

YBF Meeting: Tuesday 8 November, 6-7.30pm; West Offices: Minutes (DRAFT)

Present: Graham Collett (Meeting Chair), Ron Healey (RH) (left midway), Colin Wood, Toby Hart, John Bibby (Minutes)

Apologies: Andy D'Agorne, Diane Robinson (DR), Eleanor Tew (ET), Dee Boyle (DB), Dave Merrett (DM)

1. **Introduction:** RH was leaving early so GC would chair. He extended a warm welcome to Colin Wood.
Note from Graham: Colin is a new member from Poppleton: *colin.wood20@btinternet.com* He is the Poppleton station adopter for Northern Rail and reports anything which needs doing on the station. As Northern have not yet changed their poster giving info on bus connections from Poppleton, Colin has, on his own initiative, (but with Northern's permission) put up a temporary notice telling people the No 20 doesn't go there any more. Good work!
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** These were accepted as an excellent and correct record. **Agreed:** In future we will aim to get draft Minutes circulated within 7 days, so those not attending can keep in touch.
3. **Matters Arising:**
 - (a) **JRF Grant:** This was successful. £1700 may now be expected to cover till end of 2017. This is £1200 "core" and £500 for Access Working Group. Careful management will be necessary. DM should lead. It was suggested that £100 should be allocated to develop an "events kit bag". This will contain items needed for display stalls etc. (Carrier-bag plus Ron's file was passed on to JB. Ron still has display panels.) **Action: JB/DM will convene a "Finance Group" to meet and report before next meeting on how to manage this grant and other funds. This group will consist of JB+DM+Eleanor + anyone else who wants to be a member. This group will also advise on AGM arrangements (see below).**
 - (b) **Bank accounts:** This has not yet been opened and is now urgent as we cannot receive the JRF funds until it is open and active. Graham has paper which JB+RH must sign and return to DM. JB will arrange this.
Action: DM
 - (c) **Membership records:** JB reported that all his lists were sent some time ago to DM, who he believes is now keeping them up to date. Some concern expressed about the accuracy and completeness of these lists esp. as regards corporate members, for which JB apologised. **Action: DM to forward a consolidated list that others may comment upon.**
 - (d) **Bus Station etc. Agreed:** We should generally refer to "bus interchange(s)" rather than "bus station". This emphasises the need to interchange with non-bus transport and also leaves open the question of how many interchange(s) there should be. The issue will come up at the York Central Community Forum (YCCF – see below). **Action: JB to report back from YCCF meeting on 14/11. (From October meeting: GC to check VTEC franchise agreement and report back)**
 - (e) **York Central Community Forum (YCCF).** At the 4pm YEF meeting, concern had been expressed that YCCF was not very "community" based, and JB had mentioned two important YBF constituencies – young people and disabled people – who seem to have been excluded completely. He intended to make this point at the meeting. **Agreed: JB should make these points on behalf of YBF, and try to arrange for Will Peacock from York Youth Council and Eleanor Tew to attend for YBF. He would also try to find out more about the YC "Universal Bus Pass" policy.**
4. **Working Groups & Website**
 - a. **Parish Councils/Community Groups WG:** This was agreed to be important. **Action: RH will draft a Membership Invitation Letter to go to parish councils and other group, and a list of contacts.**

- b. **Access Working Group:** JB reported that Eleanor is making progress on this. He will meet with her before the next meeting. The JRF funding should make things easier.
 - c. **Network Working Group:** It was agreed to keep this separate from the Parish Council/Community Group WG.
Action: RH/TH
 - d. **Website:** GC thanked Paul Colbeck for producing first drafts of our new website pages **Action:** **Graham will circulate these and will consolidate responses.**
5. **Relations with City of York PT Team:**
- a. JB/TH: no progress on "Route 20 Campaign". CYC's initial enthusiasm had dissipated. JB still planning Route 20 pilgrimage on 24/11. All welcome to join!
 - b. Issues regarding change of bus stops near Theatre Royal and Stonebow: **Action: It was agreed that JB would write to First Group (GC to draft, based on information to be supplied by TH).**
6. **Membership and Aims.** Thanks to DM for good discussion paper. The indicated membership rates were agreed as minima. Membership documents should stress this and say e.g. "We encourage members to add a donation to the specified minimum rate wherever possible". Donations would continue to be separately identified on the membership form, as required for accounting purposes.
Action: DM
7. **Buses Bill prospects and challenges.** We felt we were not yet well-briefed on this. It was a changing situation. Should we invite Rachael Maskell to come and address us? She has recently spoken out on bus issues e.g. that route 59 should be diverted to go through Acomb. **Agreed we will re-visit this issue when the position on the Buses Bill becomes clearer.**
8. **P&R:** P&R can impact negatively on local bus use. But it can be managed to have positive impact e.g. by running P&Rs through town e.g. from Monks Cross to Askham Bar. This reduces city-centre waiting and increases available journeys (eg for Aviva staff travelling from the station to Monks Cross)
9. **Meetings incl. AGM:** There were varying views about having the timing and frequency of meetings. **Agreed: It was decided to leave things unchanged until next year's AGM. In December we would aim for a festive air (JB to arrange and advertise).** He apologised for typos in the draft constitution, which should read "AGMs shall be held at least once each calendar year, usually in the period February to May." **Action: JB to amend and re-issue the constitution. The Finance WG (see above) to make recommendations re the timing and location of the 2017 AGM.**
10. **Promoting use of public transport, CBT Guidance, SC visit?** It was still unclear what the best plan would be for Steve Chambers' visit. Steve may be attending the TfN workshop run by CBT in Leeds on 22nd November (am) and could visit York in the afternoon if he is available. It was also suggested that he might be invited to speak to our AGM regarding the Buses Bill. Rachael Maskell MP might also be invited. **Action: TH to develop and make proposals.**