

## Minutes of the Local Infrastructure Review Working Group held on Thursday 16th June 2022 at 2pm at The Costessey Centre / Zoom

**Present:** Cllrs T East (Chairman via zoom), T Laidlaw, J McCloskey, J Newby & N Bailey (Deputy Clerk)

### **To elect a Chair for the civic year**

**L01/22:** Cllr East (on zoom) was elected as Chairman and Cllr Laidlaw as Vice-Chairman in case there was an internet failure.

### **To receive apologies for absence**

**L02/22:** Cllr P O'Connor (Clashing appointment)

### **To receive declarations of interest**

**L03/22:** All members declared a non-pecuniary interest as they held concessionary bus passes

### **To discuss and consider the response to the NCC Bus Service Improvement Plan Survey**

**L04/22:** Members delegated a response/completion of the online survey to the Deputy Clerk as the closing date was 4<sup>th</sup> July see L07/22 below.

**L05/22:** A printed copy of the survey was available, and an opinion was formed as to how to answer the questions. The importance of the Queen's Hills Bus Lane (under construction) was highlighted in discussions around new routes connecting Thorpe Marriott/Taverham to NNUH via Longwater. The dedicated bus lane could also support a service along West End connecting it to an existing route serving Townhouse Road/Norwich Road and Longwater Lane. Commercial and residential growth around the outdoor ring road would benefit from the reintroduction of an orbital route, meaning Costessey residents would need to switch services at Sweet Briar Road.

**L06/22:** The Improvement Plan indicated that a Town Council or Local Member could request a service if there was some evidence to back up demand. More information would be sought from County Council Officers. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

**L07/22:** Important points to include on the survey response –

- Better seating at bus stops and more public input into their placement.
- Fare capping across all companies.
- All buses to have a lowering mechanism for wheelchairs/less able.
- Priority at traffic lights.
- More Bus Lanes.
- More RTI at stops and information announcements on buses.
- A Greener fleet
- Cleaner buses
- Offer discounted fares to young people up to the age of 25.
- Have a fares promotion to encourage people to continue or start using bus services
- Introduce fare capping so you pay a maximum amount for your journey
- Link other travel options with facilities at certain stops (e.g. cycles, scooters, mobility aids)
- One ticket system across all operators

**L08/22: Further points made:** Ensure NCC projects like the Norwich Western Link & Transforming Cities Bid co-ordinate with the Bus Improvement Plan. Look into the feasibility of a congestion charge to Norwich City Centre. Make efforts to increase use of bus services to surgeries and dentists etc. **Action: Deputy Clerk to contact County Council Officers.**

**To confirm the date of the next meeting**

**L09/22:** It was agreed to schedule the next meeting when required

**L10/22: The meeting finished at 3.25pm.**

**Chairman:**

**Date:**