



Transport Forum
Notes of the meeting held on Monday 28th January 2019 at
Barnsley & Rotherham Chamber of Commerce Office

Present:

Clive Watkinson (JC Snell) - Chair Mark Smith (Chamber of Commerce) Carrie Sudbury (Chamber of Commerce) Andrew Fosbueary (Enzygo)	Brandon Jones (First Group) Simon Brown (Highways England) Tony Hickton (Independent)
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Apologies noted:

<i>Andrew Denniff (Chamber of Commerce)</i> <i>Ian Ashmore (RMBC)</i> <i>Martin Lyones (HSBC)</i> <i>Andy Simpson (First Group)</i> <i>John Young (Stagecoach)</i>	<i>Richard Marshall (Highways England)</i> <i>Matt Gladstone (BMBC)</i> <i>Ann Beddoes (BMBC)</i> <i>Tim Vaughan (Cumberlidge)</i>
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Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome & Introductions Clive Watkinson (CW) welcomed everyone to the meeting including Carrie Sudbury, recently appointed Deputy Chief Executive for Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce.</p>	
<p>2. Notes from the last meeting - held on 1st October 2018 These were agreed as accurate.</p> <p>Matters arising – MS reported that he had asked Shane Young as Membership Manager to encourage the membership team to highlight any transport issues they may hear from members to the forum. MS also highlighted that the membership team had been promoting the working groups and forum.</p>	
<p>3. Dodworth Road proposal CW reminded the group of the issues – that as the traffic lights are close to the motorway slip road, traffic often backs up and causes delays. BMBC had considered several options. CW has several concerns with the option being progressed by the council and asked for members views.</p> <p>Discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TH referred to the Stairfoot roundabout development which has got better over time and made the point that any new scheme needs time to bed in before real benefits are seen. • From transport planning point of view - traffic backing up towards motorway. Main issue with planning permission granted to the north. Extra growth near hospital expected to make it worse. <p>4. Highways England update SB provided an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding confirmed for next round over 5 years. • Prioritisation process going on now. Schemes dept want and what HE want. Expect 	<p>Action – Andrew Denniff to speak to BMBC</p>

to be modest as lots of commitments on money.

- Transport infrastructure bodies will influence what is successful therefore visible backing of schemes and proposals can make a difference. For example, the Doncaster bypass and M18 up to Redhouse upgrade (which is being treated as one development) would welcome support.
- Rotherham parkway improvement – Ian Ashmore leading M1 jc33
- Sheffield innovation link parallel Catcliffe area up to Meadowhall. Highways England are supportive of both schemes and on project boards.
- TransPennine upgrade - construction start march 2020

CW said he welcomed information on smart motorways keeping people informed such as 60 speed limit due to helping with air quality.

5. TransPennine Tunnel Update

TH referred to an email he had received from Highways England (included at the end of the minutes)

6. Update from Public Transport members

CW explained John Young had asked for this to be a standing item on forum agenda.

John Young sends his apologies due to a meeting clash but reported via email:

- Rotherham Interchange reopens on 3 March.
- Stagecoach are revising fares from 3 February with some new offers aimed at leisure travellers. £2.50 for any person offering unlimited evening travel after 6pm every night. Also, Five for a Fiver on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays, valid for any group of 2, 3, 4 or 5 people (adults or children) travelling together - covers a full day's travel.
- Stagecoach doubled the frequency of their X10 Barnsley - Leeds and X17 Barnsley - Meadowhall - Sheffield on rail strike Saturdays from 5 January.

BJ reported current consultations include Transport for The North and City Region Strategy. Announcement by SCR Mayor just before Christmas. Next meeting in Doncaster today - hoping to endorse plan at meeting. 3 goals economic opportunity residence; cleaner and greener - air quality; safe and reliable local network and wider network. Increase GVA, frequency of rail service, Sheffield Manchester and Leeds; increasing trips; reducing casualties and air quality carbon. BJ would like to see bit more focus on journey speeds. TH said connectivity is the key issue.

2026 Rotherham plan. 2040 SCR plan - largely rail focused - What does that mean for Barnsley and Rotherham?

7. Tram meeting

CW referred to the meeting the Transport Forum held in December where visitors discussed the idea of creating a Tram link to Manchester and a potential tram system for Barnsley. This suggested a link to Manchester by taking trams across the Pennines.

CW felt the idea of a tram scheme for Barnsley lacked understanding of key issues such as suggesting in areas that are up hill and also where there is already good bus coverage. Furthermore, those concerned had not consulted Network Rail even though most of their ideas would have to use their lines. Sheffield to Denton, opening up tunnel. Costings significantly down. Not spoken to tunnel owners.

8. National Grid's Dunford Bridge proposal

CW reported that National Grid was considering changing the way electricity is taken

across the Pennines i.e. remove pylons from national park and look at putting cable underneath rail track. Chamber replied to say they would support this idea providing it did not compromise the tunnel being open to rail traffic in the future and that any associated future costs would be paid for.

TH said TfN report does not say anything about existing train lines at Dunford Bridge and neither does National Grid.

TH doesn't think should give up on the idea of tram train coming from Manchester to Sheffield. Therefore thinks tunnel should be available in case of any future developments.

9. HS2 Update

TH reported HS2 still remains a difficulty in SCR. Highways England are considering changing road design in the Leeds area. SB is looking at options for future proofing of network as very close to patch in case expansion wanted.

10. AOB

- TH reported he attended a Doncaster Business Insight Roundtable event hosted by Doncaster Chamber where Peter Kennan (Private Sector Board Member on the SCR LEP) gave an update on transport issues. A copy of the briefing was circulated in the meeting.
- Northern Rail – survey with 15 qs regarding RTF strikes, new services etc. Members are encouraged to complete it please.

**MS to
send link
to
members**

On Mon, Nov 5, 2018 at 9:47 AM PennineTunnelStudy <PennineTunnelStudy@highwaysengland.co.uk> wrote:

Dear Stakeholder,

As you know, Transport for the North are leading on investigating options for a major road scheme, including a lengthy tunnel, to transform journeys across the southern Pennines. The work is being carried out by Highways England and is supported by the Department for Transport.

We told you about the revised plans for this scheme in January and we wanted to keep you updated on our next steps for the Trans Pennine Tunnel and associated roads improvements. A consultant (WSP) has now been commissioned to carry out the detailed modelling and analysis which we will need to produce a Strategic Outline Business Case.

The planned schedule of work for the next eight months is:

- **Autumn/Winter 2018:**
 - Traffic modelling to fully understand the impact of the scheme on the wider road network
 - Work with Highways England Design Panel to begin process of delivering an exemplar design which will minimise environmental impacts
 - Production of cost challenge report

- **Winter 2018/Spring 2019:**

- Complete traffic modelling and economic analysis

- **by June 2019:**

- Produce Strategic Outline Business Case and submit to government

Transforming road and rail connectivity across the Southern Pennines is one of Transport for the North's strategic objectives. The Trans Pennine Tunnel study is just one option under consideration for this area and its business case, if approved, will inform our long-term investment programme.

We plan to hold a stakeholder engagement event once the Strategic Outline Business Case is completed to further update you all in person and we will issue an invite for this in 2019. However, we are happy to answer your questions at any time – please email PennineTunnelStudy@highwaysengland.co.uk and we'll be in touch.

Kind regards

Trans Pennine Tunnel Project Team

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Web: <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk>