



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Caroline Parker
Vice Chairman: Cllr Paul Lawrence
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE HELD AT 7.30PM ON THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2013 AT LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs Caroline Parker (Chairman), Margaret Cotgrove and Donald Fraser

In Attendance: Paul Beckerson (Town Clerk), Susan Marx (Clerk) and 1 Member of Public

Mark Wilkins of First Group (Essex Thameside Rail Franchisee) arrived at 7.00pm to take questions regarding the bid for the Shoebury to Fenchurch Street Rail Franchise.

The meeting opened at 7.03pm

10. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed Mark Wilkins, Bid Manager of First Group (Essex Thameside Rail Franchise). Mark informed the committee the Government had commenced a bidding contest with an Award being granted in 2014 for a period of 15 years.

11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Geoff Crawford, Jerry Holden and John Wren

12. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Donald Fraser is Vice President of the Southend-on-Sea Railway Travellers Association.

13. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH JUNE 2013

The minutes of 19TH June 2013 were amended and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

14. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- a. Essex Thameside Rail Franchise Report 2251 – Cllr Donald Fraser (Appendix 1 to the agenda)

Cllr Fraser, the most experienced traveller present, gave a copy of his report to Mark Wilkins. Cllr Fraser commented on the lack of seats, poor ticket checking, and closed ticket offices at peak periods. The disabled lift at Leigh Station is often out of operation at midday for up to an hour, due to lack of staffing as management had failed to provide relief staff. Timetables are not adhered to. Bicycles are placed within public carriages instead of specified areas on the train and permitted on trains at the prohibited times stated by C2C.

- b. Report up-date on 'Welcome to Leigh Sign' A127

The request for a 'Welcome to Leigh Sign' has been referred to Southend-on-Sea Borough Council's Head of Service for advice and Cheryl Hindle will inform us of the outcome upon her return from leave.

- c. Planting of trees in central Leigh to replace bollards in certain areas

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council's Development Plan includes the planting of trees. Only certain species of trees can be planted. Committee members were asked to source possible locations for trees.

- d. Bollards – Report up-date ‘Paint and Replace where necessary throughout the town’.

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council confirmed they have a maintenance contract that must be utilised when painting or replacing bollards. The cost to paint 1 bollard would be £38.70 in black or white hammerite. It was **RESOLVED** to identify the worst bollards requiring re-painting. Paul Beckerson will provide a street map for members to identify the locations of these bollards and work will be scheduled provisionally for Spring 2014.

- e. Public Transport Report 2252 – Cllr Donald Fraser (Appendix 2 to the agenda)

Cllr Donald Fraser has collated local bus and railway services and produced a ‘Reference Book’ accessible to the public at Reception.

The Real Time Passenger Information Boards are all operable with the exception of those at the main Travel Centre in Southend-on-Sea.

Graeme Newman confirmed the installation of the bus shelter on Grand Parade will take place on the 16th September 2013.

15. BUDGET REPORT 2013/14 – Report 2253/TH – 27th August 2013 – (Appendix 3 to the agenda)

To date no funds have been taken by Southend-on-Sea Borough for the School Crossing Patrols.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.