

Council, Tuesday 8 September 2009

Motion 3.1 – Local Bus Services: Councillor Kath McGuirk

(i) Amendment: Councillor Monroe Palmer

Delete last two paragraphs and insert:

“Local bus services should be part of an integrated transport system and in that regard deplores the removal of route 102 from Golders Green Station forecourt.

Council welcomes the two additional afternoon peak journeys on Route 82, long pressed for by local campaigners.

Council welcomes the extended route C2.. Although this does not start in Barnet, many Barnet residents use it from Camden Town

Council regrets the failure of TfL to establish a through route between Golders Green and Stamford Hill linking two of the largest Jewish communities in London

Council believes that there is a need for a Night bus from Central London to Mill Hill

Council believes that there is a need for a bus connection to and from Copthall Stadium

Council asks the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport to write to the Mayor of London expressing pleasure in the above improvements and drawing attention to the above suggested needs.”

Substantive Motion to Read:

“Council believes that local bus services in Barnet are vital to our local community.

Local bus services support the success of the local economy, and London, in a sustainable way, by ensuring that people can get to work, businesses can operate and that residents and visitors can shop locally.

Local bus services are crucial orbital transport links, in a borough with no orbital rail links.

Local bus services should be part of an integrated transport system and in that regard deplores the removal of route 102 from Golders Green Station forecourt.

Council welcomes the two additional afternoon peak journeys on Route 82, long pressed for by local campaigners.

Council welcomes the extended route C2. Although this does not start in Barnet, many Barnet residents use it from Camden Town

Council regrets the failure of TfL to establish a through route between Golders Green and Stamford Hill linking two of the largest Jewish communities in London

Council believes that there is a need for a Night bus from Central London to Mill Hill

Council believes that there is a need for a bus connection to and from Copthall Stadium

Council asks the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport to write to the Mayor of London expressing pleasure in the above improvements and drawing attention to the above suggested needs.”

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

(ii) Amendment: Councillor Andrew Harper

Delete all and insert:

“Council notes that the subsidy to London buses rose by 1493% between 1999/2000 and 2007/8 to £653m per annum. In the same period the cost of fares has fallen by 16% in real terms.

Council further notes that cost of running the bus network in the capital is anticipated to considerably outstrip combined income and subsidy over the next nine years.

Council believes that a responsible Mayor would not allow the cost of the bus network to become unsustainable.

Council notes that TfL are studying the report by KPMG and Steer Davies Gleave which looks at a range of options to control expenditure including vehicle procurement costs, for TfL to acquire more bus depots, reducing overheads, raising fares and reducing the scope and/or volume of the network.

Council believes that Ken Livingstone, like his colleagues in the Labour government, for years outspent the resources available to him, therefore leaving a financial mess that Conservatives will be forced to clean up.

Council asks that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport work with the Mayor of London to ensure that our Borough has the best public transport that the finite resources allow.”

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

(iii) Amendment: Councillor Andrew McNeil

Delete all and replace with:

“Local bus services support the success of the local economy, and London, in a sustainable way, by ensuring that people can get to work, businesses can operate and that residents and visitors can shop locally.

Local bus services are crucial orbital transport links, in a borough with no orbital rail links.

Council notes that under former Mayor, Ken Livingstone, investment and improvements in bus services resulted in an increase in passenger journeys on London buses of about 23% between 2002 and 2008.

Council welcomes the extended route C2, though this does not start in Barnet, many Barnet residents use it from Camden Town and the two additional afternoon peak

journeys on Route 82, long pressed for by local campaigners – the funding for both of these additional services were put in place by former Mayor, Ken Livingstone.

Council believes that current Mayor, Boris Johnson's increase by 11% of Oyster PAYG single bus fares hits outer-London residents particularly hard, and his other policies to re-introduce Routemasters and reduce capacity on the bus network by removing bendy buses could cost £ millions – which would inevitably result in further fare increases and / or cuts to bus services.

Locally, the removal of route 102 and the 210 from Golders Green Station forecourt and the failure of the Mayor to establish a through route between Golders Green and Stamford Hill linking two of the largest Jewish communities in London, and another route linking Finchley and the Royal Free Hospital need to be addressed.

Council believes that there is also a need for a Night bus from Central London to Mill Hill, and for a bus connection to and from Cophall Stadium.

Mayor Johnson has commissioned a review of the Capital's bus services, and has flatly refused to rule out cuts to those services.

Council believes that any erosion of local bus services will be detrimental to Barnet residents and businesses, and asks the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport to write to the Mayor of London seeking his assurances that no bus services in Barnet will be cut as a result of the review.

Council also asks the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport to write to the Mayor of London requesting that consideration be given to extending bus services in Barnet as suggested in this motion.”

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.