

MINUTES OF MOBILITY FORUM

Wednesday, 6 May 2015

Maple Room, Fairfield Hall

Present:

Yusuf Osman	Chair
Claire Page	Vice Chair
Stephen Aselford	PTLP Rep
Nick Baker	Tramlink
Sylvia Barnabas	U3A
Mairead Barnes	Disabled Drivers
Chris Cook	Observer
Graham Harding	People with Sensory Impairment
Sue Hawkins	Sign language interpreter
Chunilal Jobanputra	Croydon Disability Forum
Charlie King	East Surrey Transport Committee
John Osborne	Access officer, Croydon Council
David Page	Dial A Ride
Andrew Pelling	Councillor, London Borough of Croydon
Roy Phillips	Challengers, Friday Group
Jean Pikett	Service user
Sam Russell	London Overground
Andrew Stranack	Councillor, London Borough of Croydon
Russell Sparks	Sensory impairment team, LBC
Tracey Bishop	Regeneration team, Croydon Council

1. Apologies

Councillor Steve O'Connell, Keith Bill, Adrian Dennis, Andrew Harrowell, Linda Lourenco and Rob Macchi.

Jean Pikett was congratulated by members of the Mobility Forum, on being awarded a certificate, by the Mayor of Croydon for her long term service (27 years) to the Croydon Disability Forum.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, 25 February 2015 were proposed and accepted.

3. Matters arising from the minutes as notified to the chair before the meeting

John provided a brief update regarding the Fiveways consultation which was presented at the last meeting. Update attached.

4. Transport for All

Pan London Mobility Forum update

Claire and Stephen had attended the Pan London Mobility Forum.

Stephen reported that the focus of the meeting was to look at the First Group bus companies court case where a wheelchair user was not allowed on a bus in Leeds.

The meeting was followed by a visit to St Pancras station.

5. Croydon Accessible Transport

Taxi Driver training

Yusuf provided an update on behalf of Rob Macchi.

Members were asked to contact Rob if they want to be involved with the development of the half day training course. A date would be arranged to look at the training pack at a mutually convenient time.

The purpose of the course was to address the needs of taxi passengers with mobility problems to be transported safely and in complete accord with the 2010 Equalities Act and legislation at local level, secondly the needs of drivers of accessible taxis and cars to understand the requirements to carry out their duties safely, confidently and courteously.

The course will be accredited by Brighton University and is currently a half day course, the mandatory training will be extended to one full day.

Yusuf to inform Rob that Claire would be interested in attending.

Ashley is waiting to hear from Rob.

John gave a quick run through of the presentation which will form the basis of the taxi driver training.

6. Dial-a-Ride

David Page presented the report on behalf of Kerry Lee. Copy attached.

Joyce will be asked to contact Chunilal Jobanputra regarding the tendering of routes and bus breakdowns.

Chunilal Jobanputra was asked to attend the next Area Forum meetings to raise questions on behalf of the Mobility Forum, regarding the tendering of routes and reasons for the numerous breakdowns of buses so that a formal response can be reported back to the Mobility Forum.

Mairead agreed suggested Chunilal be provided with clerical support.

Roy raised an issue regarding the pick up point at Selsdon Centre for the Retired which may need to be addressed.

David will contact Joyce Mamode to provide a response as to why the number of requests had reduced in Croydon at the Area Forum meeting.

Further information requested regarding decision to exclude electric wheelchair users from black cab service, which could also be raised at the Area Forum meeting.

It was suggested that mobility shops and manufacturers should be made aware of the limitations for public transport users.

7. Discretionary Travel Services

Simon Wadsworth presented the report on behalf of Linda Lourenco. Copy attached.

If a Freedom Pass renewal has not been requested by the end of 16 May, then a new application will need to be completed. Between 17 May – 30 June, applications can still be made at the Post Office.

Older people support groups and community groups should be able to provide support for completing forms.

Users of Computer Cab have recently had issues specifically requesting a black cab rather than a mini cab. Simon stated that Taxi Card users can contact the Discretionary Travel Service to chase up with the company and an official complaint should be initially sent to ComCab and London Councils to look into.

8. Public Transport Liaison Panel

Transport for London – Tramlink update

Nick Baker presented his report. Copy attached.

Mobility Forum members were asked to be aware of a scam on the trams and trains concerning a person travelling on the system asking for money for their sick child – Members were asked not to give any money.

London Overground

Sam Russell presented his report. Copy attached.

In 2018, new rolling stock and fares will be introduced, in the meantime current stock is to be refurbished. New fares will be Oystercard based and TfL will be making an announcement soon.

Members were informed that priority seats could be found just inside the doors of dedicated carriages (which were identified by their different colour). The doors are indicated by wheelchair stickers.

Sam will feedback suggestion to TfL regarding the use of 'P' stickers, similar to those used on Southern trains.

PTLP

Stephen Aselford presented his report. Copy attached.

Tennison Road bridge will be officially opened on 16 June.

Charlie King reported that as from September the Mayor has agreed that bus route 154 will run as an all night service on Fridays and Saturday and asked if Stephen could clarify at PTLP if this was still going to happen.

Southern Rail

John Osborne presented the report on behalf of Andrew Harrowell. Copy attached.

9. AOB

A limited number of the Easy Access Guide were available from libraries and Croydon University Hospital and an electronic version would be published on the Council website.

John thanked everyone involved with the production of the amended Guide.

10. Date of next regular meeting: Please note change of venue due to the national election.

Wednesday, 22 July 2015 in the Community Space, Bernard Weatherill House