

PUBLIC MEETING WITH TRENT BUSES
23RD JUNE 2015 AT 7PM
ALFRETON MEMORIAL HALL

Present:

Mayor Councillor M Bennett

Deputy Mayor Councillor M Kerry

And Councillors

G Dolman, P Hunt, S Marshall-Clarke, K Moss, C O'Brien, A Richardson, J Smith, S Walker, J Walker

Trent Representatives:

Tom Morgan – Director of Service Delivery

Vitto Pizutti – General Manager – Nines

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The Town Clerk explained the history of the concerns with Trent Buses rerouting the Nines buses along Alma Street, Grange Street and Marshall Street ,which summarised were:

Sept 14 – pinch points and bottlenecks news letters – hotspot identified

14.10.14 11c – reports of buses using Grange Street

16.10.14 – ATC write to Trent and DCC reporting use

21.10.14 – Trent respond – non recognised routes, concerns passed to Operations Manager

06.11.14 – DCC respond – penalties issued for use (Your Bus), report further usage

10.10.15 – Public raise at FC

11.03.15 – ATC write to Trent and issue press release

18.03.15 – Trent respond – route registered to avoid hotspots, H&S top priority, offered to meet

Purdah

31.03.15 – Item 10 – Arrange public meeting

02.04.15 – Letter sent to Traffic commissioner

20.05.15 – 2nd letter to Traffic Commissioner

16.06.15 – Traffic Commissioner respond – no control over route, local council control

23.06.15 – Public Meeting

OUTLINE OF TRENT'S PLANS

Trent Barton's initial response

The Director of Service Delivery thanked the Council for arranging the meeting and inviting them along, they offered an apology for their lack of consultation on the changes made.

They explained that the route had been changed due to growing punctuality issues and that fines are imposed on bus operators by the Traffic Commissioner for persistent lateness, they expect changes to be made to improve services.

OUTLINE OF PUBLIC CONCERNS

Health of the High Street and the buses by passing this area and taking shoppers away from here to the Bus Station

No public consultation of the proposed changes

Safety is an issue with 3 schools and 3 nurseries on the route

Speed of the buses using the route is a concern

Nottingham Service also uses the route, times to be clarified

'Britains Best' bus service not consulting the public on a major change and putting profit above punctuality

Councillor Marshall-Clarke confirmed that £40,000 has been secured by DCC to compete a survey of the High Street. If changes can be made then the bus can stay on route and not miss a vital spot

Trent Barton Offer

Trent encounter no safety issues with using this route and use narrower streets than this also with schools along them. Safety is paramount. Assessments done on various dates along with 4/5 times during schools times for which photographic evidence was produced.

Last bus due in Alfreton at 6, route allowed for buses leaving Derby between 9-5pm.

If improvements made re-route will not be required

Trent will keep Alfreton Town Council informed of any updates and also issue all publication to DCC and AVBC

Will await details of the survey and any planned improvements and review again

All concerns from the Council will be investigated.