

Minutes of A660 Joint Council Monday 6th January 2014 7.00pm at HEART

Attendance Present: MS, SS, EP, SB, MBr, IL, PL, MO, JG, BM, LN, CR, HP, MW, IS, JR, DCJ, MM, RH, GL, CP, MBe, PB, DW, MK, FK, GG. **Apologies:** TB, BS, TS, CH, DK, NS, SJ

Agreement of minutes Minutes accepted as an accurate record of 9th December meeting.

Matters arising

Preamble & motion: Amended as follows by agreement of the meeting: PREAMBLE: This committee notes the threat posed by NGT to the environments **along the whole route from Holt Park to Stourton. of Holt Park, Tinchill, Adel, Cookridge, Lawnswood, Weetwood, West Park, Headingley, Hyde Park and Woodhouse** We also note with alarm, the threat of compulsory purchases of domestic land and gardens. MOTION: This committee believes that it is not incumbent on the A660 Joint Council to propose or support any specific alternative to the NGT scheme. We will continue to oppose the existing proposals. We will continue to defend the unique character of the A660. **NWLTF discussion:** IS: NWLTF not an umbrella org but a small group of people who wrote a well reasoned objection. DCJ Alternatives document on their web site is still recommending demolition of shops at Hyde Park Corner. It's wrong for a group to make recommendations to harm areas they're not part of. MW: Issue is to get inquiry to say trolleybus should not go ahead. Alternatives not constructive at present. SB: TS said it's yes or no, not pick and mix. HP: Inspector may recommend alternatives but alternatives not worth pursuing at moment. BM: Agree we should leave alternatives. Inspector may make recommendations but we need to defeat the scheme. If we like some aspects of scheme and so don't attack them that's a tactical mistake. IL: Agree. **South Leeds Opposition:** A lot of people against scheme, esp. Whitfields and Belle Isle Circus. NGT did not inform south Leeds as much as the north. 5,000 letters should have been sent by a private company but not sure that anyone received a letter. Middleton Park Labour Party objected. People didn't come to the consultation events because they didn't know about them. **Leeds Civic Trust:** EP has written to Kevin Grady following lack of response from Mike Piatt. **LCAG:** Objected to scheme. **St. Chad's:** Are now objecting.

CF	To write letter about 3-line-whip
CF	To speak to journalist about 3-line-whip

Statement of Case to DfT Hard evidence needs to be submitted to back up any statements made. When everyone's statements of case are made public there is chance to reply to any of the statements. If issues are not raised in statements of case they may not make it into the inquiry so statements of case are really important. Lots of people don't seem to have had letters from NGT in response to their objections. Everyone should have received a letter to say that DfT has passed to them a copy of their objections, that they are considering them and will get back shortly in response to the points raised. NGT are saying they're modifying what they submitted to the DfT. If it's significantly modified they might have to consult again and there might be room for new objections.

ALL CHECK	If you haven't received a letter from Metro contact them to chase it up
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Meetings with MPs DCJ has emailed secretaries of Greg Mulholland and Hilary Benn to invite both MPs separately to meet with A660JC. Has received a reply from GM's secretary but not HB's.

DCJ	To write to another of Hilary Benn's secretaries and reply to GM's
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Campaigning P&Rs: BM: Need to continue to write to paper, politicians and phone in to radio programmes. New info: Free car parks in suburbs are maintained by charges from council car parks. Interesting because lots of articles in YEP about city centre businesses and cathedral complaining about LCC's proposals to charge for city centre evening and Sunday parking. Clearly the council have done this to subsidise the P&Rs. We need to let city centre businesses know that they'll be subsidising the trolleybus. EP: People in Belle Isle and Middleton park in supermarket car parks and on streets. Why switch to P&Rs? GL: In original business case Stourton Park & Ride had 2,200 spaces but in the most recent business case it was cut to 1,500. Promoters are worried that it won't get well used. MBr: P&R at Seamer was disaster. CF: P&R at King Lane not used. CR: Research shows it's better to have good feeder buses into main routes than P&Rs. **Campaign focus:** need to concentrate foremost on statement of case, and on political campaigning, but still continue with awareness raising as still people who know little or nothing about scheme.

II & EP	Deputation
GG	To send documents from Atkins to the A660 Joint Council
ALL	Continue to write to paper, politicians and phone in to radio programmes
DCJ	To resurrect agit-prop group to look at creative ways of putting posters on trees

Preparing for Public Inquiry A team is working on A660 Joint Council's Statement of Case. Will be circulated to group before going to DfT. DfT will arrange a pre-inquiry meeting to go over procedures. People will be given dates and times to speak at the public inquiry. If you speak you can be asked questions after you've spoken. It's important to appeal to reasonableness and it's very important to produce hard evidence of what you're saying where possible. We've got local knowledge on our side. We can use logic to pick holes in NGT's case.

Treasurer's report £597.03 in the bank.

Collection: £120

Date of Next Meeting: TBA