

 **Agenda for Zoom meeting**

**6pm-7pm Monday 4th January 2021**

Please email chrisjbarker46@gmail.com (our Zoom host) to let him know if you wish to participate and expect to receive log in details from him on Sunday.

1. Introductions and any apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the last meeting (held 30/11/20 - attached). Matters arising.

3. Campaigning.

Automated Vehicles: the Law Commission is launching a 3rd and final consultation

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/automated-vehicles/>

Peter Osmon responded on behalf of FTL to an earlier consultation (please see his article, attached) and has kindly offered to draft or co-draft FTL’s response to this 3rd and final consultation.

Pedestrianisation of parts of The Strand: <https://www.ianvisits.co.uk/blog/2020/12/28/parts-of-strand-and-aldwych-to-be-pedestrianised/?fbclid=IwAR1adbiHYiY_0AJwYLWXqqUOy9O2q6LX5JAHFuMP_tNfiCsWPiTcRajR5y0> Chris Barker to welcome this announcement.

4. Further discussion topic: Thamesmead

Maggie Heraty to report on her investigations into the Thamesmead bus network.

<https://www.ianvisits.co.uk/blog/2020/12/21/dlr-extension-to-thamesmead-gets-preliminaryfunding/?fbclid=IwAR0T2_lTzgNwzWQs8jFtaaFoGKm1z_9yy5wDYkWBKO4FMOO_aQhBO5creqw>

Please see also Bill Kay’s statement (attached) about the proposed DLR and/or London Overground extensions from Beckton/Barking Riverside to Thamesmead.

5. Newsletter: Chris Barker to update us

6. AOB and date of next meeting.



**Meeting held on 4 January 2021 on Zoom.**

Present: Peter Osmon (Chair), Neil Roth (Secretary), Chris Barker (Zoom host), Andrew Bosi (Vice Chair) Robin Whittaker, John Cox, Rob Adamson, Maggie Heraty, Alastair Hanton, Margherita Rendel. Bill Kay (guest)

Apologies: none

1. Peter welcomed us to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 30th November. Approved.

3. Campaigning.

Automated Vehicles. The Law Commission had launched a third round of consultation (as detailed in the link circulated with this meeting’s agenda). Peter asked for volunteers to assist him in drafting FTL’s timely response. Chris, Maggie and Robin volunteered.

Pedestrianisation of parts of The Strand (centred around St Mary le Strand church). Chris had responded to an earlier consultation on behalf of FTL and welcomed that this scheme is being implemented. Chris had circulated the phasing plan in his email of 2/1/21: completion was scheduled for late 2022. Aldwych would be made two-way for general traffic. In response to concerns about pedestrian space possibly being shared with cyclists, Maggie stated that such sharing was in the process of being banned throughout London.

4. Further discussion topic---Thamesmead.

Maggie gave a short presentation on destinations served by existing TfL bus routes in Thamesmead and service frequencies and concluded that bus provision was “not half bad”. It was noted that there would be Elizabeth line stations at both Woolwich and Abbey Wood. There was a discussion on the impact that improved rail access might have on local rents and the affordability of housing.

Bill Kay’s written statement, about the feasibility of extending the DLR into Thamesmead (and, potentially, all the way to Abbey Wood) and serious issues around any proposal to extend the London Overground line currently being built to terminate at Barking Riverside, had been circulated with the agenda. In addition to those issues, Bill said that any bridge would be constrained by flight paths to/from London City Airport, as had been the Thames Gateway Bridge project (Bill supplied TGB documentation available from Neil on request). Any London Overground extension in deep tunnel would require the new Barking Riverside station being built on viaduct to be replaced by another at exceptionally low level, which would be correspondingly expensive to build and to operate and its platforms further from the new housing this station was being built to serve.

5. Newsletter. Chris had published the January 2021 edition a few days before the meeting and urged members to circulate it further. He invited contributions for the next edition.

6. Website Peter reported that he was having much more difficulty developing the website than his daughter had envisaged when she suggested the WIX platform and that she was currently too busy to assist him. He did not think it was yet appropriate to include a “collecting box” but would implement a register of how many times the website was accessed, Peter asked other members for any assistance they might provide. Maggie agreed to research WIX.

7. Northern Line extension to Battersea Power Station Bill reported that test trains had started running.

The next meeting is fixed for **Monday** **1st February at 18.00** on Zoom.