

Minutes of York Environment Forum meeting, 11 July 2023

Attending: Penny Bainbridge, Denise Craighill, Andy D'Agorne, Debby Cobbett, Chris Copland, Lorraine Jones, Adrian Lovett, Ellie Stead, Carole Green, June Tranmer.

Draft constitution

A F2F meeting had been held on 12 June to discuss amendments to the constitution. The draft had been circulated to the membership who had had three weeks to make any responses. The meeting was asked to vote on whether to accept this draft. There was then a lengthy discussion.

A proposal (CC) was made that one of the objects that had been removed be restored.

‘To encourage and then support community initiatives to establish resilience and sustainability’

It was agreed that this be put back into the draft and circulated to the membership and a vote taken at the following meeting. A vote of thanks was given to PB and those others who had worked on the draft.

It was agreed that although the powers stated ‘making use of online communication as far as possible,’ we will commit to support those who struggle with online communication, though this did not need to be added into the draft.

Minutes of June meeting were agreed. There were no matters arising not on the agenda.

YCT Transport Advisory group

AD reported that there would be a meeting of that group on Thursday 20th. Circulated agenda for comment. Critical time for transport as the Climate Strategy had recently been agreed, a new administration in place, and major changes would need to take place. Local Transport Plan needs to be agreed. Funding from National Govt. is dependent on bids from Councils. Will sign off a joint York / N. Yorks. Transport Plan next year.

DC raised the issue of staffing at ticket offices and AG said he would put this to the meeting.

AG raised the issue of how long the Council can bail out bus companies.

Local Plan

YEW made a response to the most recent amendment to the LP. This will go to Inspectors or straight to Sec. of State. On the website, can refer public's responses and to the Council's responses.

York Environment Week

Adam had submitted a progress report and had set a positive tone.

ES drew attention to the St Nicks Fair on 14 October. She also drew attention to the ‘Userway widget’ on their website which indicated it was accessible. Suggested this might be used with the YEW website.

Outer Ring Road planning application

If YEF want to make a response, it has to relate to the particular items in this application. Deadline is 23 July. It was accepted that this could be looked after by PB.

Next meeting

This was postponed until September.

Future speakers.

Topics suggested were:

Climate aspects of city becoming part of combined authority. Council Officer, Will Boardman, might be a suitable person.

The Executive members for the Environment might be invited.

ES reported that St Nicks had encouraged York Pride to step away from sponsorship by Drax. The Pride organisers will retain any donations from this year but intend not to use Drax again.