

Minutes of UKTram Owners/Authorities Group Meeting

Held on Wednesday 3rd July 2019

Hosted by UKTram
16 Summer Lane, Birmingham, B19 3SD

Present:	Tom Beamon– TfGM	(TB)
	Mark Davis - TfL	(MD)
	Dan Hill - UKTram	(DH)
	Steve Duckering - UKTram	(SD)
	Robin Goodwin – Edinburgh Council	(RG)

ITEM

ACTION

1. Welcome

MD welcomed attendees to Croydon followed by a brief introductions of themselves to the group.

MD provided the group with a presentation, updating attendees on the work London Trams had carried out in regards to the Sandilands recommendations.

Apologies and Minutes

Danny Vaughan, Phil Hewitt, Christopher Hopkinson, Tom Gifford, Stuart Lowrie, Jamie Swift.

1.2 Review of Minutes from previous meeting 16/04/2019

All attendees agreed the minutes were a true and accurate reflection of the last meeting. TB raised that although Henry Chukwumah was listed as attending the meeting, there was no mention of his presentation/discussion in the previous minutes.

Actions from previous minutes:

All actions completed.

2. UKTRAM ACTIVITIES

2.1 Update on UKTram Activities/Business Plan

DH/SD provided the following update:

LRSSB The Board has now been appointed with Jonathan Fox (TfL) and Bob Morris (TfGM) representing Owners & Authorities, Carl Williams (MML) and David Nichols (KAM) representing Operators and is currently being chaired by Phil Hewitt – Following the announcement from the Minister in February, we have now been awarded funding for the first year of operation of the LRSSB. The LRSSB were under the impression that we would receive the full amount as one lump sum, which has not been the case and the Board have now written to the Minister to ask for an explanation. The LRSSB are currently working on updating the TPG document which will be available on the LRSSB website in the next few weeks.

Risk Model – The Industry Risk Model work being undertaken by Atkins is progressing well with the trial system at KAM. If anyone needs any information please contact Mark Ashmore who is leading on this project – Markashmore@uktram.co.uk. Members of the group were concerned that this could be a step backwards, as the current model is very comprehensive. This could present the industry with some challenges.

Recruitment - Geoff Inskip will also be standing down as Chair, once a new chair has been appointed this will be announced to all members and the industry.

Relocation - UKTram and LRSSB have now relocated into our own office area within 16 Summer Lane and with the move into our new office we have procured and set up video conferencing facilities.

Training and apprenticeships – Midland Metro Alliance Construction operative apprenticeship (supported by UKTram) successfully through submission stage and is now in its funding phase. Our Driver apprenticeship is now ready and available and awaiting sign ups to the course.

Events - We will be attending the Mainspring Light Rail Conference in Manchester at the end of the month. We will be having a stand at the event and James Hammett will be chairing one of the rooms.

ITEM

ACTION

Summit - The UKTram Summit will be taking place on Tuesday 10th September at Birmingham City Football Club. If members wish to attend, they must email Lorraine or Dan to confirm their place as this is an invite only event.

An agenda for the day will be circulated to members shortly.

3. Group Work Plan & Activities

3.1 WG27 – Cycles and Tram interfaces

Although Christopher Hopkinson wasn't present at the meeting, he did provide a short update. CH has now had the responses from the survey he circulated to members of the group and just needs to write up the findings and circulate the results around the respondents for comment.

MD raised that London have looked carefully at what the TPG document says and have reviewed, especially with things happening in the press and incidents that have occurred on other systems.

3.2 WG14 – Life Cycle Maintenance Costs

The group agreed that this can now be removed from the agenda.

3.3 Business Plan – Merging Owners/Promotional Group

The question was raised as to whether or not the Owners and Promotional group should be merged into one meeting, and potentially splitting the meeting so the Owners can have their own meeting.

MD raised that he didn't feel that splitting the meeting would give the right impression to the Promotional group and asking them to leave half way through the meeting, so it was agreed that the two groups should have their own separate meetings.

4. Sandilands and LRSSB Update

4.1 System updates on changes implemented or under consideration.

MD advised that they are always being asked about the enquiry in relation to the Sandilands incident. They are still no closer to the prosecution, meaning the inquest can't take place.

ITEM

ACTION

MD also advised that they are regularly writing to the ORR, providing them with updates on what work they have been doing.

4.2

LRSSB Update

Update already provided at the beginning of the meeting. Please see item 2.

DH advised that the LRSSB were still waiting to hear from the Minister as to whether or not more funding would be provided to them. MD suggested contacting the Croydon MP, Sarah Jones, to see if she could offer any support.

RG asked if the LRSSB had asked Transport for Scotland for any funding. DH advised that they hadn't contacted them for any funding streams, but would raise this with Peter Cushing to see if this could be an option.

5. Tram Train Update

5.1 Update on Sheffield Rotherham Project

The trial is going well with a good level of patronage. Currently the Stadler fleet is not performing as well as would be expected for a new fleet. Issues have included fatigue related issues with some of the brackets alongside software issues. Stadler have however provided a high level of support when issues have arose.

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Scheme Updates

6.1 CH – Sheffield

Wok on the Outline Business Case for Supertram renewals continues. Not really much else happening at present.

TB – Manchester TfGM

Growth this Summer has been as strong as last Summer

The Secretary of State recently visited and met with the Mayor. The Mayor publicly announced that he would hope to see Tram Train in Manchester in the next few years.

In January TfGM published its delivery plan, which outlines the new Metrolink, tram-train and other rapid schemes that will be developed over the coming years. TfGM is still awaiting formal feedback from DfT on its submission to extend the Airport Line to T2.

ITEM

ACTION

Metrolink received a letter from the DfT advising that they would not be awarding funding for the Large Local Majors project in relation to the airport extension, so are now looking at other means of allocating the funding. The letter detailed that this award is now only awarded to Highway schemes.

Metrolink simplified its fare structure with the introduction of a zonal system in January and will be introducing contactless touch-in/touch-out with bank cards and enabled mobile phones in the next two weeks. The system will cap fares so that customers always get the best value fare.

RG – Edinburgh Council

The maintenance cost has now been transferred from the council to the operator.

Consultation on City transportation – New tram route south of the city centre. Funding for this to be secured.

Ground trails have now started for the Newhaven extension.

MD – London Trams

Looking to extend the route to Sutton. Have identified a preferred route but have suspended any future work on it until finding a final funding solution.

Meeting with the Mayor and Deputy to provide them with a business plan and to discuss funding.

GV – Glasgow City Council

Unfortunately we have stepped back from the delivery of tram train for the Glasgow Airport Link and are looking at other options. Therefore, we won't be participating in any future meetings at this time. That's not to say that we won't be knocking on your door at some time in the future as I'm pretty sure Glasgow will be looking at tram as a means of City transport at some time in the future.

7. Any Other Business

MD raised that London have recently introduced a new Emissions Scheme which has had a big impact. Readings had taken place around schools and in total it was believed that 70 schools suffered with poor air quality. Since the new scheme has been introduced, they believe that they will reduce this figure down to 2 by the end of the year.

MD advised that they had suffered a crack to the underframe of one of their Bombardier vehicles and had shared their findings with KAM.

MD advised that they had received a phone call from Bergen. They had noticed a crack on the noddling line in their Stadler trams. The first tram London checked also had cracks, but the other 11 vehicles didn't. MD encouraged everyone to check their vehicles just in case.

RG raised that Edinburgh Council had now transferred the maintenance cost to the operator. RG also advised that there are a limited number of staff on the council now working with Edinburgh Trams. To ensure any queries or questions are being answered, RG advised that if you wish to contact Edinburgh Council, to use the following email – Trams@edinburgh.gov.uk

Future Meeting Dates

1ST October - Birmingham