
After a very small previous meeting (in Nov 2017) this was about the biggest I can remember, and with several councillors and officers. There were so many people that the usual 'everyone introduce themselves' did not happen, so it was impossible to know the makeup. Less than half the people spoke at all, but given the numbers that was probably just as well! Martin & I were there officially from Spokes, and Peter from CUK.

This is not attempting to be a complete report, but just picking up on points of interest.

LM = Cllr Lesley Macinnes

Matters arising

- **Bike ban on trams in festival** – I had raised this at the last Forum, as despite the 2016 successful experiment the rules had not been changed on their website, so I raised it again. To my amazement they said that bikes are now allowed throughout the whole year (subject to guard discretion) and the Tram Board would be asked to approve changing the website wording shortly – so, a mini victory for us. I also then mentioned that (I think!) there are signs at the tram stops that also need reworded.
- **Structure of AT Forum** – they were not proposing any major changes, despite the extensive discussion at the last forum. There was a brief discussion, including...
 - *Peter*: There should be input from Planning – it was agreed to invite a Planning speaker next time [maybe we should then ask for a regular person there from Planning, as used to happen at the Cycle Forum 5+ years ago]
 - *David Hunter*: Forum should be monitoring implementation of ATAP
 - *Dave*: There should be a regular agenda slot for anyone to raise any important current issue, for brief discussion (possibly by submitting qns in advance). *Phil Noble*: this is already being considered.

City Centre Transformation

Presentation by Daisy Narayanan, then discussion. This was under Chatham House rules, so people could say anything but not to be released outside the meeting. I therefore won't say more except that I anyway felt nothing too controversial came up! However, some factual issues, which are already widely known...

- The project will fully take account of the many city centre and relevant wider projects already at various stages of development, but will take an overall view, coming up with additional measures, priorities, etc.
- Basically, the work is at a very early stage, Daisy speaking to as wide a range of relevant people and organisations as possible, to start developing ideas, a vision, objectives, then later actions, etc. This will continue over next few months, including speaking and discussing at our summer public meeting. A report will go to the August TEC Cttee, then public consultation on the developing 'scenarios' in the autumn.
- Public consultation will cover the Transformation, LEZ and the next LTS together, as all are closely related.
- A final detailed report, with action plan and investment strategy has to go to TEC 3.3.19 meeting, and Daisy hopes implementation will begin in summer 2019.

Tram Extension

A brief but useful talk from 2 of the tram developers. They emphasised strongly that no consultation analysis is yet done, but themes emerging seem likely to include...

- premises access on Constitution St (most parking/loading removed)
- cycle provision, especially Pilrig to Foot of Walk, but also on to Newhaven
- use of central reservation
- no right-turns across LW except at signal junctions
- no ped crossings across LW except at signal junctions, from Pilrig on
- design of Elm Row.

Dave: surely traffic reduction opportunities is emerging as a theme? *Reply:* yes, and this is being considered under second bullet above

David Hunter: seems very engineering-based, not much on placemaking. *Reply:* yes, this is happening too.

Chas Booth: Greens support tram in principle but cannot support this implementation – it has to be made more compatible with Council AT policies & aspirations. *Reply:* we hear you.

George St/ New Town project

Very brief summary of current position by Phil Noble in absence of Anna Herriman, the project leader.

- There is very close working with Transformation, CCWEL and MGS projects. [I asked if CCWEL was losing out somewhat as now part of wider project – Phil Noble insisted that it is a top consideration]
- Stakeholder consultn in next few weeks
- Public consultation expected June – will include concrete proposals, not just objectives & principles!

AOB

- The **2018 ATAP update process** is now due towards the end of the year
- I asked if staffing yet appointed for the 2 **CL+ projects** that were approved for funding in September.
Reply: not yet! I expressed disappointment & surprise – I should also have mentioned that this impacts on other projects too, as existing staff have to be taken off other projects to get things started.