

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Planning & Transport Committee held on
28 March 2017 at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway**

Present: Cllrs. S. Scott (in the Chair)

Mrs E. Orpen
E. Bathe-Taylor
K. Walker
R. Loveridge
P. Cottrell
Mrs E. Martin
K. Dando
E. Gordon

1. Speaker from First Bus

The Chairman welcomed Alan Barrett, General Manager of First Bus for the Bristol Area. Mr. Barrett said he had been in post for a year and there had been a chronic staff shortage due to low pay rates. 330 buses in Bristol need new ticketing equipment. E-tickets do not always work. There was a need for more training for drivers in customer care. Management was now tackling these problems.

The 75/76 bus was a very long route and was operated by 44 buses and 150 staff. It carried 10 million passengers per year.

The route was being reviewed in September by their Route Manger, Ian Street, and any suggestions from the Town Council would be welcomed. At present, First Bus were having significant problems with Metrobus and utility works.

Mr. Barrett answered questions on the following topics from Councillors:

- Can the route of some 75s be extended into Asda to help older people? This will be considered.
- The RTI system was not realistic and often gave the wrong information. The system is operated by the West of England Partnership and First Bus was discussing whether more helpful information could be given. New equipment was needed as the RTI system was using out of date technology.
- There are particular problems with buses for Charlton Hayes residents. The local authority has to determine whether there is a need for a service under the 1985 Act.
- Buses need to use residential roads to provide a useful service to residents. In Patchway, it is not enough to run buses on Highwood Road and Coniston Road as it is too far for people to walk to a bus stop. This particularly refers to the 75, which previously used Rodway, Durban and Bradley Roads. This route is now only used by the 625 which is an hourly service. A partnership between SGC and First Bus was needed with a commitment from the bus company that they would

run on a given route. There is a problem with residents parking on both sides of the road and making it too narrow for buses.

- Buses do not tie in with train arrivals so passengers can be waiting at Parkway for a considerable time.
- There is a problem that there is no connection of buses, e.g. 75 and 82 at Patchway Roundabout.
- A suggestion was made that there should be an inspector at The Mall bus station to redirect buses to maintain a regular service. Some buses were returning to Bristol via Hayes Way and missing out Coniston Road all together, causing unacceptable delays to passengers.
- One Councillor who catches the 75 to Patchway from The Centre each day after work, sometimes waits for more than half an hour and then several 75s or 76s come together.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Barrett for his attendance and helpful responses. Mr. Barrett said he would respond to the Council in writing when he had discussed the issues raised with his colleagues and would be pleased to receive any further information. Mr. Barrett then left the meeting at 8.30 p.m.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Grotzke, Coleman and Greensword.

3. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman stated that Councillors must declare their interest under the Model Code of Conduct in any matter to be discussed, either at the beginning of the meeting or when it is raised during the meeting.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 28 February were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, proposed Cllr. Martin seconded Cllr. Bathe-Taylor.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Community Plan

The Committee noted that a meeting of the Steering Group had been held the previous week and a regular monthly meeting had been agreed before the Planning & Transport Committee. It had been agreed to invite the Charlton Hayes Residents Association and local Patchway community groups to take part in the

design of the consultation. A community event would be held during the Festival, advertised in the June Patchway People. Tom Llewellyn, who was co-ordinating the project, would contact as many groups as possible by email.

6. Local Rail Services

The Committee was pleased to note the comments of the Railway Development Society on the Council's response to a request for support for local rail services. The response was circulated to Members and is given below:

Many thanks for your report which is most helpful. You make an excellent point about Patchway Station having an advantage over the A38 in the rush hour when the buses have no hope of running to time.

Thank you also for your comments about the benefits of a station in Henbury. In December 2013, I went to a meeting at Henbury hosted by Charlotte Leslie MP on the case for a Henbury loop service. The bus journey of about four miles from Bristol Parkway station involved changing buses at Cribbs Causeway and took longer than my 34 mile train journey from Gloucester to Parkway. I made the point in Railwatch a few months later that big cities cannot solve their transport problems with buses alone. Railfuture has just submitted proposals via our national Chairman, Chris Page, for his meeting with Rail Minister, Paul Maynard, to upgrade waiting facilities, walking routes and bus/rail interchanges at a number of stations in the Bristol area. One of these was Filton Abbey Wood but I am sure that Patchway could be included in a future submission, based on your comments on the need for better bus connections and a larger car park. Chris Page has now replied to Branches that we must try and persuade stakeholders, presumably the West of England LEP and local authorities, to support these proposals.

7. Planning Applications

The Committee made no objection to the following planning applications:

29 Callicroft Road	New vehicular access
123 Gloucester Road	Rear extension and dormer windows

Cllr. Dando agreed to contact the Planning Officer over concerns on the lack of parking for the extension of 6 Willow Close.

The Committee noted the following applications approved by SGC:

Highwood Road	Telecom mast on highway land
35 Bradley Road	Single storey side extension

161 Gloucester Road	Rear extension & 2 dormer windows
Londis Convenience Store 7 Coniston Road	ATM machine and surround
6 Bay Tree Close	Rear conservatory
23 Callicroft Road	Single storey side & rear extensions & new vehicular access
55 Hawthorn Close	Single storey rear and side extension
Charlton Hayes	Central Green Spine layout, access and landscaping (Reserved Matters)

8. Cheques to be signed before the end of the financial year

The Committee approved the following expenditure and signed cheques so that these items could be included in the accounts for the year ending 31 March:

To Whom Paid	Particulars of Payment	Sub Total	Total Cheque
HMRC	PAYE		4743.47
BANES	Pension		3501.64
Murray Hire Centres	Hollow Tyne Lawn Aerator Hire		55.20
David Ogilvie Engineering Ltd	WW1 Seat		972.60
Mr. M Dark	Window Cleaning Casson	20.00	
	Callicroft House	70.00	90.00
British Gas	12 Month Care plan and Gas Safety Records for Changing Rooms at Scott Park (Main Pitch)		484.60
Mogford Prescott	Repairs to door of Casson Centre 03/02/16	55.44	
	New light fitting and installation Casson Centre 03/02/16	97.92	
	Removal and replacement of faulty emergency light in back office inc. fitting and tubes 24/03/16	328.80	

	Plumber clearing blocked urinals 7/07/16	133.33	664.45
HMC Patchway	Tyre Repair Truck		18.00
George Carr Saws	Blade and Shaft for Hedge trimmer		56.96
The Consortium	Stationary	13.88	
	Cleaning Materials	24.82	38.70
Blakeney Road Allotments	Supply of Electric to portacabins		38.15
Lucy Hamid	Pull-string for Mower	6.00	
	Caustic Soda for public toilets	15.72	
	Postage	123.93	
	Travel	225.45	371.10
	Total		11,034.87

9. Other matters raised by Councillors

- a) Parking on double yellow lines in Sycamore Drive
 Cllr. Gordon reported that cars were parking illegally in Sycamore Drive.
 The Clerk would take this up with Parking Enforcement at SGC.

10. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 25 April at 7.30 p.m.