

Minutes of A660 Joint Council Meeting, Monday 4th April 2016, 7.30pm at HEART

Attendance Present: DCJ, BM, CT, IS, SB, SS, GR, RR, CF, GL. **Apologies:** MS, MM, NS, PM, RH, IL, PL, EP.

Agreement of minutes Minutes accepted as an accurate record of 7th March 2016 meeting.

Matters arising

1. BM's complaint to the BBC about bias and the factual inaccuracy in the 3rd Nov Look North trolleybus report has not been rejected yet.
2. BM will do his actions from last time before the May meeting.
3. Project Board Minutes show:
 - a) the board was concerned that councillors are still not aware of the full costs and risks associated with NGT;
 - b) the board hired an external consultant to look over their figures and this consultant says they're OK;
 - c) board members expressed concern in Oct 2015 about a potential funding gap;
 - d) LCC needs to get third-party funders on board which councillors are also unaware of;
 - e) the board will be meeting people in Edinburgh and Nottingham;
 - f) the board discussed not reacting in too self-congratulatory a manner if the decision is for the scheme to go ahead or, if the decision is for the scheme not to go ahead, playing up the negative effects on the individual in terms of increased congestion and bus waiting times and also using it as a platform for devolution argument.
 - g) James Lewis gave a presentation at WYCA which is not minuted but which made no mention of trolleybuses.
4. BM has not heard back from Tramways and Urban Transit so presumably they are not going to publish the piece he wrote.

Treasurer's Report and Collection Treasurer's Report deferred 'til next meeting. Collection of £50 taken.

Campaign Matters

1. LCC has a pension fund deficit so for the next twenty years £1bn from council tax charges will be funding the deficit. BM to send LCC accounts to CF. CF to try and get this information publicised. The YEP and YP have shown no interest so far.
2. The volume and quality of letters to the press is impressive and we should keep the pressure up. The YEP seems more willing than it used to be to publish anti-trolleybus letters. Also, it's a good time to write because NGT are not publicizing the scheme any more until the decision is made.
3. Green Party is explicitly against the trolleybus, Labour are for it but don't want to talk about it, the Tories and Lib Dems are split.
4. In LCC's recent Budget Meeting Cllr Finnegan proposed an amendment that would have effectively cancelled the trolleybus scheme but this was voted down by the Labour majority.
5. An article from a 1952 edition of the Glasgow Herald said the Ministry of Transport at that time was bringing in regulations regarding trolleybus safety and would impose speed limits on certain sections (5mph, 15mph, 25mph). BM has emailed DfT to ask for sight of the 1952 regulations. CF will see if he can find them on a government web site.
6. CF has drafted a letter to send to local election candidates. CF needs to look up the results of the YEP survey and the survey carried out by Greg Mulholland. The meeting suggested a few minor additions to the draft. CF will update the draft, get candidates names and addresses and do a mail-merge.

Any Other Business

1. We will have our AGM on 9th May. Agenda will include: Election of Officers, Accounts (including whether to change bank account), ideas for creating publicity when the decision is announced. DCJ will ask for Treasurer's Report from TB.
2. We will still meet every month until decision is announced.
3. CT will see what he can find out about the Institute of Transport Logistics.
4. DCJ will make sure room is booked for next meetings

Date of Next Meetings 9th May, 6th June, 4th July

Actions	
BM	Submit FOI request re Supertram bids
BM	Send photo of wireless tram to YEP
BM	Load A660JC web pages on to internet archive
BM	Send LCC accounts to CF
CF	Publicise LCC pension deficit being funded by council tax
CF	Look for the 1952 trolleybus safety statutory instrument
CF	Look up YEP and Greg Mulholland survey results
CF	Alter draft letter, find candidate addresses and do a mail-merge
DCJ	Send CF's draft to the group for approval
DCJ	Send out notification that 9 th May will be our AGM
DCJ	Ask TB for Treasurer's Report
CT	Look into Institute for Transport Logistics
DCJ	Book meeting rooms