

# **Minutes of A660 Joint Council meeting, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015 7.30pm at HEART**

**Attendance** Present: BM, HP, TS, IS, CT, SB, CH, RR, GR, MG, MO, CR, CF. **Apologies:** TB, MT, SS, NS, DCJ, MS

**Agreement of minutes** Minutes accepted as an accurate record of 1st December 2014 meeting.

## **Matters arising**

BM to give CR the contact details for the 'Made in Leeds' TV station and CR will contact them. CF said he thought April was soon enough to hold a hustings event and said he would be the Green Party candidate for Hyde Park and Woodhouse. No one volunteered to be a champion for the city centre.

## **Public Inquiry**

CF asked if we owe HP money for rebuttal of the revised heritage report. HP said we should wait and see if the inspector agrees that Metro should refund the money. Phil Ward inadvertently revealed during the inquiry that his favourite view in the city centre would be spoilt by the trolleybus. TS said First Bus made points at the inquiry saying that time savings aren't because of the trolleybus, but because it would make less stops and have conductors, etc.

## **Post Inquiry Strategy**

CF said he's not sure what we can do about the inspector refusing to accept SS's rebuttal. We need to keep a note of the causes of action for judicial review. SB said that you now have to apply for judicial review within 6 weeks of the matter complained of. CT said we need to keep informed. BM said that Jonathan Bentley had told him that at Wednesday's meeting of the full council, he and his colleagues will be asking what plan B is in the event the trolleybus application is rejected. HP said NWLTF think that Metro will probably be involved in contingency planning. It was agreed that we should try and do a deputation to Council maybe stressing the green space issue. It was decided to ask DCJ if she would lead the deputation with MF and a business person from Hyde Park. CR offered to lead the deputation if DCJ can't do it. TS said he is willing to be part of the deputation. CF suggested that in conjunction with the deputation, a journalist could ring councillors to ask them to discuss their views on the trolleybus. CF said the BBC isn't interested but will nonetheless speak to his contact there. SB suggested asking Aisha Iqbal if she'd be interested in contacting councillors. CF suggested that Aisha Iqbal could contact twenty Labour councillors to ask their views. TS said that after the local elections, Labour candidate Julie Heselwood said she thought she lost because of the trolleybus. Last summer, Fabian Hamilton told CF that the trolleybus is a waste of time. CF said Fabian Hamilton was one of the MPs who backed the trolleybus in the early days. CF said he thinks they say one thing to the whip and another to their constituents. HP said that MPs don't like to fall out with their local council. CF said if we keep tackling it from different angles, then the message will get through eventually. CF said he would contact Radio Leeds and SB would contact Aisha Iqbal before we contact North Leeds Life. SB said we need to get the story submitted well in advance with North Leeds Life. It was agreed we should keep putting pressure on councillors.

**Treasurer's Report** This was deferred until our next meeting.

**Collection** This came to £60.00.

## **AOB**

A document produced by the combined authority has identified a second trolleybus route between Leeds and the Aire Valley. CT said that if they'd stuck to the original plan to use the scheme for regeneration, we'd have had a tram by now. TS said that since he came to Leeds, they've been obsessed with having a Headingley Bypass. If they'd looked elsewhere, they'd have had a tram. CT said that this was because of the university, but now the demographics have changed. RR asked what effect an Oyster type card would have on buses, and who would have the power to say we want a bus to be at a particular place at a particular time. HP said Labour is saying it supports bus re-regulation. CF said First Bus is talking about an Oyster type card. CT said First Bus is already using Oyster type cards. CR wondered if the inspector is writing two reports. CT said there was a programme on BBC2 last week about the super rich and councils selling off land. CT said HS2 should go from London to Edinburgh. CR said political changes can happen very fast because changes can happen behind the scenes.

**Date of Next Meeting** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March if room available.