



Bus Operators and Council working together to deliver better bus services for York

York Quality Bus Partnership meeting minutes: 15th December 2015

<u>Item</u>	<u>Action by:</u>
<p>1. Present (whole meeting): Keith McNally (Chair - KMc), Richard Godson (CPT - RG) Bob Rackley (EYMS - BR), Will Pearson (First - WP), Cindy Locker (Transdev - CL), Matt Ashton (Arriva - MA), John Duff (Reliance - JD), David Stephenson (Stephenson's of Easingwold - DS) Andrew Bradley (CYC - AB), Julian Ridge (CYC - JR), Sam Fryers (CYC - SF), Derek McCreddie (CYC - DMc).</p> <p>Present (first hour of meeting): Cllr David Levene (CDL); Cllr Ann Reid (CAR); Cllr Keith Orrell (CKO); Cllr Andy D'Agorne (CAD); Cllr Ian Gillies (CIG)</p> <p>Apologies: Tony Clarke (CYC); Ben Manuja (CYC).</p>	
<p>2. Presentation to Council Members: Keith McNally, Andrew Bradley and Julian Ridge made a 30 minute presentation to Councillors on York's bus network, background, functions, achievement and ongoing work.</p>	All to note
<p>3. Council Member Questions on the presentation:</p> <p>Cllr Levene asked if the QBP was meeting every 6 months, or every 3 months, and voiced a view that councillors were not being included within the QBP's decision making process. Cllr Gillies suggested that 6 months was the appropriate gap between meetings as it allowed members to be engaged in and aware of the QBP's activity and could feed in, without over-managing the delivery of bus services in York.</p> <p>Cllr Reid asked if members could see meeting agendas in advance so that they could comment or make views known on subjects which would be discussed.</p> <p>Cllr D'Agorne raised a concern that the QBP process was not transparent.</p> <p>John Duff made the point that QBP meetings were about the "nuts and bolts" of bus operation in York and his preference was that the QBP should focus on operational issues, not political issues.</p> <p>Cllr Orrell asked for an update on Green Buses. DMc said that CYC's efforts focus mainly on the buses which are used intensively in York (e.g. on local services rather than inter-urban or services to rural</p>	

<p>areas) and that CYC wanted to encourage operators to consider using larger electric buses than the Optare Solos currently in use on the Poppleton Bar/ Monks Cross park and ride services.</p> <p>Cllr Gillies asked why some of the information given out by the real time system appeared inaccurate, and that inaccurate information undermined confidence in York's bus network. AB replied that the back office system for RTI was being renewed and this would lead to an improvement in the quality of the information given out on the screens/ text service.</p> <p>Cllr Levene asked how the York smartcard would work with several different products on each card. SF said that that was easy to deal with and said that cards could be updated either on-line or at Payzone outlets (e.g. in many newsagents).</p> <p>The Council members left the meeting</p>	<p>All to note points raised.</p>
<p>4. & 5 Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting:</p> <p>Item 3: Will Pearson reported that First York's new MD, Marc Bichtemann, would be starting with the company on 1st February.</p> <p>Item 5: Low emissions bus grant: DMc reported that CYC are awaiting details of a possible January contest</p> <p>Item 8: engagement with the business community – following the departure of Ben Gilligan, it was agreed that this item should be carried forward.</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.</p>	<p>All to note</p>
<p>6. Smartcards: AB gave an update and said that Ben Manuja was now developing the products with bus operators and asked operators to support him in undertaking this work.</p> <p>BM committed to issuing an update to operators on the current position.</p>	<p>Bus operators to assist BM</p> <p>BM to issue an update</p>
<p>7. Low Emission Bus/Clean Bus Fund bids. DMc updated the group on progress and asked for operators to notify him or AB if they have submitted a bid to DfT for either fund.</p>	<p>Operators to notify CYC</p>
<p>8. Public Punctuality indicators: SF presented a proposed format for an indicator. Operators asked if it could be updated to include a commentary noting disruptive events (e.g. weather, streetworks in York, disruption on A64 increasing city centre traffic levels etc.</p>	<p>CYC to prepare new draft</p>
<p>9. Devolution: Not discussed (Tony Clarke absent due to illness)</p>	<p>Roll to next meeting</p>
<p>10. Park and ride procurement/ bus cuts: AB updated that the park and</p>	<p>All to note</p>

<p>ride tender process would start in February or March, subject to an announcement about York’s Low Emission Bus Fund bid. With regard to “Bus Cuts” AB noted that this was awaiting a political decision on CYC’s 2016/17 budget. Operators would be updated in February once the budget setting process was complete.</p>	
<p>11. Sub-group updates: SF gave an update on Performance Group and upcoming events. JR updated on the Bus User Group surgery recently held in York Explore (formerly the central library) where most views expressed had focussed on First’s recent network changes, and thanks Arriva, EYMS and First for taking part in the event. JR said that there would be a separate meeting about the Better Bus Area in January.</p>	<p>All to note, JR to advise date for BBA meeting</p>
<p>12. AOB: AB said that funding had been secured to fund a continuation of the LSTF website (www.itravelyork.info), and that CYC were awaiting further information both on the evaluation of the LSTF programme (currently being undertaken by JMP Consulting) and whether there would be a round of LSTF type funding for the 2016/2017 year.</p> <p>AB also reminded operators about the reduced price travel offer for young people in York for January – February 2016.</p>	<p>All to note</p>
<p>13. Date of next meeting: to be advised.</p>	