

CITY OF NOTTINGHAM

GREATER NOTTINGHAM LIGHT RAPID TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **23 MARCH 2004** at

Lawrence House from 4.30 pm to 6.05 pm

C Baron)
T Butler)
M Cox) Nottinghamshire County Council
A Freeman)
T Pettengell)

B Clarke-Smith)
M Ibrahim)
G Klein) Nottingham City Council
R Lee)
Z Mir (Chair))
B Smith)

B King - Nottingham Transport Partnership
I Morgan - Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry
C Roy - Nottingham Trent University
E Simpson - Nottinghamshire Transport 2000
A Street - Midlands Rail Passenger Committee
H McClintock - PEDALS

Also in attendance

Mr P Armstrong)
Mr C Deas)
Mr D Cocking) Nottingham City Council
Mr S Hunt)

Mr K Sargeant - Arrow Light Rail

Mr C Lea - Nottingham Tram Consortium

8 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Butler and Clarke-Smith.

9 MINUTES

(a) Confirmation

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 23 September 2003, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

(b) Tram Ticketing Strategy

RESOLVED that a further discussion on this matter be held at the end of this agenda.

10 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor Baron be appointed Vice-Chair for the remainder of 2003/04.

11 NET LINE ONE PROJECT UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, NET, copies of which had been circulated.

During discussion, the following issues were raised:-

- the tram website should include an opportunity for the public to register concerns and to contact the operators. It was pointed out that there was an e-mail response facility for customer comment which would be updated to include more information for customers;
- concerns were expressed regarding lack of traffic enforcement at tram stops. Discussions have been taking place with the police who were responsible for traffic enforcement, but their resources were stretched. The Traffic Management Bill would give power to Councils to regulate moving traffic offenders which should improve the situation for the future. In the meantime further representations would be made to the police to increase enforcement;
- the signage on Mount Hooton Road was inadequate as it was a very dark street;
- skateboarders had adopted the very dangerous practice of hanging on to the rear of trams around Old Market Square. Street Wardens should be notified to be aware of this situation;
- there was a lack of signage through the Oakley Estate at Highbury Vale;
- inoperative lights at Lauriston Drive footbridge were the responsibility of the operators. The matter would be pursued with them;
- safety education was being actively pursued including issues around cycling, overtaking trams and road safety advice to schools involving the Road Safety Officer.

RESOLVED

- (1) that a letter be sent to the Chief Constable expressing the committee's concerns regarding enforcement of moving traffic offences at tram stops and the dangerous practices used by skateboarders obtaining tows from trams around the Market Square;**
- (2) that a separate meeting be held to discuss safety issues involving key players, including the police.**

12 NOISE ON NOEL STREET

Further to minute 5 dated 23 September 2003, consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, NET, copies of which had been circulated.

The Executive Director reported that owners of properties affected had been contacted and the contractors was to visit them to assess the impact of noise and vibration on individual properties. Test had been carried out regarding the vibration problem which was within the specification in the contract, although the contract recognised there was an issue at Noel Street and would be undertaking specific noise and vibration surveys but these would take 3-6 months to carry out. The problem was not unique to Nottingham and a study sponsored by the EU had been set up to examine the problems.

Members expressed concerns regarding noise at various points including Wilkinson Street, the corner of Market Street, and the top end of the Lace Market in addition to the Noel Street and Shipton Street areas. They expressed deep concern that investigations and possible remedial works could take as long as 6 months and pressed for homes to be offered double-glazing and insulation immediately. Assurances were given that the sixteen properties on Noel Street would be double-glazed and sound proofed as soon as possible regardless of the 6 months testing period.

The operator and the contractor were looking at all possibilities to reduce noise and vibration including a night time speed limit, investigations into the engineering specification of the wheels and motors, lubricating rails on tram only stretches and increasing rail radii to avoid turning noise in phases 2 and 3.

Loss of on-street parking spaces was a cause for residents concern and the possibility of car parking provision at Braidwood Court was being investigated.

The use of the tram warning bell at night was problematic but the problem should ease as drivers become more experienced and familiar with routes and occasions when the warning bell might be omitted. There was a delicate balance between reduction of noise and road safety.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the report be noted;**
- (2) that the Chair and Councillors Ibrahim and Taylor be kept informed regarding double-glazing and sound insulation proposals at Noel Street;**

- (3) **that the Chair be informed of the complete position regarding the loss of car parking spaces and their possible replacement at Braidwood Court to enable him to reply to complainants.**

13 DAVID LANE CROSSING

Further to minute 4 (b) dated 23 September 2003, consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, NET, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

- (1) **that the current enforcement actions of the police be supported and encouraged along with longer term extension of enforcement powers for the City Council;**
- (2) **that this issue be discussed at the separate meeting on safety issues.**

14 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED

- (1) **that the Advisory Committee meet quarterly at 4.30 pm with the next meeting being held on 22 June 2004 at 4.30 pm;**
- (2) **that the terms of reference of the Advisory Committee be included as an item on the next meeting.**

15 CHAIR

The Chair left the meeting at 5.55 pm and Councillor Baron took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

16 TRENT BUS COMPANY SERVICES IN THE HUCKNALL AREA

Discussion took place on the possibility that tram services in the Hucknall area would have a detrimental effect on bus services provided by Trent Barton Bus Company. Mr Lea reported that discussions had taken place with Trent Barton who were reserving their position on the provision of bus services pending the development of passenger usage of the tram. Another meeting was to take place in 4-6 weeks time and discussions were to be held with Dunn Line to discuss fill-in services.

RESOLVED that the position be noted.