

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

GREATER NOTTINGHAM LIGHT RAPID TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **5 JANUARY 2010** at

the Council House, Old Market Square, Nottingham from 2.00 pm to 3.10 pm

Nottingham City Council

Councillor M Newton (Chair)
Councillor G Davie
Councillor H James
Councillor I Malcolm
Councillor T Sutton

Nottinghamshire County Council

Councillor R Adair
Councillor R Jackson
Councillor G Merry
Councillor C Pepper
Councillor S Smedley

Independent Representatives

Mr A Marshall	- Campaign for Better Transport
Mr G Smerdon-White	- Greater Nottingham Transport Partnership
Mr J Dowson	- Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Mr C Roy	- Nottingham Trent University
Mr H McClintock	- PEDALS
Mr S Abbott	- Travel Watch East Midlands

Indicates present at meeting

Also in attendance

Mr P Armstrong)	
Mr A Holdstock)	Nottingham City Council
Mr R Simpson)	
Mr S Calvert	-	Nottinghamshire County Council
Mr R Harris	-	Nottingham Tram Consortium

12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Merry, Smedley and Sutton (on other City Council business), Mr Marshall and from Mr Cotter of Arrow Light Rail.

13 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

14 MINUTES

RESOLVED

- (1) that the minutes of the last meeting held on 9 July 2009, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair;**
- (2) that, further to minute 2, Councillor Jackson be appointed Vice-Chair for the remainder of the 2009/10 municipal year.**

15 MEMBERSHIP

The Director, NET, briefly outlined the history, role and terms of reference of the Advisory Committee.

RESOLVED

- (1) that, further to minute 4 dated 9 July 2009, the following appointments to the membership of the Advisory Committee be noted:**

Nottinghamshire County Council – Councillors Adair, Jackson, Merry, Pepper and Smedley;

Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce – Mr J Dowson;

- (2) that the request for membership received from the Federation of Small Businesses be approved.**

16 NET LINE ONE - OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE: JUNE TO END OF NOVEMBER 2009

Consideration was given to a report of the Director, NET, copies of which had been circulated, relating to the performance of NET Line One for the period June to the end of November 2009.

It was reported that despite 3 days of industrial action by tram crews in July and October and a 1-day overhead line problem north of Moor Bridge in October, service reliability had remained generally high, with between 94.0% and 99.9% of trips running over the 6-month period and an average of 98.9% of services departing on time. Since the report had been prepared, Nottingham Tram Consortium had announced a marketing initiative that, it was understood, would provide a 20% cost saving on 30-day PayPoint travel cards during January.

In response to questions, the Director, NET, commented:

- (a) that for commercial reasons, Arrow Light Rail may not be prepared to share all of the following information but that he would pursue this request and report to the next meeting:
- numbers of passengers and value of their journeys;
 - a demographic breakdown of passenger numbers, concessionary travel and details of how travel subsidy was operated;
 - the numbers of complaints received by telephone and by letter as an indication of how good the service was.
 - that the extent of the problem of lost revenue through passengers getting onto the tram at one stop and alighting at the next, before they could be approached by a conductor, was less than may be perceived since many of these passengers held pre-paid tickets. While the promoters encouraged Arrow to do all it could to address this, it was a risk entirely borne by Arrow, rather than the promoters who did not lose money.

Mr Harris confirmed that the recent extremely cold weather had, so far, not caused any problems to the tram service.

RESOLVED that the performance of NET Line One during June to November 2009 be noted.

17 LETTERS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of NET, copies of which had been circulated, regarding letters received from members of the public, and to an additional letter received since the report had been prepared, copies of which were placed around the table.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the correspondents A, B and C be informed that their letters had been considered by the Advisory Committee;**
- (2) that the report and steps taken to investigate and respond to the complaints be noted;**
- (3) that the Chair:**
 - (a) convey to correspondent A the thanks of the Advisory Committee for his praise and support for the tram service arising from their recent visit to Nottingham;**
 - (b) convey to correspondent B that it regretted the charging error made by a new conductor who had been spoken to about the incident, noting that Nottingham Tram Consortium had also apologised and refunded the cost of this journey, and at the request of the Advisory Committee would**

consider the introduction of a simpler method of recompensing passengers in similar circumstances;

- (c) convey to correspondent C the thanks of the Advisory Committee for his praise and support for the tram service and that Nottingham Tram Consortium anticipated the introduction of new ticketing machines in 6-7 months time, which it was hoped, would be capable of accepting the City Card.**

18 MIDDLE HILL VIADUCT

Further to minute 9 dated 9 July 2009, consideration was given to a report of the Director, NET, copies of which had been circulated, outlining the improvements that had been suggested to the signing and lining at Middle Hill Viaduct to deter vehicles from using the tram only alignment and suggesting a possible way forward in the light of recent changes on the footway at this location.

It was explained that, since the completion of external works to the Nottingham Contemporary Art Gallery, visibility had been much improved by the removal of surrounding scaffolding. Further measures that could cost up to approximately £10,000 were considered unnecessary at this stage as it appeared that the problem was now resolved.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the report be noted;**
- (2) that the Director, NET, continue to monitor the situation and submit a further report in one year.**

19 SAFETY AND SECURITY AT TRAMSTOPS IN BASFORD

Consideration was given to a report of the Director, NET, copies of which had been circulated, on the current status of actions agreed at a site meeting held in April 2009 to discuss matters of safety and security at tramstops in Basford.

The Chair requested a copy of the community safety audit referred to in the action plan at Appendix A to the report, commented that visibility at Basford tram footbridge should be improved and queried whether there a similar audit had been undertaken in relation to the upgrading of street lighting under the Private Finance Initiative.

It was noted that some Area Committees had established Community Safety Panels and it was suggested that, if Basford and Bestwood Area Committee had established one, this issue be referred to it for consideration.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the report be noted;**
- (2) that this item be included on the next agenda together with a copy of the Community Safety Audit(s);**

- (3) that the Basford and Bestwood Area Manager be asked to confirm the existence of a Community Safety Panel for that area and, if so, to refer the issue of improved visibility/lighting at Basford tramstop to it for consideration.

20 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED

- (1) that future meetings be held at 2.00 pm, instead of at 4.30 pm, and the next be held on 9 March (instead of 2 March 2010);
- (2) that the following provisional dates for meetings be noted:

2010

**15 June
15 September
14 December**

2011

15 March