

Minutes of A660 Joint Council Monday 11th August 2014 7.30pm at HEART

Attendance

Present : BM, MB, MS, SB, GR, RR, DF, JF, JR, SS, TB, TS, DCJ (chair)

Apologies : HP, MM, MT, EP, CF, CR

Agreement of minutes

Minutes accepted as an accurate record of the 7th July meeting.

Matters arising

BM passed on CR's thanks to the group for facilitating the new recording equipment and reported that the new equipment is operating well.

Treasurer's Report

TB reported that the balance is £903.53.

Collection

The collection was taken at this point and amounted to £70.

Inquiry reports

TS said there have been long arguments about the submission of the new heritage report. SS said that the inspector has agreed to admit it but with conditions. It won't replace the original document. MB said that the inspector will only allow cross examination on new points. SS said that we have until the 4th September to make a response to the new document. DCJ said the new document is nearly 400 pages long, and that Metro is claiming there's nothing wrong with the old report, and that this new one is to help people, and contains information that could have been included in the original report, but wasn't.

Any Other Business

The inquiry will recommence on the 2nd September. TS said it's rumoured that the original estimated cost of NGT of £250 million has doubled. MB said GG has pointed out that NGT's costings do not include the cost of three sub-stations and that each sub-station costs £100k. DCJ said that GG has pointed out that they've not included cabling costs either. DCJ then read out Greg Mulholland's Early Day Motion put to parliament on the 22nd July. MB said that the NGT case depends on park and ride and that the park and ride at Elland Road is a disaster. MS said it has just 25 cars each day. MB said it's another white elephant. MB said it's too close to the city centre and people don't expect to pay to use park and ride. A new park and ride at York was full on its first day of opening. MB said that development of the LGHS site is on hold because of NGT. DCJ said LGHS has put in an application to build on part of the Rose Court site. DF said that there is greater awareness now that the Whitfields will be affected by NGT. A local petition against the scheme already has 450 signatures. A protest is planned for 11.30am on 15.8.14. The Garden Gate has re-opened and will be having a Fun Day over the August

Bank Holiday weekend. A metal arm will be attached to the building as part of the scheme. DF said she spoke recently to a lady at the nursery who knew nothing about the scheme. DF spoke today to staff at the nursery. 45 children attend the local nursery. TS said Metro can't say what the stopping distance of the trolleybus would be. DF said that after she spoke at the inquiry, two Metro employees came up to her and said they can't say what the stopping distance will be as they haven't chosen the vehicle. DF asked how she can object to the erection of girders when Metro won't even say how many girders would be erected along the route. By chance, DF encountered recently a group of LCC employees at the Garden Gate who were there to assess the capability of off-road sections of the route to cope with the weight of trolleybuses. DCJ said she has been rung by Radio Leeds and will be interviewed by them. John Henkel will also be interviewed. SS referred to the recent meeting at St Joseph's Club and how when the Metro representative displayed a leaflet, people present said they hadn't received it. The same thing had happened at Headingley. TS said he got all his information about the scheme from people other than Metro. DCJ said that Dave Haskins was questioned about this and that Metro has subsequently submitted details about the company which distributed the leaflets, a company which no longer exists. Metro has a plan with dots indicating the properties to which leaflets should have been delivered. MB said that in the early days of the scheme, he rang Ardent who said information was available in One Stop shops. He pointed out to them that he doesn't have one in his area. He told them there was nothing in Headingley Library, and they said there should be. MB told them they should also have information at Holt Park. GR said she keeps asking Ardent when it was they are supposed to have contacted her but she never hears back from them. GR said that Metro's photos show their property as having no windows or door and that she only looked at this after CR had made the point about Metro's photomontages having altered reality. RR added that Metro had cropped from the photo the bits that were most damaging. DCJ advised GR and RR to submit this information to the inquiry.

ACTION POINTS : DCJ will ask CR if she could film the Whitfields protest due to take place on 15.8.14.

Next meeting

Monday 8th September at 7.30pm