

## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE TRANSPORT USERS GROUP**

**THURSDAY 18 APRIL 2019**

**PRESENT:** J Hoare (Chair)  
I Jenkinson, J Brightmore (Ramblers - Sheffield Group and Sheffield TUG), N Spetch (Vice-Chair/Rotherham TUG), and D Wrottesley (Hope Valley Rail User Group), M Wilson, M Turner (T4All)

**GUESTS:** Fred Johnson (Stagecoach), Nigel Wragg (Supertram), Lauren Eades (Supertram), Simon Middleton (First), Darshana Dholakia (SYPTE), Rachel Cowling (SYPTE), Andy Wright (SYPTE), Stephen Edwards (SYPTE), Colette Whittaker (SYPTE)

**APOLOGIES:** J Whittington (Barnsley TUG), T Taylor (SYPTE), Margaret Payling (Chair DTUG)

### **1. OPEN AND WELCOME**

The meeting was opened by J Hoare and all were welcomed, especially S Edwards.

### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from J Whittington, T Taylor and Margaret Payling

### **3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2019**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2019 were discussed and apart from a note under item 6 that there no signage has been introduced at Kiveton Rail Station, relating to the non-issue of penalty fares, it was agreed they were an accurate record.

### **4. FORWARD PLANNER**

#### **BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET/CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

Stephen Edwards delivered a presentation on screen and talked the group through a number of areas of schemes which the PTE are involved in.

N Spetch raised a question around Active Travel and if we had considered how we can influence the rail networks to improved capacity to carry bikes on trains to improve the

overall journey. Also, if any research had been done to see if direct, faster services on core networks would make smarter journeys.

S Edwards confirmed that the Active Travel Commissioner has now been introduced and issues such as these will be looked into.

S Edwards added that there had been an increased number of limited service stop buses/routes introduced across the region.

N Spetch also raised the issue that there had been too many instances recently where he had used his real-time mobile app and it not had been accurate. A Wright stated that there should be an improvement within the next 12/18 months with new technology.

N Spetch was disappointed to note that the forthcoming rail changes in May were not widely visible on our site

**Action: D Dholakia to look into this.**

## **BUS**

### **a. UPDATE ON BUS PARTNERSHIPS**

Nothing to report

### **b. BUS OPERATORS UPDATES**

S Middleton gave update on First activity. Newer buses were being introduced but due to them being more complex with greater technology, unfortunately there have been some recalls but nothing major.

F Johnson commented on the limited stops services and that research had proven that these routes had gained passengers and improved journeys. Work is still ongoing with the PTE to make Stagecoach tickets available through the TVM's around the region to make tickets more accessible for all.

## **5. TRAM**

### **a. SUPERTRAM RAIL REPLACEMENT**

N Wragg confirmed that this year's rails replacement works commence from tomorrow. Revised timetables are available and notices, signage, leaflet-drop and drop-in sessions have been carried out to make all aware.

Work is still being carried out on contactless payments on tram, with the hope that it will come into practice later this year.

### **b. TRAM TRAIN UPDATE**

Tram/trains suffered a slight mechanical issue last week with a loose bracket and the fleet was temporarily withdrawn, issue has now been resolved.

A recent survey carried out on the tram/train network showed a 100% satisfaction rate, which Supertram are very proud of.

## 6. TRAIN

### a. UPDATE FROM TRAIN OPERATORS

No attendee. D Dholakia to follow up with Northern Rail.

**Post meeting note: Pete Myers from Northern has advised that where there is only one ticket vending machine (TVM) and the walk between the two platforms is long, arduous or presents a clear risk of trespass then we suspend Penalty Fares in the appropriate direction. There are posters that can put up to that effect.**

## 7. MASS TRANSIT CONSULTATION UPDATE

The Mass Transit business case is being worked on and will be submitted to DfT in the Autumn. If funding is approved, then the next stage will be to consult on the Network Design.

## 8. MEMBERS ITEMS

J Hoare asked if any User group members were involved in the Bus Review. D Dholakia stated that she had raised this with SCR and was awaiting further information.

J Brightmore asked if the meeting on 9 May – SCR Mayor's Transport Conference – in Rotherham, was open to any other members, he had received an invitation as being part of the Ramblers Group. D Dholakia stated she was not party to the invitation list but would ask the question.

J Brightmore ask if under the Bus Review, could the use of ENCTS passes after 11pm, be considered again. D Dholakia stated that this issue is on the list for the Mayor's consideration.

J Hoare talked of the recent TfN meeting he attended and thought it would be worthwhile for a TfN representative to attend a future meeting.

D Dholakia confirmed that the Mayor had been invited to the next meeting in July, but his attendance was not confirmed as yet.

N Spetch commented on the lack of rail timetable information on the TSY website.

**Action: D Dholakia to investigate with the Service Information team**

## 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

## 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 18 July 2019