
Report of meeting from external body

Author : Carmel Cannon

Information Item (c)

LTW 285

Drafted 28/1/09

Croydon Public Transport Liaison panel minutes

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To record for information the proceedings of a meeting of an external body attended by a representative of London TravelWatch.

2 Information

- 2.1 The minutes of a meeting of the Croydon Public Transport Liaison Panel held on 20 January 2009 are attached as Annex A. The Director, Research and Development, represented London TravelWatch at this meeting.
- 2.2 The minutes were prepared by Croydon Council and London TravelWatch has no responsibility for their content or format.

3 Equalities and inclusion implications

- 3.1 Not applicable – report is for information only.

4 Financial implications

- 4.1 Not applicable – report is for information only

5 Legal powers

- 5.1 Section 248 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 places upon London TravelWatch (as the London Transport Users Committee) a duty to consider - and where it appears to the Committee to be desirable, to make recommendations with respect to - any matter affecting the functions of the Greater London Authority or Transport for London which relate to transport (other than of freight). Section 252A of the same Act (as amended by Schedule 6 of the Railways Act 2005) places a similar duty upon the Committee to keep under review matters affecting the interests of the public in relation to railway passenger and station services provided wholly or partly within the London railway area, and to make representations about them to such persons as it thinks appropriate.

Annex A

6 Recommendation

6.1 That the report is received for information.

Annex A

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

PUBLIC TRANSPORT LIAISON PANEL

Meeting held on Tuesday, 14 October 2008

Present: London Borough of Croydon

Councillor Chris Wright (Chairman);
Councillor Richard Chatterjee (Vice-Chairman);
Russ Burton (Member Services);
Indra Patel (Planning and Transportation);
Paul Kelly (Street Scene Services);

London Buses/TfL

Chris Hall (TfL Surface Transport);
George Perry (TfL Surface Transport- Stakeholder Engagement).

First Capital Connect

Larry Heyman.

Southern

Ian Rashbrook.

Tramlink

Navid Golshan (London Tramlink);
Danny Stephen (Tram Operations Ltd).

Metrobus

Joanna Keane

East Surrey Transport Committee

Charles King.

Arriva

Bob Pennyfather

London Central

Rachel Jones.
Lame Serroukh

London Travelwatch

Tim Bellenger

Metropolitan Police

PS Peter Salter

Croydon BID

Colin Tanner

Annex A

1/08

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Apologies for absence were received from Councillor George Ayres, Stephen Aselford (Mobility Forum), Daisi Osibona (LB of C), Stewart Saunders (LB of C), Michael Donovan (Rail Regulator) and Yvonne Leslie (Southern). Welcome to Ian Rashbrook (Southern).

2/08

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- None.

3/08

NOTES/ACTION SHEET FROM PUBLIC TRANSPORT LIAISON PANEL MEETING HELD ON 15 JULY 2008 AND MATTERS ARISING

- Noted action points and corrections listed below:
- Re: Minute 4/08 Page 3 bottom of page – Re:ibus role out Chris Hall (LB/TfL) advised that it should be rolled out on the majority of routes by 31.03.09 and by the end of this year in Croydon.
- Re: Minute 4/08 top of Page 4(12) Performance Graphs 2008 - Chris Hall (LB/TfL) had raised with LB/TfL the matter concerning London Buses Operations staff attending officer Traffic Liaison meetings.
- Re: Minute 5/08(2) Page 4 Sussex RUS – Noted that Stewart Saunders had written to the DfT on this.
- Re: Minute 5/08 bottom Page 7 1st Action Point – Larry Heyman (FCC) reported that he hoped to be in a position to report on variation in rolling stock via visual presentation at the next meeting.
- Re: Minute 5/08(19)(a) Page 9 Charlie King drew attention to the need for Route 197 to be diverted to avoid South Norwood Railway Bridge, Portland Road as part of the re-tendering process for the route.
- Re: Minute 6/08(6)(B) Coulsdon Town Centre – Charlie King (ESTC) advised he had attended a 'Traders' meeting the previous evening and they would still like the bus stand moved to outside Sentinel House as the existing stop does not serve the Town Centre well. By extending the bay and removing two parking bays on one side it could be moved to Sentinel House, but there would be a gain of three on the other side of the road where the existing stop is.
- Re: Minute 6/08 (10) N68 Route – complaints reported about this service but operators not aware of problems.
- Re: Minute 6/08 Page 12/13 Performance Issues – Route 157 – Travel London representatives not present but problem may now be dealt with.
- Re: Minute 6/08 Page 14 Mobility Issues (6) London Overground Lack of Publicity – Chris Hall (LB/TfL) commented that he was not sure what more can be done.

Annex A

- Re: Minute 8/08(a) AOB: Charlie King (ESTC) requested if there was any progress on the extra bus stop promised in Purley High Street subject to moving 2 parking bays.

ACTION: Chris Hall to chase up and report back the latest situation.

4/08

BUS AND TAXI

(1) Surface Transport News Update

Chris Hall (LB/TfL) gave details of the 61 new mobility buses being built in conjunction with mobility groups.

Chris Hall (LB/TfL) updated the panel on Zip cards incorporating a behavioural code and reported that the majority of school children were now using them. Peter Salter (Met Police) commented that Police on duty at W. Croydon Bus Station help control kids getting on buses and check the use of Oyster Cards which also are used as ID cards and identification of offenders.

Panel members supported the need for Oyster Card availability to schoolchildren to be constantly advertised and availability updated. The Police can withdraw Oyster Cards if schoolchildren badly behave whilst the Mayor for London is understood to be looking at some form of community service penalty.

The Panel suggested there was scope to improve publicity and suggested giving leaflets to the Police to publicise and at the Safer Croydon Office at W. Croydon Bus station. The Panel also suggested having a list setting out criteria of who can travel on buses similar to that displayed on Trams at West Croydon bus station and on buses.

Chris Hall (LB/TfL) updated that the 'Safer Travel at night' scheme being rolled out again which will be re-advertised again about the danger of using unlicensed cabs.

Chris Hall (LB/TfL) advised that the 'Routemaster' design competition had now closed.

(2) Bus Route Consultations Update

Chris Hall (LB/TfL) advised that the consultation on the western extension of the congestion charge had now closed. Consultation letters had been circulated and responses now received.

(3) Forthcoming Bus Service Changes

No new news reported on bus service changes.

ACTION: Chris Hall to advise on Christmas and New Year Services and to 'e-mail' Russ Burton (LBC) of any news available to circulate to panel members.

(4) New Surface Transport News if any

No new news reported.

Bus Route Consultations:

- (5) Bus Services (a) Stage 1 Consultation: 2010-11 Tender Programme Noted.

(b) Major Changes for bus route 463 – July 2008

- Charlie King (ESTC) noted the positive commitment to extend the service to Coulsdon South Station subject to 2 parking spaces being moved and requested when will this change occur?

With regard to request for Sunday service – this had received a negative response which with a 1 1/2 mile walk up a steep hill there was a definite need for a service.

East Surrey Transport Committee would wish to see a service run on a Sunday for at least part of the route even though it might be on a social need rather than cost effective basis.

Major changes for route 463 – July 2008-10-22

Noted with route 455/463 to Valley Park a footpath is needed between Boots and B and Q to avoid a 3/4 mile walk.

ACTION: Chris Hall (LB/TfL) to pursue this even if it is on a long lead in time basis.

(c) Consultation Tranche 255A – Routes 119,246,320,352,354,356 and 358

Chris Hall (LB/TfL) commented that analysis of consultation procedure results is underway.

(d) Bus Routes 64 and 672

Charlie King (ESTC) requested if route 64 could be diverted via Canterbury Road as other parts of the route are better served.

ACTION: Chris Hall (LB/TfL) agreed to look at this suggestion.

- (6) London (Long – Distance Bus) Service Permits Noted.

- (7) TfL Consultations on bus stopping arrangements

Tim Bellenger (LTW) asked what progress has been made on these arrangements?

Chris Hall (LB/TfL) confirmed proposals to make changes but there are no funds for a proactive change over.

With regard to supply of bus stops, the existing stock has run out, stops wont therefore be replaced until new stocks are available.

Bus Matters raised by East Surrey Transport Committee:

- (8) (a) Reliability of routes 60,127 and 466
Charlie King (ESTC) commented that route 127 was operating better under Metrobus but there was still a peak operating problem with the volume of traffic on the Tooting and Mitcham leg creates gaps.
Joanna Keane (Metrobus) confirmed that Metrobus were aware of this and were looking to put in an extra bus on the route.

Annex A

Re: route 60 Charlie King (ESTC) raised concerns of passengers on this route turning early at the Red Lion stop, as it was the only one serving parts of Coulsdon and despite Arriva operating more frequent service they turn more buses than Travel London previously did.

Bob Pennyfather (Arriva) again reiterated the need for the public to report problems direct rather than waiting for BTLP meetings to come round, and noted the reported passenger perception that route 60 is not reliable.

London Buses are monitoring the situation.

ACTION: Bob Pennyfather (Arriva) to investigate the weekend issue on this route.

Re: route 466 Charlie King (ESTC) raised concern that Arriva had also experienced significant problems after taking over route 466 from Metrobus. Also the number of buses being turned short at the Tudor Rose stop where again no other buses going beyond it.

Bob Pennyfather (Arriva) commented that there was'nt a single identifiable problem, as in the first week the new buses suffered electrical problems, whilst the second week a serious accident caused delays in Central Croydon which coupled with the intake of a lot of new drivers on route 466.

There had also been heavier than expected school loadings which may need extra minutes built into the timetable.

After a settling down period it was hoped to eliminate some of the short turning journeys and keep them to a minimum.

Complaints were also raised concerning some Coulsdon Accademy buses being cancelled recently with parents alleged complaints of buses not stopping on 12 occasions.

The Chairman felt it was of real concern if that is happening on 'half empty buses. Generally the view was felt that the reputation of all the 466 route had fallen as complaint letters from pupils of Coloma college at the other end attest.

Bob Pennyfather (Arriva) advised that a thorough investigation was being undertaken as Arriva were not happy being compared unfavourably to previous operators, although only three buses per day were being turned short.

The Panel also noted complaints of route 466 buses parking outside a residents house with the engine running and an occasion when two buses got stuck parked on either side of the road, and also similar occurrences with route N68. Again complainents should be encouraged to report occurrences and details of registrations / fleet numbers /times as soon as they occur which will enable the drivers to be identified.

Some complaints of incivility of drivers had also been reported.

Annex A

Bob Pennyfather (Arriva) advised that amongst the remedial measures to be trialled could be using different buses to see if the doors open quicker enabling timings to be improved.

ACTION: LB/TfL/ Bob Pennyfather (Arriva) to take on board these comments and also Stoats Nest Road issue.

(b) Bus stop names – what is the procedure for changing them.
Chris Hall (LB/TfL) commented that if names are considered inappropriate London Buses will look at requests to change them.

Operational Issues

- (9) Safety and Security, Litter and Graffiti Issues
P.S. Peter Salter (Met. Police) outlined changes to the 'Safer Transport Team' since the last meeting with three teams ring fenced for this duty and operating from 7.15am Monday to Friday with the objective of making the transport hubs safer, deal with problems involving school children at West Croydon Bus Station, stopping anti-social behaviour and ensuring pupils get to and attend school. East Croydon Station bus stops are also patrolled in the afternoon as another hub for school children in conjunction with BTP / Street Wardens/ Safer Croydon Team. In partnership 'Operation Safe For All' had been recently launched. Police will go to areas where figures indicate there are big problems.

(a) Bus / Tram accident fatality – George Street, 07.09.08
Noted reports of incident.

(b) Toilets at or near bus stand
Chris Hall (LB/TfL) outlined that it would be TfL's aim to provide a toilet at one end of each route and they were working with local authorities to try to provide those there, subject to resolving planning permission problems that can be a difficulty. Plans exist for a toilet to be provided in Coulsdon on a former toilet site along Brighton Road.

(c) Possible proposals for 'yellow' school buses
Chris Hall (LB/TfL) reported that this had been the subject of ongoing discussion with the Mayor's office for some time but there was nothing firm at the moment.

- (10) Fiveways Rush Hour Tailbacks Caused by Faulty Cables
Noted Press extract.
- (11) All change on Croydon's Buses – Bus Route/Operator Changes
Noted and that it was a misconception that there would be any reduction in buses.

Mobility Issues

Annex A

- (12) Bus Stop Accessibility Programme.
Noted no new update reported.
- (13) Various Matters raised by Steven Aselford (Mobilty Forum).
- (a) Re-opening of West Croydon Bus Station Travel Centre.
Tim Bellenger (LTW) advised that London Travelwatch had also been pressing for this and were pleased to note that TfL had agreed to provide an extra kiosk window.
- (b) Lack of information re:Tram Suspension / Diverted Buses following Bus/Tram/ Car Accident – George Street on 07.09.08.
Noted – see Minute 4/08(9)(a) above and 5/08(4)(b) below.
- (c) Route X26 – Introduction from 22.11.08 – Request for what Publicity Arrangements will be given.
Charlie King (ESTC) welcomed increased frequency on route X26 but requested if it could be diverted via Stafford Road and Wallington and also an extra stop on Purley Way.
ACTION: Chris Hall (LB/TfL) to follow up.
- (14) Matters raised by OPEN
No new matters raised
ACTION:Chris Hall (LB/TfL) to let Russ Burton (LBC) know if he has a new contact for OPEN
- (15) Mayor announces free travel for injured War Veterans
Noted.

Performance Issues

- (16) Performance Graphs July 2008 and QSI Statistics Quarter 1 – 2008/09 (01.04.08 – 20.06.08)
Noted overall satisfactory statistics.
Bob Pennyfather (Arriva) commented re:route 289 that it works but is expensive to operate.

TfL News

- (17) TfL Borough bulletin – September 2008
Noted.
- (18) Design a new 'Routemaster' bus competition
Noted that there had not been a huge take up with 150 entries.

Local Transport Bill

- (19) Draft Community Transport Regulations
Noted.

5/08

TRAM AND UNDERGROUND

Tram Infrastructure Issues

(1)(a) Tramlink Officers Update on Tramlink Operations/Developments
Navid Golshan (Tramlink/TfL) reported progress on introducing the new livery for Trams/ new branding and refurbishment of tramstops which feedback revealed was being well received.

(b) Tramlink starts revamp.
Press extract noted – see also Minute 5/08(1)(a) above.

(c) Croydons Trams to get deep clean
Press extract noted – see also Minute 5/08(1)(a) above.

(d) Update on Tram Extension to Crystal Palace
Navid Golshan (Tramlink / TfL) advised that the Mayor for London was reviewing the business case for an extension which included reviewing priorities and funding, however there was little chance of anything happening for 2012.

Safety and Security, Litter and Graffiti Issues:

(2) Graffiti and cleansing issues on Tramstops - Update.

Paul Kelly (Croydon Streetscene) reported improved response under TfL ownership with regard to Tramlink cleansing.

(3) Security Issues on Trams/Tramstops/Underground

The Panel welcomed reported new BTP/Met Police/ Local Authority initiatives to improve safety on the Tram / Underground system.

Matters raised by East Surrey Transport Committee:

(4) Matters raised:

(a) Welcomed increased frequency on the Beckenham branch in evenings and at weekends.

Noted.

(b) Overcrowding – morning peaks – New Addington.

Panel members reported concerns regarding the New Addington to Wimbledon branch during peak hour when it is not possible to get on the first train due to overcrowding and requesting if extra trams could be run in am/pm peak periods.

Danny Stephen (Tramlink) reported the lack of a tram due to the recent George Street accident leaving the fleet one short at the moment, but it will be a juggling act being managed on a daily basis for the next few weeks but with optimism that things will improve.

Annex A

Councillor Richard Chatterjee queried the situation if the damaged tram cannot be salvaged.

Danny Stephen clarified that in that situation it would be for TfL to look at sourcing an extra tram.

(b) Tram exterior and window cleaning.

Previous tram washing had left calcium residue traces on windows, however specialist contractors had been brought in to deal with the refurbished tram, however it requires TfL investment to come up with a permanent solution.

Colin Tanner (BID) advised the panel that Croydon BID are keen to engage with operators in regard to cleansing of Trams and within the Town Centre.

Mobility Issues:

(5) Matters raised by OPEN.

No matters received.

London Overground Issues

(6) London Overground
(a) Imperial Wharf Station secured.
Press extract noted.

(b) TfL Unwraps its first '378'
Press extract noted.

6/08

RAIL

Infrastructure Issues:

(1) South Central Rail Franchise - South London Rail Utilisation Strategy.
Noted the current franchise operators had put in a bid.
Croydon's consultation response was noted and included the request for re-naming of Smitham Station.

(2) Southern Matters

(a) December 08 Timetable Proposals (See also Minute 6/08(21)(b) below)

Ian Rashbrook (Southern) advised that the proposals were good news in that from December 08 major changes were proposed to achieve greater capacity on the Brighton main line including obtaining refurbished 442 units soon for additional soon to be used for additional Brighton – London am/pm peak services.

Fundamental changes to the West London line route were proposed and although the Watford-Gatwick service won't continue a service will operate from E.Croydon to north of Watford / Milton Keynes. Due

Annex A

to route capacity issues this service beyond Watford will hopefully be fully operational by end of January 2009.

Councillor Chris Wright raised continued concern about the loss of the Gatwick link and confirmed that south London boroughs will continue to press for this route to be instated to Gatwick.

Tim Bellenger (LTW) advised that LondonTravelwatch had made representations to the DfT concerning routes stopping at Wembley Central but that Virgin Trains were being unreasonable.

Charlie King (ESTC) was of the view that the new timetable is positive but requested a half hourly service on Sundays in the south of the borough. Off peak improvements to Coulsdon South were rated as very good and Tattenham Corner line improvements, as well as a wish for Uckfield trains to stop at Norwood Junction in both directions in the evening.

Ian Rashbrook (Southern) explained that concentration was on routes where demand is strongest.

The next changes will be in December 2009 concentrating on Metrolink with more improvements planned next year.

A bigger publicity campaign than normal is starting next week on a micro web site with a big media campaign from 17th November at the main stations involved, whilst the new timetable commences on December 15th.

Colin Tanner (BID) reported plans to open up a visitor information centre next to East Croydon Station using one of the vacant shop premises which together with the launch of a new website will link in with transport changes in the borough.

(b) Overview on NSIP Programme

Ian Rashbrook (Southern) advised that the NSIP programme comprises a sum of money for smaller station improvements.

The sum of £17m is available across 17 stations and includes S.Croydon, Norbury, Norwood Junction, Selhurst and Smitham.

The programme has been brought forward to do works quickly where necessary. (See also Minute 6/08 (9) below)

(3) Major Engineering Works between Redhill and Purley stations: 25 October – 3 November.

The Panels attention was drawn to the fact that different dates for the works were allegedly being shown different on posters and the CIS at Coulsdon South station.

Charlie King (ESTC) expressed concern at there being only one extra train serving Smitham Station. He also raised the matter of the lifts not yet being operational at Smitham – promised for last Sunday.

Ian Rashbrook advised that the 'facilities team' were 99% sure they will be operational this week.

The matter of use of train tickets being valid on local buses when there are rail service problems as against only on pre-planned rail

replacement services was raised and Ian Rashbrook was not sure why this should be and would look into it.
With regard to closure of the line at Coulsdon South, it was requested that the rail bridge could be painted whilst this is happening.

Ian Rashbrook also confirmed that lifts at Purley were all now working although platform one had not yet been handed back.

ACTION: Ian Rashbrook (Southern) to look into matter of validity of train tickets on buses when emergency problems occur.

Safety and Security, Litter and Graffiti Issues:

(4) Update on Maintenance/Pigeon Proofing at Network Rail Bridges.

Noted list circulated of action taken on Bridges.
Paul Kelly (Street Scene) reported it was hoped to deal with 'high priority' bridges by the end of November08. Additionally with regard to the footbridge linking Coulsdon West to Coulsdon East, Network Rail are to extend the palisade fencing and painting out graffiti on the bridge towards Hillers Heath Road. Graffiti is also being dealt adjacent to the railway in Stoats Nest Road.

Charlie King (ESTC) reminded the Panel about the Marlpit Lane bridge where Buddleia remains unkempt and could have been dealt with when other work was done, however access is required when the line is shut.

Action: Paul Kelly (Street Scene) to investigate and report back.

(5) Update on Security Issues on the Rail Network.

(a) No British Transport Police present.

(b) Closure of Woodside entrance to Norwood Junction Station

Ian Rashbrook (Southern) advised that the entrance had been re-opened and that he had attended the public 'demonstration' at the station into the issues surrounding the access problem.

Regarding the gating and locking of the Woodside entrance which was for revenue protection and controlling access onto the station, whilst noting the inconvenience to passengers it would still be open and staffed during peak, but not off-peak periods.

Work to the Woodside entrance had started on 13 October.

The new gating should be completed by Christmas and staffing issues are being looked at including staffing hours of that entrance and when that gateline will be opened and any costs involved in extra staffing.

Tim Bellenger (LTW) reminded the Panel that LondonTravelwatch had expressed concerns in advance of this scheme, and in co-ordination with the Council were seeking to improve accessways / alleyways. He hoped Southern would consider the use of CCTV at this point when it is unstaffed and for the Council to look at this alleyway from the Belgrave Road access.

Annex A

(c) Toilet at Norwood Junction Station

Ian Rashbrook (Southern) advised that whilst the toilets were still locked and out of use extra TV cameras were being installed and the cleansing contract strengthened so that the toilets can be re-opened shortly.

(d) Matters raised via Malcolm Wicks MP concerning both Bus and Rail.

ACTION: Ian Rashbrook (Southern) and Chris Hall (LB/TfL) to report back on Rail Service and night bus services serving Norwood Junction respectively..

Mobility Issues:

(5) Any Matters raised by Stephen Aselford (Mobility Forum).

(a) When there is long term weekend engineering work like the recent continuing closure of the line between Balham and West Croydon every weekend could the public be told:-

1. What they are doing.
2. When work will be finished via the weekly posters at stations:

Ian Rashbrook (Southern) advised that information is provided as much as possible when the work is easily explained but the priority is to arrange and provide alternative transport.

(7) FCC Signing at St.Pancras station

Larry Heyman (FCC) Advised that improvements are still taking place and that the work done so far has made it easier to navigate through the station.

Signing from the station to the underground and new northern ticket hall to Kings Cross / St Pancras has been delayed and it is now planned to complete by the end of 2009. This should reduce walking time to one minute from five minutes and will be temporarily signed in the interim, but will be clear when opened.

(8) Purley Station – new lifts in operation – press extract

Noted – see also Minute 6/08(3) above.

(9) Norbury Station Improvements

Noted – see also Minute 6/08(2)(b) above.

(10) Matters raised by OPEN

No matters raised

Passenger Information, Marketing and Publicity Issues:

Annex A

- (11) Southern Stakeholder Briefs: April-July 2008 and August 2008 and Performance Periods, 2008

Noted.

- (12) First Capital Connect (FCC)
(a) Stakeholder News August and October 2008 and PPM Statistics July - October 2008.
Larry Heyman (FCC) advised that performance on Thameslink is very encouraging with a peak of 91.93% with an average of 89.03%
(b) Report back on outstanding signing issues and timetable changes
-

during Blackfriars blockade.

Larry Heyman (FCC) confirmed that from the end of March 2009 cross London Thameslink route will be closed 47 weekends out of 52 and every night 10.30pm to 4.30am. Onward travel arrangements will be in place via bus / tube. Thameslink are working with other transport bodies including LondonTravelwatch to publicise interim travel arrangements/ signing for the blockade for pedestrians.

Rolling Stock changes were also outlined and their effect on the timetable with the December timetable to be circulated in the next couple of weeks, and the March 2009 timetable in the new year

- (13) Passenger Voice – Summer 2008.

Document Noted.

- (14) Re-naming of Smitham Station
Noted request has been included in Croydon response to franchise proposal which could be done by subtitling the existing station name and Ian Rashbrook (Southern) that the facilities section would need an extra £3000 to do this by strapline.
Charlie King (ESTC) suggested that Sainsbury's / developers might be asked to contribute to this under S106 monies.

- (15) Commuters face inflation-busting fares increases

Press extract noted.

Larry Heyman (FCC) explained the retail price index formula (RPI) for charges and that train operators are under pressure to meet RPI payments. It is a question of meeting the premiums franchisees signed up to.

- (16) Rail Passengers face slower train journeys into London than 21 years ago.

Press extract noted.

- (17) Southern picks up gong at Transport Awards

Press extract noted.

Passenger Interchange Issues

- (18) East Croydon Station/other stations in the Borough – Any Update

Panel members raised the matter of Bus route 463 being able to serve Coulsdon South Station and work required to be done before buses could be introduced involving moving a couple of parking bays.

ACTION: Ian Rashbrook (Southern) to ask facilities team to undertake this work.

- (19) Central London needs 100,000 extra cycle parking spaces to keep pace with soaring bike use

Press extract noted.

Councillor Richard Chatterjee on behalf of the Council's Cycle Forum endorsed the need for increased capacity for cyclists.

Larry Heyman (FCC) endorsed / encouraged cycling to stations/ folding bikes on trains and additional cycle parking, and advised that the DfT are looking at the possibility of provision for cyclists in the design of new Thameslink trains from the end of 2012 working with 'Passenger Focus'.

He referred to articles in 'Rail Professional' magazine highlighting preference for 'airline' type rather than 'bay' seating and the need to encourage folding bikes on trains and to encourage cyclists needs to be taken into account and the need to take account of DDA needs on trains in future and where they will be accommodated on trains

ACTION: (a) that the Council be encouraged to lobby DfT to achieve such improved provision; and

(b) Larry Heyman (FCC) to pass 'Rail Professional' article on to Councillor Catterjee via Russ Burton (LBC).

- (20) Mayor pledges redevelopment of East Croydon Station to progress as quickly as possible

GLA press extract noted

Rail Matters raised by East Surrey Transport Committee

- (21) Matters raised by East Surrey Transport Committee

- (a) Merstham Tunnel Blockade

Ian Rashbrook (Southern) reporting back on this

- (b) December 2008 Timetable changes (See Minute 6/08(2) above)

Annex A

Noted

- (c) FCC Thameslink work and timetable changes (See Minute 6/08(12) above)

Noted

- (d) New Barrier – Platform 2 at Purley.
Concerns were raised with the new arrangements as difficulties exist for the disabled passengers due to the gates being only at each end of the platform. What is the operating policy for them?
It may be that an additional gate is needed.

ACTION: Ian Rashbrook (Southern) to take back and look at these issues.

- (e) Franchise Update
Noted and that presentations to future meeting of the Panel by bidders to be arranged.

ACTION: Officers to arrange for presentations by franchise bidders to the Panel.

7/08

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Christmas Timetable
Ian Rashbrook (Southern) reported that on Christmas Day there will only be a coach service to replace Gatwick Express. On Boxing Day there will be a lesser service than last year with a service between London Bridge and Victoria to West Croydon, again they would be providing a coach on the Gatwick / Victoria service.
Charlie King (ESTC) requested it be extended to further south in the borough.

On New Years Eve Southern/ TfL will be providing an all night service to East Croydon. Charlie King (ESTC) requested it be extended to further south in the borough.

New Years day engineering works will be taking place and what train services can be run and what bus replacement services are being looked at and the Council will be advised as early as possible.

9/08

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- (a) Larry Heyman (FCC) to report back on outstanding signing issues (see Minute 5/08(b) 5/08(11) above).
- (b) Update on Tram Extension to Crystal Palace requested by Councillor Richard Chatterjee.

Annex A

- (c) Charlie King (ESTC) raised the matter of road works in Rickman Hill affecting route 434 and a diversion to the Mid-day Sun public house and the lack of public transport for that part of the route.

ACTION: Chris Hall (LB/TfL) to look at the problem.

- (d) Withdrawal of Bus Route N75 – Matter raised by Malcolm Wicks MP re: Norwood Junction N75 withdrawal and request for extension of bus route down from Crystal Palace to Norwood Junction which it is felt would be useful.

ACTION: Chris Hall (LB/TfL) to look at the request.

10/08

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Tuesdays 27 January, 28 April, 21 July, and 20 October 2009 .

The meeting ended at 12.36 p.m.