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BEESTON COMMUNITY FORUM

Beeston Forum General Meeting - 5th September 2013

Agenda

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Guest Speakers-
 - I) Rt. Hon. Hilary Benn, Member of Parliament for Leeds Central
 - II) Mr Ian Mackay, Neighbourhood Planning Officer, Leeds City Council
4. Minutes of the meeting of the Beeston Forum held on Thursday 1st August 2013
5. Police Report
6. Report of the subgroup dealing with a Neighbourhood Plan for Beeston
7. Brief Discussion about Residents Car Parking
8. Correspondence
9. Any Other Business

Please note that there is no Committee Report as there has been no committee meeting since the last Forum meeting

Minutes of the meeting of the Beeston Community Forum held on Thursday 1st August 2013

Attendance:- Christine Thornton (in the chair), Mr. R. Almond, Mr. R. Bell, Mrs. B. Binge, Mr. W.J. Birch, Mr. D. C. Bottomley, Mrs. D. Brooke, Mr. K. Burton, Mrs S. Burton, Councillor D. Congreve, Mr. J. Cunningham Mrs. M. Dinsdale, Mr. J. Fenton, Councillor A. Gabriel, Mr, J. Hodgson, Mr. J. Hook, Mr. R. Hunt, Miss. P. Johnson, Mr. A. Kirby, Mr. Y. Mahmood, Mrs. M. Mason, Mr. D. McGough, Mr. J. Morton, Miss. E. Newton, Councillor A. Ogilvie, Mr. M. Parry, Rev. L. Pearson, Mr. J. Peckham, Mr. F. Swift, Mr. G. Turton and Mr. R.J.W. Winfield . **When the minutes were considered by the following meeting Ash Mahmood pointed out that a number of comments attributed to his brother, Yasir Mahmood had in fact been made by him. Obviously, therefore, Ash Mahmood should have been recorded as having been present at the meeting. In the interests of simplicity, where comments had been attributed to Yasir Mahmood in the originally published version of the minutes, I have changed this to Ash Mahmood and this has been highlighted in red.**

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks- Christine Thornton welcomed those present and thanked them for their attendance at the meeting. She wondered whether people can believe that it is now August and acknowledged that she had thought that the Forum meeting is next week until Robert Winfield phoned and reminded her of the date!
2. Apologies for absence were received from Noor Zaman
3. Guest Speakers- Christine Thornton introduced the guest speakers, Tim Flanagan; Land Securities Communications' advisor and Dean Stratton, the Centre Manager for the White Rose Centre. It was noted that Dean Stratton was attending in place of the originally expected guest speaker, Gerald Jennings, who was unable to attend

3.1 Tim Flanagan thanked the Forum for inviting him again and noted that it was nine months to the day since his last appearance as a guest speaker; on 1st November 2012. He noted that at that time, there was the first initial phase of the public consultation relating to the plans by the White Rose Centre to expand. Since then, there had been a busy Christmas. The White Rose Centre has featured on Television, notably on Boxing Day when there were broadcasts by the BBC every hour. The BBC had broadcast from the White Rose as it is a successful shopping centre and in order to represent post-Christmas shopping in the North of England. Tim Flanagan recalled that when he last visited the Forum, a number of issues had been raised in the Question and Answer Session. He noted that the principal issue was car parking. A number of people had been concerned about the increased traffic which is likely to result from the extension of the centre. He recalled that Forum members had suggested developing land which belongs to Land Securities close to Sainsburys at the south end of the centre. Bill Birch wondered whether this is a reference to the scrapyards. Tim Flanagan said it is, and that the premises used to be Trad Scaffolding. The firm stopped being a tenant around two years ago and the land is now occupied by a mechanic who fixes buses. Using the land for this purpose could solve two issues; it would tidy the area and it would provide good utility use for the land. It is intended that the car park for employees at the Centre. He noted that there will be some building on existing car parking spaces when the centre is extended. It is hoped that the new car park will compensate for this lost space.

Tim Flanagan noted that there had been some changes to the proposed design of Debenhams and one other store as a result of consultation with planning officers. There have also been changes to the extension to Primark. Tim Flanagan added that there had been a further public consultation at the White Rose Centre on 11th and 12th May 2013. 98.9% of those who attended the consultation said they were in favour of the plans; the proposed cinema was seen as being particularly popular and a big development for South Leeds. Members of the public particularly like the fact that around 1000 jobs will be created as a result of the extension, due to the restaurants, new cinema and extended shops. There will also be job opportunities for local people arising from the construction.

Dean Stratton said that it is a shame that Gerald Jennings was unable to be present at the meeting; he noted that he is on holiday. Dean Stratton added that he has never previously attended a Forum meeting. He said that it is great to be at a community meeting. He noted that he lives locally and is based at the White Rose Centre. He noted that the White Rose is a fabulous shopping centre and said that it has more of a community feel than would be expected for a shopping centre. 3500 people work at the White Rose Centre and there is a 60-40 split between full time and part time employees; similar to what would be expected in retail. The development is exciting; it will bring around 1000 jobs to south Leeds. He noted that research had been conducted in May amongst 1600 employees at the White Rose Centre. This found that 40% of employees live in the five closest postcodes to the centre and 60% live in Leeds. On this basis, if the centre does nothing, 60% of employees in the jobs which will be created would be expected to be local people. However, Dean Stratton said that the White Rose Centre hopes to grow this proportion and is liaising with retailers and leisure operators. (he noted that most new employees will work for the retailers; the cinema will employ only 25-50 people). It is hoped that the retailers will promote the new jobs to local people. The White Rose Centre will also work with Employment Leeds (Leeds City Council's employment arm). The White Rose centre will also promote vacancies to organisations in South Leeds first, and jobs will also be advertised in the centre. It would be good if as many jobs as possible go to South Leeds. Dean Stratton noted that there are around 900 shopping centres in the UK many of which offer services similar to those offered by the White Rose Centre. He noted that the White Rose Centre has a learning centre 'The Point', which is given rent free to Leeds City Council to promote training and opportunities at the White Rose Centre. The centre prepares people to apply for jobs. Dean Stratton noted that he has worked in retailing for 15 years. He said that it is great for young people to start their careers in retailing. His ambition is that the White Rose Centre is a source of jobs for local people. Tim Flanagan noted that the planning process in relation to the proposed extension has continued with a position statement being presented to a Plans Panel Meeting earlier in the day. It was noted that David Congreve had been in attendance. It was hoped that the planning application would be determined at a Plans Panel meeting on 26th September. He said that there was still some way to go in relation to discussions on transport, traffic and parking issues, and retail impact on other centres.

3.2 The meeting then opened up to questions and comments from the floor. Amongst the issues raised were bus services between the centre and nearby areas, particularly during the evening, a possible rail halt at the Centre, whether tenants have been lined up for the extension to the centre, the location of the proposed cinema, the provision of additional security at the centre, possible disruption resulting from construction work, car parking by staff at the centre, the state of the bus station at the centre and the woodland walk at the Centre.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 2013. Robert Winfield noted that he had been reminded by Mark Parry that he had attended the meeting, but his name had been omitted from the list of those attending. Robert Winfield stressed the importance of those attending signing the attendance sheet; any inaccuracy of the list of those attending renders the minutes inaccurate. Mark Parry pointed out that section 8.4 of the minutes refers to his own statement to the plans panel meeting. He felt that this should be amended as the statement was the Forum's statement, not his own. Subject to these matters, the minutes were accepted as a fair and accurate record of the meeting

5. Matter arising- John Hodgson noted that Councillor Angela Gabriel had spoken about Residents' car parking at the last meeting. He noted that he does not always blame Councillors for not telling us things, but noted that on 11th July he received a letter about the scheme referring to a session connected with the consultation process at Beeston Library on 17th July. On the previous Monday he had spoken to as councillor who knew nothing about this event. He urged Forum members to 'watch the Council in August', and noted that today's newspaper is full of details about parking fines. It was noted that some of the funds from parking fines would be directed to a Park and Ride Scheme. He said that consultation processes organised by Leeds City Council under the control of whichever political party is a farce. He had received two letters which need a reply; one on 1st August, the other on 2nd August. How many local residents had seen the letters? John Hodgson asked whether a resident living in a terrace house with no off-street parking facilities, would need to

pay extra for owning two cars, or if he wanted visitors to be able to park. He noted that the parking situation would only be affected by matches at Elland Road around 28 times per year. If a residents parking scheme was applied 24 hours per day, seven days per week, a white van could look for empty windscreens, raising fines for breaches of the permit scheme. John Hodgson felt that a scheme might be more appropriate in the area around St. James's Hospital. Angela Gabriel pointed out that at present, the consultation process is only amongst people who currently hold parking permits. She added that the Councillors are trying to get parking permits for the area around the new police station for match days only. John Hodgson asked whether there would be a public consultation with residents where there is the intention of putting in a new scheme. He also wondered whether the Council listen to views. Bill Birch recalled that when the idea of the new police station was first put forward, it was noted that 4500 parking places would be going. The Council's solution to this problem was to introduce a residents' only parking scheme covering an area which extends as far away from the site of the police station as Jessamine Avenue. Her feared that this idea would come back and suggested that we should tell Leeds City Council that we do not want this.

Robert Winfield felt that it would be appropriate to inform the meeting that following a decision of the last Forum meeting, he had written to Leeds City Council seeking to secure a guest speaker dealing with the issue of possible charges for parking permits at the present meeting. He had received an e mail from Andrew Hall of Leeds City Council explaining that he was having difficulty in securing a speaker for the meeting and asking about the possibility of attending future meetings. Robert Winfield pointed out that accommodating such a speaker at the September meeting would be difficult if not impossible as we are already committed to hosting Rt.Hon Hilary Benn MP and Ian Mackay of Leeds City Council. A third guest speaker would create difficulties, particularly if there is also a local issue which requires significant discussion. With the October meeting also having guest speakers allocated (dealing with education), there would be a choice of a Special Forum meeting, or waiting until the November meeting (which might be too late). Robert Winfield suspected that there would be no support for a Special Meeting in August. Greg Turton felt that Leeds City Council should send a letter to anyone who might be affected by any extension of a residents' parking scheme. He noted that there had been discussion about extending the scheme which applies on matchdays to everywhere closer to Elland Road than Dewsbury Road. He noted that he has never been affected by any residents parking scheme and felt that there should be timely and relevant consultation which takes on board the thoughts expressed by local residents. Residents need to be asked before Leeds City Council make up their mind. He said that the consultation about the proposed Elland Road Park and Ride scheme had taken place 'after the horse had bolted' and was 'a farce'. He felt that there would be no need for a residents only parking scheme in his area. A member of the audience however felt that such a scheme would be needed when the car parking in the Elland Road area disappears. John Hodgson noted that the consultation process in relation to the Elland Roads Park and Ride Scheme had been carried out in car parks in Leeds City Centre. John Hodgson added that Councillors in this area had been treated badly by Leeds City Council. Councillor Angela Gabriel, however, insisted that this is not the case. She said that councillors are aware of what is going on, and the councillors are consulted in their capacity as such. She asked John Hodgson what it is he thinks the councillors are not getting. John Hodgson noted that his own parking permit entitles him to park on the Sunnyviews and Wesleys. He noted that there would not only be a cost for cars owned by residents but a cost relating to visitors. He wondered whether Forum members are aware of figures for residents, visitors and scratch off cards. Angela Gabriel said that the current consultation process is a true consultation in which residents are asked what they would prefer and no decisions had so far been made. Richard Bell noted that if a residents do not pay now, why would they want to pay in the future. Angela Gabriel stressed that the consultation process had not concluded and that Leeds City Council would need to collate figures. Councillor Adam Ogilvie said that Council Officers will bring a paper to the Executive Board of Leeds City Council which had originally agreed to the consultation process. The officers will compile the results of the Consultation and the Executive Board would decide. **Ash Mahmood** asked whether residents have a say or whether the consultation process has been predetermined. Mary Dinsdale noted that it is intended that visitors to Cockburn High School will use the new facilities at the school. She wondered whether such visitors would be permitted to park in the school grounds or whether they would be forced to park in the streets. Would there be adequate car parking space at the school?. Councillor David Congreve noted that during the day, the facilities would be used by pupils. He felt that during the evenings, parking would be available at the school. He did not think that thousands of people would turn up to use the facilities. There might be a local club or community group booking the facilities. Mary Dinsdale however said that there are issues on the Southleigh Estate in connection with visitors to the school. Refuse collectors were unable to get down streets and she feared that parking permits would be introduced. David Congreve felt that he does not believe that this would happen.

It was resolved that Robert Winfield would write to Andrew Hall expressing the views of the meeting. With regard to a meeting, it was agreed that Robert Winfield would ask about the urgency of the issue. There was no support for a Special Meeting in August; however, it was felt that there should, if necessary be a Special Meeting of the Forum in September.

6. Police Report- PCSO Rooks said that in the current warm weather, it is important for residents to keep doors and windows closed. Greg Turton felt that the Cross Flatts Area is developing as a racing track for quad bikes. Christine Thornton said that two youths had been going up her street on small motor cycles. PCSO Rooks noted that the police had had a call relating to bike racing on the Woodleas. PCSO Rooks said that the police can confiscate any bikes involved under section 59. John Fenton said that between 3p.m and 6p.m bikes are going so fast that it is impossible to note their registration numbers. Greg Turton noted that there are also young children playing in the streets. Christine Thornton added that there are young children playing in Cross Flatts Park. PCSO Rooks said that this issue would be added to the local priorities. John Hook said that a quad bike starts off at the far end of the Parkwood Estate, then moves through the Southleighs and eventually onto Cross Flatts Grove, whilst what he suspects is a second bike starts on the Cardinals and goes up Gipsy Lane onto Middleton Woods. **Ash Mahmood** noted that bikes had been going up Tempest Road and that this had been reported. PCSO Rooks said that a bike had been confiscated under section 59 Anti Social Behaviour. He noted that the police are required to give one warning before taking the bike. He noted that a bike can be confiscated if its owner is speeding or causing a noise

nuisance even if the bike is legal. This power can also be exercised in relation to cars. PCSO Rooks said that many people had said that this is annoying. Pauline Johnson said that the riding of bicycles goes on until 8p.m. She added that children play in the street, and feared that there could be an accident. John Peckham said that two nights ago, he had phoned 101 to report two people riding a motor bike. He felt that there could be three vehicles involved. On Monday night, bikes had been across the Park up Tempest Road. This seems to be the season for 'boy racers'. He added that they drive up and down the street so quickly that he is lucky to see them, let alone note their registration number. Dennis Bottomley noted that he lives in Marsden Place and said that the bicycles go up one street and down another. When a bike (which is a blue vehicle) opens up, it makes a considerable noise. He wondered whether the bicycle concerned is licensed. PCSO Rooks said that this bike is licenced and its user had already had one warning . Dennis Bottomley wondered whether it is possible for police to force owners of vehicles which they pull up to take them to MOT Centres. PCSO Rooks acknowledged that he is unsure of this. Bill Birch noted that the police used to prepare a leaflet on which local residents can make comments. He asked whether the police still do this. PCSO Rooks said that the police still have these leaflets.

7. Subgroup dealing with Beeston Neighbourhood Plan. Greg Turton noted that since the last Forum meeting , the Forum Committee had met and voted to establish a subgroup which would last until the designation stage for the Neighbourhood Forum. The subgroup consists of four members; Greg Turton, Mark Parry, Noor Zaman and Richard Bell. The subgroup has had its first meeting and discussed a number of issues, notably the arrangements for meetings of the subgroup, the terms of reference (which have been drafted and are to be reported to the Committee of the Beeston Forum) , the timetable for the Neighbourhood Plan, the designated area for the Neighbourhood Plan (which must be approved by Leeds City Council) , how we consult the community, and funding requirements (it was noted that we are entitled to grant funding and support funding). It was decided to seek clarification in relation to support funding . It was noted that there would be no need to apply in the early stages but that the group will apply for grant funding. The group also discussed a rough timetable for the preparation and distribution of a leaflet . It was envisaged that the leaflet would be produced in October and it was hoped that the area would be designated by Leeds City Council at the same time. Richard Bell noted that one challenge which was identified when we spoke to Ian Mackay is the area and the scope of the plan. This was debated for a while and it was recognised that the issue is to target who we need to speak to, namely residents, business people, councillors , voluntary groups; in short people who contribute to the area. Richard Bell noted that the subgroup debated the issue. Although we had been advised not to get hung up on the issue, this was recognised as the elephant in the room. Richard Bell felt that the debate about the area is a done deal. He noted that we are the Beeston Community Forum and we have a designated area. Thus, the obvious area is the Beeston Community Forum Area. It was noted that the definition of the area is based on the Beeston and Holbeck Ward of Leeds City Council. He passed around a map showing the Forum area, although he recognised that parts of the area had been cut off. . Bill Birch expressed concerns that the biggest problem facing the area is massive developments around the area. He felt that the White Rose Centre and Cottingley should be included within the neighbourhood plan area. However, Richard Bell said that he had not been advised that a neighbourhood plan cannot address these issues. However Bill Birch said that his understanding is that a neighbourhood plan cannot influence developments outside the plan area. He acknowledged that he is not an expert about this issue. Robert Winfield suggested consulting Ian Mackay about this issue. Greg Turton said that Ian Mackay had been consulted and had advised that the neighbourhood forum area should have strong boundaries and should be an area with which local people identify. Local people would need clarity as to who has a vote in the referendum to approve the neighbourhood plan and who does not. The area needs to make sense as defined by physical features He had also advised that what we have proposed seems excellent to him. John Hodgson noted that the Ring Road is a boundary for the proposed Neighbourhood Forum Area , but not Dewsbury Road (which would cut off the Southleigh Estate). He pointed out that the Southleigh Estate and Cottingley have their own residents organisations and felt that these should be contacted about our plans. Richard Bell said that there is a danger of the neighbourhood plan area covering the whole of Leeds. He asked where we draw the boundary. John Hodgson noted that he is unaware of the boundary of the Holbeck Neighbourhood plan area, but felt that this is unlikely to cross the motorway. Would it be courteous to inform the group involved with the Holbeck Neighbourhood Plan about our plans. Richard Bell said that other residents organisations within the neighbourhood Forum area are interested parties and would need to be involved in the plans. Christine Thornton said that we are obliged to let them have input. Bill Birch noted that Ian Mackay felt that the proposed boundary is good. On this basis, he expressed a willingness to withdraw his suggestion that the boundary of the neighbourhood plan area should be changed. Richard Bell noted that the area incorporates a mix of residential areas, retail businesses, industry and green space. Councillor Angela Gabriel felt that we would need a bigger meeting to determine the boundary, and that local businesses need to be involved. Richard Bell said that the challenge is to understand who to invite. Angela Gabriel noted that there was recently an open day in Holbeck which anyone who considers that they live in Holbeck was welcome to attend. She noted that no one living on the Cardinal Estate or Parkwood Estate, for example was present at the present meeting. Richard Bell said that the Neighbourhood Forum could change the boundary. Greg Turton proposed a resolution dealing with the Boundary of the Neighbourhood Forum Area as follows:-

“The designated area to be used in the preparation of the Beeston Neighbourhood Plan shall be that currently used by the Beeston Forum as detailed in its Constitution’

The resolution was passed by 23 votes to nil with five abstentions

8. Correspondence:-

8.1 Robert Winfield noted that following an e mail from Brian Pine, the Facilities Manager for Health for All (Leeds) ,the Committee had discussed the plans for a replacement kitchen at Beeston Village Community Centre. The committee felt that it might be appropriate to replace the domestic kitchen with a commercial kitchen which would be easier to clean. Christine Thornton had also suggested that a water geyser might be incorporated into the kitchen. However, Brian Pine advised that as the new kitchen will be paid for by insurance, it must be a like for like replacement ; it is therefore not possible to replace the domestic kitchen with a commercial kitchen, or to

incorporate a water geyser.

8.2 Robert Winfield had received an e mail from Councillor Richard Lewis in response to our letter expressing concerns about the nature of the consultation process in relation to the Elland Road Park and Ride proposals. Robert Winfield explained that owing to pressures of time, he would not read his original letter but instead leave a copy on the top table so that members of the Forum who wish can study the letter. Robert Winfield felt that Councillor Lewis had not responded to all the points and suggested that we write a further letter. Richard Lewis apologised for not having responded until now , due to urgent family business but understood that we had also sent a copy of the letter to Martin Farrington. Richard Lewis added that in addition to attending the Forum meeting , the formal consultation is running throughout the month of July including an exhibition and drop in session at Beeston Library. On the routes into the City and onto Elland Road outside the site, there are some temporary traffic signs with a simple message directing people to the website or to the highways call centre. The webpage www.leeds.gov.uk/ellandroad has details of the scheme, Frequently asked questions and links to an online questionnaire. Leeds City Council held an event in Briggate on 3rd July 2013 and plan to hand out leaflets at other locations in the City Centre. Richard Lewis added that Leeds City Council feel that this is an appropriate level of public engagement at a level appropriate for a scheme of this nature. With regard to the concerns about the questionnaire, which were also raised at the Forum meeting, Richard Lewis noted that the Council is committed to equality and as such needs to make sure that they have reached a representative cross section of the community with the survey. This is why questions about gender race and age are included. Richard Lewis added that we can be assured that the results of the survey will be published and considered as part of the planning application and future council decisions. In terms of the analysis, Richard Lewis pointed out that Leeds City Council can provide us with the results as we request. Subject to the number of responses , these should be available in August. Bill Birch agreed that we should send a further letter seeking answers to the questions which had not been answered . He also felt that there should be genuine consultation, not just an exercise. John Hodgson noted that Leeds City Council had been speaking to people outside the area, and added that the traffic lights at Wesley Street would be made even tighter. He noted that the lights at the bottom of Wesley Street would have bus priority as part of the Park and Ride scheme. He noted that he had seen people die outside his house as a result of traffic accidents; he noted that he did not like discussing this in case relatives of those affected were present. He felt that the consultation should be with people travelling through the area. Bill Birch recalled that the Council already had a contract with a company in relation to the Leeds Incinerator before planning permission was granted for this. He wondered whether Leeds City Council has a contract with First Bus in relation to the Park and Ride Scheme. Robert Winfield noted that there had been some speculation that the Council wanted to have the Park and Ride in operation by the time when Leeds hosts a heat of the Tour de France. This further raised suspicions that the consultation process is not genuine. It was agreed to send the letter proposed by Robert Winfield.

8.3 Robert Winfield had received a letter from Rt.Hon. Hilary Benn MP who explained that he is pleased that the Beeston Forum is setting up a neighbourhood plan for the area

8.4 Robert Winfield noted that there had been an exchange of e mails between him, John Peckham and various Leeds City Council officers in relation to the safety at the junctions with Dewsbury Road of Westland Road and Middleton Grove.

9. Report of Committee Meeting held on 18th July 2013- Christine Thornton noted that there had been discussions about the Neighbourhood Plan (already referred to at the meeting) and the kitchen (similarly, already dealt with). Arthur Kirby told the committee that he had been approached by Steve Crawford of Crawfords Fish and Chip Shop, who had told him about problems with accessing a bin. Robert Winfield noted that the committee had decided that we suggest to Mr Crawford that he raises these issues directly with the Highways Department and our councillors and that we would be happy to assist him if he does not obtain satisfaction. Christine Thornton added that the Forum does not exist to lobby on behalf of individuals.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 **Ash Mahmood** said that Aspiring Communities was seeking the views of local residents as to what they would like to be included in their proposed development on the Ice Pak site on Barkly Road. Christine Thornton noted that she had been telephoned by Robert Winfield who had told her that he had received an e mail from Zeb Ahmed of Aspiring Communities at 4.55p.m today, asking for a speaking slot at the meeting. She noted that it is not possible to arrange a slot at such short notice, but that a future similar request could be considered.

10.2 Robert Winfield noted the recent announcement that Shaun Harvey had ceased to be the Chief Executive of Leeds United FC but would remain a Director. Robert Winfield suggested that we contact Shaun Harvey asking for our advice as to the most appropriate person from Leeds United FC to invite as a guest speaker in future. Greg Turton noted that Shaun Harvey had recently been appointed as the Chief Executive of the Football League; he suggested that we congratulate him on this appointment. He felt that for Shaun Harvey to remain a Director of Leeds United FC would represent a conflict of interests. It was agreed that we congratulate Shaun Harvey and write to Leeds United FC seeking advice as to the most appropriate guest speaker.

10.3 John Peckham noted that the Leeds Pride Event would be taking place in Leeds City Centre on Sunday 4th August. He noted that as a result of this , bus services would not be allowed through most of the City Centre and that the nearest anyone travelling by bus from Dewsbury Road can get to Leeds City Centre will be Great Wilson Street and Leeds City Centre. These diversions will apply until midnight. He had e mailed Arriva and First Leeds to express his concerns about this matter and had received a response from First. He had also e mailed the councillors and had received a response from Angela Gabriel. He had taken the matter up with Councillor James Lewis and Metro as Metro had only announced the diversions earlier in the day. He noted that the situation relating to bus services along

Beeston Road was somewhat different. Christine Thornton said that it would have been nice to know about the diversions sooner; they must have known that the event was taking place. Richard Bell said that the issue is the notice of the diversions. It was agreed that we would send Metro an appropriate letter.