



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
WAKEFIELD DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE  
HELD ON THURSDAY 30 MARCH 2017 AT THE COUNTY HALL, WAKEFIELD**

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Glyn Lloyd (Chair)

**WYCA TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Councillor Kevin Swift

**WAKEFIELD COUNCIL**

Councillor Darren Byford  
Councillor Monica Graham  
Councillor Celia Loughran  
Councillor Jacqui Williams

**PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES**

Nigel Ashton  
Pauline Blackburn  
John Churms  
Brenda Fruish  
Dennis Pattinson

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Kim Purcell	-	Arriva
Richard Isaac	-	Northern
Dave Pearson	-	WYCA
Andrew Atack	-	WYCA

**38. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from public representatives Brian Cooper and Barbara Darlison.

**39. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2017 be noted.

**40. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

Members were invited to raise questions with a focus on matters of wider interest and a time limited question and answer session was held. The following issues were raised:

### Castleford Subway

Brenda Fruish reported that following the last meeting, the Castleford Subway floors had been swept and was in a suitable condition. However, the walls and lighting in the subway still needed some attention. The Chair informed the Committee that he will continue to liaise with the Ward Councillors in order to resolve the issues raised.

### Bus Services

Members reported that bus services can often become unreliable on Friday afternoons and early evening, especially the 188 Arriva service towards Pontefract and Knottingley. Arriva representative Kim Purcell informed the Committee that Arriva have considered changing the timetable on Fridays but concluded that this would cause unnecessary confusion for passengers.

### Bus Shelter Request

Following a request for a bus shelter to be installed outside the doctors surgery on Stanbridge Lane been rejected, Councillor Graham requested the criteria a location needs to meet in order to have a bus shelter installed. The criteria will be sent to Councillor Graham after the meeting.

### Rail Station Parking

Members asked how often rail station car parks are surveyed to establish whether further development is needed. It was reported the Outwood Station is popular with people who are travel to London due to the free parking.

## **41. FEEDBACK REPORT**

The Committee considered a report advising members of the feedback received at the meeting held on 19 January 2017 and to report the action taken.

At the last meeting members were consulted on Bus 18 and the future of the District Consultation Sub-Committees. The key points raised were outlined in the submitted report.

### Bus 18

It was reported that the Bus 18 initiative was formally launched on Friday 24 March 2017 in Bradford. The initiative includes the introduction of the ECOStars scheme, which allocates a start rating for each bus depending on its environmental credentials. The aim of the ECOStars scheme is to help reduce fuel consumption and harmful emissions on commercial vehicle fleets.

The initiative also allows passengers who are not entirely happy with their journey to claim a free travel voucher from First West Yorkshire, Arriva Yorkshire or Transdev

and claim the cost of a taxi if their last bus doesn't arrive within 20 minutes of the scheduled time.

### Future of District Consultation Sub-Committees

Members were advised that the meeting was the last in the current meeting cycle and that WYCA are planning to expand the representation to include a wider range of interested parties and groups during the next recruitment phase. The meetings will also involve an open forum session where members of the public can raise issues from the floor.

Members suggested that traditional methods of promoting the Committee should still be used when going out to recruit new members, these include ads in local newspapers and printed materials on buses. Councillor Monica Graham agreed with the Members and suggested putting an ad in the Citizen newspaper, which gets delivered to every house in the district.

Members suggested that the people who completed the Bus Strategy consultation should be approached to sit on the Committee as they have an interest in the bus services in the area.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be noted.

## **42. INFORMATION REPORT**

The Committee considered a report on information regarding current developments and issues affecting the Wakefield District.

### Service Changes

It was reported that Stagecoach made a number of changes to their commercial network in South East Wakefield in January 2017 which will leave parts of Hemsworth, South Elmsall, Upton and Pontefract with little or no service. A new service will be provided from 17 April 2017, which will be operated by M Travel.

### Bus Stop Displays

Members were advised that following a review of how information is presented on bus stop displays, a redesign process had taken place and that the modifications will be rolled out in the September 2017 service change.

### Journey Planner

It was reported that a new customer journey planner was launched on 2 March which has a range of features designed to help customers plan their public transport journeys in West Yorkshire.

### Rail Timetable Changes

It was reported that due to delays on infrastructure projects nationally, many changes planned for December 2017 will be delayed. Minor changes will still happen in December 2017 but all other major changes will now be deferred until May 2018.

### Bus Services Bill

It was reported that the Bus Services Bill is continuing through the parliamentary process and that the Second Reading took place in the House of Commons in early March 2017. The second reading is an opportunity for MPs to talk about the principles of the legislation, and is a key opportunity to demonstrate that there is support for the Bill.

### West Yorkshire Low Emissions Strategy

Members were advised that the West Yorkshire Low Emission Strategy (WYLES) was formally adopted by WYCA at the Transport Committee meeting that took place on Friday 24 February 2017. The strategy was jointly developed with the five West Yorkshire District Councils and Public Health England with the aim to reduce the harmful emissions from transport and other sources that impact on health and the environment.

### Supreme Court Ruling

It was reported that the Supreme Court's decision found that bus operators are under obligation to apply 'pressure' to non-wheelchair users to vacate the designated wheelchair space. Local bus operators are currently ensuring that their policies, procedures and guidance to their staff reflect the Supreme Court ruling.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be noted.

## **43. CONSULTATION REPORT**

### Bus Strategy – Presentation

It was reported that following the public consultation that took place between July and October 2016, over 3300 responses were received on the draft Bus Strategy for West Yorkshire. An independent analysis of the responses has been completed and is available in a report on the WYCA website ([www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/ytys](http://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/ytys)).

The presentation also gave an overview of consultation responses, proposals for amendments to the strategy and the next steps.

Members suggested that a survey should be created for bus drivers in order to get their opinion on customer service processes.

Members were thanked for their comments and suggestions and were asked to forward any further comments on the questionnaire provided at the meeting or by email to: [erica.ward@westyorks-ca.gov.uk](mailto:erica.ward@westyorks-ca.gov.uk).

**RESOLVED** - That members' feedback be noted.