further presentations in the coming months.

A.O.B.

At home

Edible York was meeting on Nov.21st. at the ~~Ascom~~ 7-9.0 to discuss herb growing.
York Bus Forum was meeting on Nov.20th. at West Offices

NEXT MEETING

Date	Tues.Dec.11th.2018
Venue	West Offices
Agenda	as tabled

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