

## **APPENDIX A**

### **COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

#### **Question to the Chairman of the Transport and Highways Committee, from Councillor Jacky Williams**

Would the chairman consider a re-examination of the timetable and routing for the 510 Notts Bus. Currently, people who want to use the bus for shopping in the Town are prohibited, due to the lack of buses stopping / picking up at the Stapleford memorial garden between 9.15am and 4.15pm. Could he further advise me whether plans are in place or development to extend the 510 Notts Bus into the tram terminus on Toton Lane, Stapleford, once the tram is operational later this year.

#### **Response from Councillor Kevin Greaves, Chairman of the Transport and Highways Committee**

The County Council will be reviewing the route and timetable of service 510 and will be arranging a meeting in the near future including Members and local representatives to discuss local concerns.

The service will include a stop at the tram terminus when the new line is in operation.

#### **Question to the Chairman of the Transport and Highways Committee, from Councillor Andy Sissons**

I would like to pass on the question to Councillor Greaves that scores of my residents were asking "Where are the gritters?"

Whilst I would concede that the amount of snow that fell and the short timespan in which it fell caused sudden and immediate problems, it still leaves the question, why in the following 3 – 4 days were main routes and bus routes in Mansfield NOT gritted, bearing in mind the density of population in Mansfield and the numbers of commuters, bus users and business traffic finding Mansfield's main routes dangerous and in places impassable.

#### **Response from Councillor Kevin Greaves, Chairman of the Transport and Highways Committee**

I would like to reassure Councillor Sissons that the main routes and bus routes we have in the winter maintenance plan for Mansfield were gritted.

The gritting took place on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day evening when the snow fell and repeatedly over the holiday weekend. All the Council's gritting lorries have vehicle tracking and the tracking from our website confirms that this was done.

I would like to reassure Councillor Sissons again that the routes in Mansfield were gritted in accordance with the Council's winter maintenance plan.

**Question to the Chairman of the Transport and Highways Committee, from Councillor Stuart Wallace**

Is the Chairman of the Transport and Highways Committee aware of the disappointment of residents of Earp Avenue in Newark that a residents' parking scheme for their road has not been included in the Council's draft programme of works for next year, despite a strong campaign including a petition I delivered to the Chairman in March 2014?

An officer has written to me explaining that the Council's 'highest priority next year is likely to be the need to manage the impact of the tram in Beeston, Chilwell and Compton Acres in West Bridgford', meaning that most of 'the limited funding available for parking schemes' will be 'set aside for those areas.'

Would the Chairman accept that the promoters of the tram should be funding any parking schemes which are deemed necessary around the tram zone, in line with the principle of 'polluter pays'?

Would he agree that the failure of previous Labour administrations to obtain such commitments as part of the NET Phase Two projects is no excuse for depriving taxpayers in areas far from the tram zone of traffic management measurements they have requested and deserve?

**Response from Councillor Kevin Greaves, Chairman of the Transport and Highways Committee**

There is a reason that we can only progress a limited number of residents' parking schemes and that reason is not the tram. The reason is instead that we have suffered a 44% reduction in our integrated transport grant for next year; a cut imposed by the Tory led Government. A reduction to that funding of just under a half, I repeat, just under a half means that difficult decisions must be made.

The draft programme of works for next year is just that: it is open to comment and change. This is something I emphasised at the Transport and Highways Committee meeting in October. When the provisional programme was presented, I asked that councillors come back with any feedback. There is still time to do this before the programme is finalised at the committee meeting in March.

Councillor Wallace asks for the tram promoters to fund parking schemes. But they are already funding tram-related parking because they are required to provide high quality park and ride sites at the end of each new line. These will provide the primary destination for drivers wishing to park and transfer to the tram – so reducing the need for any on-street parking. Nonetheless, it makes good sense to make provision to respond to commuter parking, should it take place.

Finally, I do not agree with Councillor Wallace that previous Labour administrations failed to obtain commitments around parking as part of the NET Phase Two project. If

anything, any failure would be the failure of the last Conservative administration to obtain financial commitments in the settlement agreement that they signed in 2011.