

Minutes of A660 Joint Council meeting Monday 2nd November 2015, 7.30pm at HEART

Attendance Present: TS, BS, GL, DCJ, CT, IS, MS, BM, GR, RR

Apologies: SB, IL, PL, EP, CR, MM, SS, NS, TB, MO, PM

Agreement of minutes Minutes accepted as an accurate record of 5th Oct 2015 meeting.

Matters arising

1. We do not know whether CF has drafted the response to Cllr Blake.
2. BM, DCJ, DW and PM met and drafted a letter to Robert Goodwill but he was replaced by Lord Ahmad before it was sent. As agreed at last meeting, BM amended letter and sent it to Lord Ahmad instead. As yet there has been no response. BM was also asked to email Patrick McLoughlin and will do so soon - explaining what was not said at inquiry, and also directing him to new web site.
3. If planning permission is given for housing on Headingley Hill it will mean we can not argue trolleybus would wreck green space there, because the green space would already be gone.
4. The YEP was going to run a story about Robert Goodwill and Lord Ahmad but in the end did not.

Treasurer's Report and Collection Treasurer's Report deferred till next meeting. Collection taken.

Campaigning / Inquiry Outcome

1. Exhibition of satirical cartoons and paintings of Hyde Park and Woodhouse Moor discussed. Could have a stall at exhibition to give people information about the trolleybus. If the scheme gets the go ahead it will be important to regain peoples' interest for fighting the decision. DCJ to ask JS about his friend who might be able to get exhibition space.
2. Audio from the inquiry and verbatim transcripts ought to be made available. We ought to lobby for this in every way possible. Without transcripts what would a Judicial Review judge use for evidence? A Judicial Review is about procedure rather than outcome. Possible procedural errors: Not allowing BM's evidence; giving Cameron far more time than Jones to make closing statements; inconsistencies with Heritage Report admission. Also notable was inspector saying that trolleybuses and trams were similar.
3. Does the replacement of Robert Goodwill by Lord Ahmad suggest approval will be given, now any reason for accusations of bias has been removed?
4. Is the perceived delay in decision tied up with devolution or whether or not we agree to have a mayor?
5. Concern that Lord Ahmad might make the decision on the basis of what he may read on Wikipedia. BM and others tried to make English trolleybus page less biased but were all removed by moderators. BM has been working on new web sites - does anyone have ideas for how to move them to top of Google searches?
6. CT to send YEP letters to DCJ so she can print and send to Lord Ahmad.
7. BM going to ask DfT for all they have on Electrobus.
8. GL will tweet and if anyone else does, it is worth putting Greg Mulholland's name in and also #Leeds Trolleybus. BM will ask DW to do this too.
9. BM will send email to non-Leeds councillors.
10. There was discussion about the identity of Gary Scholes.
11. DCJ wondered whether it was worth pointing out to cllrs that Leeds are likely to be in same position as Edinburgh is now if they allow the scheme to go ahead e.g. having an inquiry into what went wrong. Is it worth trying to make something of this to put councillors off?
12. It was agreed by everyone that visiting councilors at their surgeries was effective.

Date of Next Meetings Monday 1st Feb, Monday 7th March if room available?

Actions	
DCJ	Ask CF about the draft reply to Cllr Blake
BM	Email Patrick McLoughlin
DCJ	Email JS re exhibition
CT	Send YEP letters to DCJ
DCJ	Send YEP letters to Lord Ahmad
BM	Contact DfT re Electrobus
BM	Contact DW re tweeting about trolleybus
GL	Tweet about trolleybus
BM	Email non-Leeds councillors