

CITY OF NOTTINGHAM

GREATER NOTTINGHAM LIGHT RAPID TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **24 MAY 2007** at

The Guildhall, Nottingham from 4.40 pm to 5.25 pm

Nottinghamshire County Council

Councillor C Baron
Councillor P Lally
Councillor S Smedley

Nottingham City Council

Councillor C Arnold
Councillor G Davie
Councillor H James
Councillor I Malcolm
Councillor T Sutton

Independent Representatives

Mr S Abbott - Travel Watch East Midlands
Mrs B Morgan - Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Mr C Roy - Nottingham Trent University
Mr A Marshall - Nottinghamshire Transport 2000
Vacancy - Nottingham Transport Partnership
Mr H McClintock - PEDALS

indicates present at meeting

Also in attendance

Mr P Armstrong) Nottingham City Council
Mrs C Ziane-Pryor)

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor Baron be appointed Chair for the municipal year 2007/08.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor Malcolm be appointed Vice-Chair for the municipal year 2007/08.

3 CHAIR

In the absence of Councillor Baron, the Chair was taken by Councillor Malcolm, the Vice-Chair.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

5 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Baron and Smedley (on County Council Business), and from Mr Marshall.

6 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 13 March 2007, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair presiding at the meeting.

7 NET LINE ONE - OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE: FEBRUARY-APRIL 2007

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Transport Projects, copies of which had been circulated, relating to the performance of NET Line One for the period February to the end of April 2007.

The report informed the Committee of the following:-

- continued high levels of reliability and punctuality averaging 99%;
- growth of 3.1% in passenger journeys compared to the previous year;
- a significant fall in the number of car crime incidents at the NET park and ride sites.

In addition, the Committee were informed that :-

- although both the tram operator and Nottingham City Transport had increased fare prices during May, the price of tickets available through Paypoint had not increased;
- discussions were continuing regarding noise and vibration issues;

RESOLVED that the performance of NET Line One during February to the end of April 2007, be noted.

8 NET PHASE TWO TRANSPORT AND WORKS ACT ORDER (TWAO) – REPEAL OF GREATER NOTTINGHAM LIGHT RAPID TRANSIT ACT 1994 PROVISIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Transport Projects, copies of which had been circulated, and which although not required under the Order to do so, informed members of the progress to date regarding NET Phase Two.

The period allowed for public representations to be made to the Secretary of State regarding the proposed plans (draft TWAO) would close on 7 June 2007. A Public Inquiry was expected later in the year.

An initial projected assessment and environmental statement predicted that, apart from the increased frequency of trams moving to and from the proposed main depot at Wilkinson Street, there would be no significant impact on Line One resulting from Phase Two when operational to the to the proposed specifications.

The draft TWAO relating to NET Phase Two did not require provision (as in Section 74 of the 1994 Act) for the City and County Councils to establish nor maintain a Greater Nottingham Light Rapid Transit Advisory Committee and there was to be no provision in the draft Act for the Committee to have a role in the construction and operation of extensions to the system.

To date the representations made by users of the service had not been directed by users to the Committee but had been considered, dealt with, or furthered with limited involvement of the Committee. It was suggested that with the operators proven ability to satisfy user raised issues and the limited role of the Committee, members consider the position of this Committee under the proposed order in order to respond to the draft order by 7 June 2007, if necessary.

The following points were made during discussion of this item:-

- The existence and role of the Committee had been publicised to users of Line One but with minimal response (9 issues raised by users since March 2004);
- members should consider if the Committee was value added;
- other routes of contact were available and appeared to be operating adequately;
- the Committee should not be abandoned but could consider meeting less regularly;
- the operators of Line One would not necessarily be awarded Lines Two and Three;
- the Committee should continue as, although there may not be much current business, the situation may change in future;
- operational reports in the public domain had been invaluable to organisations such as Travel Watch;
- the Committee had been a valuable mechanism for groups such as Pedals;
- the Committee should continue and have the ability to consider issues regarding the whole system, not just Line One.

RESOLVED that representations be made to the Secretary of State for provision to be included in the NET Phase Two Transport and Works Act Order for the establishment of an advisory committee for the whole of the tram network on a similar basis to that provision made under Section 74 of the 1994 Act.

9 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the Committee meet at 4.30pm on the following dates:-

2007
11 September
11 December

2008
11 March