

# **Minutes of A660 Joint Council meeting Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014 7.30pm at HEART**

## **Attendance**

**Present:** BM, EP, JF, DF, CR, CF, TB, IS, DW, CT, MS, GL, NS, SS, GR, RR, CP, CH, MM, HP

**Apologies:** SB, MT, JG, DCJ

## **Agreement of minutes**

Minutes accepted as an accurate record of 20<sup>th</sup> October meeting.

## **Matters arising**

Site visit to Whitfields went well. Hilary Benn has said he'll need to see the Whitfields for himself to decide on the best route. Cllr James Lewis hasn't been in touch after offering a meeting at the Yorkshire Evening Post event. EP and DF confirmed lots of people in south Leeds still don't know about the scheme. Local councilors didn't know about losing Belle Isle Circus.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Cheque for £200 to Drummond and Churchwood Residents for heritage advice has been handed over. Cheque to BM for £500 for legal opinion on land appropriation has been handed over. £70 has been given to Chris for badges. BM has paid in £50 from the collection at our last meeting. This should leave a balance of £821.80. In future TB will give people claim forms to sign. TB said Leeds Building Society is trying to scrap cheques by 8<sup>th</sup> December. Metro have refused to reimburse Drummond and Churchwood Residents for the additional expenditure caused by additional heritage report.

## **Inquiry**

BM reported that the inspector had refused to accept a report he'd written which shows that the council's 2011 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment, and Draft Site Allocations Plan contain errors and that Hyde Park and Woodhouse actually has a shortage in all categories of open space. SS said she'd experienced the same thing after she'd given evidence revealing a serious flaw in the promoter's case. The inspector had said it could be discussed outside the inquiry. Then Metro put in a rebuttal, and SS put in an extremely well-argued rebuttal of Metro's rebuttal. But the inspector refused to accept the rebuttal from SS. Metro's rebuttal isn't shown on the Persona website.

## **AOB**

There's been a debate at the Civic Hall by the full council on the Core Strategy. The result is that NGT is included as part of the Core Strategy. The Lib Dems voted in favour and the Conservatives abstained. Hilary Benn was on TV talking about bus re-regulation. All three parties support it because of the chaos caused by de-regulation. There followed a discussion on the devolution of powers to the regions. DW said we need to press for the transport scheme that Leeds deserves, be it jet packs or an underground. DW said that Metro has recently done a presentation on NGT to Leeds University Transport Group and will be doing another presentation in Manchester next year. CT said that the Civic Trust annual reports show the increase in corporate influence over the body as years have gone by. CR has had a reply to her FOI request for official transcripts and has been told none were made. SS said that the Metro secretary said she was taking notes when SS asked her if she was making a verbatim record. CT said that DT has said we should get professional journals to publish articles as a way of getting national interest. CP recommended we go to Scarborough to speak to MP Robert Goodwill. NS suggested we contact 'Made in Leeds' TV station. HP suggested sending them Claire's Whitfields video and putting them in touch with DF. There followed a discussion about setting up a

hustings event and inviting all prospective candidates to put their views on NGT. CP suggested we also go to their surgeries. A discussion followed about the next meeting of the Metro board. It was decided that BM would draft an email for CF to send to the board letting them know how the inquiry really went. CF asked if we could get something into North Leeds Life about the greenspace issue. BM said he'd write an article to send to them. HP suggested we have a champion for the city centre, and offered to write a letter about the city centre.

### **Collection**

This came to £97.50.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January if room available.