**York Bus Forum – Members Monthly Meeting 17.30-19.00 Tuesday 19th March 2024, by Zoom**

Attending: Doreen Magill (Chair), Graham Collett (Vice Chair), Niall McFerran (Secretary), Roger French (Finance and Membership), Alan Robinson, Tony Hudson, Dave Merrett, Michael Howard (CYC), Jim Forrest, Jason Murgatroyd, John Bibby, Catherine Odell, Roger Pierce, Richard Parker, Duncan Millar, David Stuart, Terry French, Dee Boyle, Lionel Lennox, Ian Anderson, Peter Kitchin, George Wood, Ian Crowe (Haxby Town Council), Wayne Blackburn, Tom Donnelly (First), Clive Burns, Kevin Fradley, Duncan Millar, Diana Robinson and Eden Blyth.

1. The Chair welcomed delegates and reported apologies from Debbie Cobbett, Cllr. Fenton, Andy D’Agorne, Gail Shuttleworth, Mary Cannon, John Hart, Iris Wells, Christine Cooke and Mary Fairbrother. It was also announced that the speaker for the evening is unable to attend.
2. Minutes of last meeting were approved.
3. There were no matters arising.
4. Dial and Ride – GC advised of a meeting with the Council group tasked to find a resolution to this problem following the withdrawal of the service. This group consists of Councillors Fenton, Burton and Steward. The YBF were able to make several suggestions as to possible ideas to follow up.

Roger P expressed his view that taxis would be an expensive element of any solution.

GW commented that the service was primarily used by aged and disabled passengers in the city.

MH advised that the problems stemmed from the purchase of two unsuccessful vehicles that were not supported by warranty due to the liquidation of the manufacturer. Other options had been considered but they were now more expensive.

DB expressed her concern regarding the negative impact on disadvantaged peoples.

KF pointed out that similar services are offered in other local authority areas, his experience was the bus operated from Hornsea.

DM suggested that this could be set up by the Council with them running the vehicles while York Wheels could share the booking system and continue to run the voluntary car service.

EB suggested contacting Ryedale as they also have this type of service.

RP suggested that York Wheels must have good data regarding passenger trips.

1. Station Gateway – David Smith has been helpful in opening up discussions at CYC. Revisions to the designs seem to have made cycle route segregation a priority, this has created a large number of pedestrian crossings. This has been raised by Cllr. Kilbane.

GC we are hoping to have further discussions with CYC regarding the bus stop numbers and design.

AR is in discussions with The Press regarding the concerns of YBF.

RogerP felt that the whole scheme including Tadcaster Road had provided no significant improvements for anyone!

RF concluded that we need to pursue CYC strongly for a meeting.

TD pointed out that there is a potential for buses to crowd the space allocated and that less stops will improve flexibility for the drivers. It also gave more room for buses to pull up nearer to the kerbs.

DMag. felt that it will be less convenient for the passengers.

IA expressed concern for the whole issue given the amount of time this had been under consideration and the poor amount of consultation; he suggested a re-think.

RP expressed concern regarding the buses that wait at the station, they should wait elsewhere.

AR agreed that these issues should have been addressed earlier.

GC was also concerned regarding the apparent lack of consultation with the bus operators.

DMag. confirmed that the YBF are opposed to only having eight bus stops outside the station.

1. EP meeting – GC reported that this meeting was more successful than previous events. There was some progress on the BSIP plans.

MH advised that the new Head of Sustainable Transport, Tom Horner is working on the extension of bus priority lanes and greater use of the Park and Ride sites.

GW asked re-consultation of P&R site development, this will occur.

1. First Bus meeting – NM reported another useful meeting with discussions mainly centred on passenger information and concerns regarding the recent road work events and their timetable impacts.

DB asked when there will be announcements regarding new routes, TD advised that the No.2 will be shortly moving to a 10-minute frequency.

1. Coastliner – Major impact of road works on this route with limited advice to passengers. MH expressed his concern that the operator had not done more to alert passengers as they are required.

RP suggested that CYC also needs to work with operators to advise road work issues.

GC advised that north Yorks are targeting an increase in the number of services.

1. AOB

DB asked what is happening on Sundays? The No.2 service operates from 9.31 but the ticket office opens at 9.30! TD advised tickets can be purchased on the bus, and from April 7th the bus will run from 9.00.

AR asked if the No.10 service will be split? TD said that there is a review that will consider broader changes.

IG raised the issue of the No.13 service reducing its route in Haxby to exclude many passengers.

GC advised that this is only a proposal and should not have begun. MH agreed to take this up.

IA asked if there is a nomination for Vice Chair as GC is leaving that post? Nm said that if the members agree he will take up the post.

TD advised that there are some new fares about to be launched such as a reduction on the Family Fare package, now £5 from £9. Also, that Stamford Bridge work will now commence mid-May.

1. DNM is April 23rd.