## ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES of the Transport and Road Safety Forum – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2009

Held at Civic Offices, Elstree Way, Borehamwood at 18:30 hours.

PRESENT: Councillors: K Bright (Chairman)

P Strack G Franklin

J Cartledge London Travel Watch
P Giles Sovereign Buses
H Kassrai Herts Highways
M Singelee Sullivan Buses
D Sullivan Buses

K White Herts County Council

Members of the public

In attendance: J Charin Town Clerk

## 1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr.s E Butler, R Butler, J Heywood and M Heywood; and from Mr J Brown of Borehamwood Pensioners' Rights. Cllr. G Franklin substituted for Cllr. E Butler.

### 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th February 2009 were approved and signed as a true record.

## 3 Update from London TravelWatch.

J Cartledge provided an update on Thameslink improvements. Farringdon station has been upgraded for 12 car operation; the Moorgate branch is now closed but there is a through service to Bromley.

Proposals are due within weeks for the film related design theme for Borehamwood station, when there will be a stakeholder consultation led by First Capital Connect.

There are now new lighting columns at the station to improve lighting for both passengers and drivers.

#### 4 Bus Stops and shelters

K White said that new style bus shelters are now located in Leeming Rd and Arundel Drive. Also, a bus shelter had been moved from Milton Drive to Manor Way, where there is a new business development; this is a 292 route.

Regarding access to Borehamwood station, K White reported that there are conflicting issues to resolve concerning parking, buses and pedestrians but to make use of available funding, First Capital Connect engineers, the county council and the borough council are to meet within weeks to address these issues.

In response to a question from H Kassrai, K White explained that there are no plans to replace all shelters with the new style shelters. Bus shelters are owned by different organisations each responsible for their own decisions; the new style shelters are likely to be located in areas subject to more vandalism rather than be used as standard replacement.

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J Cartledge highlighted that there is no consensus on the naming of individual bus stops amongst the different bus companies, TfL and the county council. K White responded that he was following national rules to avoid name duplication and that he was working to reconcile this problem. There is also a need to ensure that the same name is used on both sides of the same road; TfL in particular do not always use the same name for bus stops which are opposite each other. P Giles pointed out that the systems used by bus companies can rename bus stops easily.

On behalf of Cllr. E Butler, Cllr. G Franklin asked if the shelter on Cowley Hill could be transferred to Thirsk Rd.

K White agreed to look into this and report back, but explained that there is a general reluctance to move shelters, not so much because of cost, but because the process of consultation is complicated when placing a shelter in front of a private residence.

#### 5 Bus services in Elstree and Borehamwood

K White reported that the county council is to discuss with Sullivan Buses the B3 Hertswood School service and the 398 route, though there are no changes as yet.

There are changes to some of the times of the 658 Borehamwood to St Albans via Shenley route, with no changes to the service frequency.

Improvements at peak time are due later this year to the 655 Borehamwood to St Albans via Radlett route.

With regard to delays in the issuing of concessionary bus passes discussed at the last meeting, J Cartledge asked to record his appreciation for the swift way in which this was resolved.

## 6 Road Safety Issues

Cllr. G Franklin raised the issue of the chicanes in Gateshead Rd, highlighting the issue of parking on the chevrons, which he will raise with the police.

P Giles said that in Manor Way cars parking too close to the traffic islands causes similar problems for buses. This parking is not illegal so it is unclear what can be done to address the issue.

D Sullivan registered concerns over exiting Borehamwood station, especially at afternoon peak times. Buses are at a disadvantage going up an incline, and are then forced to pull out into a constant flow of traffic, risking accidents.

K White responded that he was aware of the station forecourt problems and that Herts Highways are looking at the problem and TfL are also interested. Rupert Thacker is coordinating a study of the issues and K White undertook to find out the timescales, if any, for action.

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Meeting closed at 19:20 hours.
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