



## The Region's Transport Authority

**Meeting:** Bus Shelter Appeals Sub-Committee

**Subject:** Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday 21 April 2010 at 2.00pm

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PRESENT: Councillors Hughes (Chairman), Cotterill and Jones.

Apologies were received from Councillors Choudhry, Pears and Rowley.

### **PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **293/09 Recommendations of the Bus Shelter Appeals Panel**

The sub-committee considered a report of the Passenger Services Director setting out recommendations made by the Bus Shelter Appeals Officer Panel in relation to appeals against the siting of bus shelters/stops in one location:

##### **(a) Wood Green Road, Wednesbury, Sandwell**

Local residents, supported by local ward councillors, had objected to the size of the bus shelter at the above location due to the number of youths it attracted, who caused anti-social behaviour during the evenings. The Bus Shelter Appeals Officer Panel had recommended that the bus shelter be removed and replaced with a transit mini stop.

The sub-committee considered the following points:

- the low to moderate passenger usage
- the level of objection was sustained over a three year period, since the shelter was installed.

RECOMMENDED that the bus shelter be replaced with a bus stop pole.

[NB. Councillor Hughes declared a prejudicial interest in this item because she was a ward councillor of the appellants and had supported the submission of this appeal for consideration by the sub-committee. She took no part in the consideration or voting on this matter]

## **294/09 Bus Shelter Appeals - Resubmission of Appeals**

The committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Services Director and Passenger Services Director seeking the sub-committee's views on a proposed revision of the arrangements for the handling of appeals against the siting of bus shelters.

At its meeting on 24 February 2010, this sub-committee requested that further consideration be given to the procedure that was followed by Centro in its determination of appeals against the siting of bus shelters. The review was primarily requested following concern that the period of time in which an appellant had to wait before their appeal could be reconsidered by the sub-committee was too long.

In February 2005, the former Integrated Passenger Services Committee agreed the process for considering appeals by members of the public against the siting of bus shelters. This process is still largely being followed, and includes a provision that once determined, a subsequent appeal relating to the same bus shelter location could not be considered until a period of 30 months had elapsed.

RECOMMENDED that the period in which a decision could be subject to further appeal should be 18 months. The sub-committee would however in future be able to amend this requirement on a case by case basis at its discretion.

### **PART II – DELEGATED MATTERS**

#### **295/09 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2010, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman, as a correct record.

#### **296/09 Recommendations of Bus Shelter Appeals Panel**

The sub-committee considered a report of the Passenger Services Director setting out recommendations made by the Bus Shelter Appeals Officer Panel in relation to appeals against the siting of bus shelters/stops in three locations:

##### **(a) Bordesley Green [At Churchill Road], Birmingham**

Local ward councillors had requested the removal of the bus shelter at the above location because of anti-social behaviour including youths gathering at the shelter, drinking alcohol, leaving litter and being abusive to members of the public using the local shop and attending the Mosque and Islamic Cultural Centre. The Bus Shelter Appeals Officer Panel had recommended that the bus shelter be retained.

The sub-committee considered the following points:

- no alternative location
- anti-social behaviour not substantiated
- the high passenger count
- no local support

RESOLVED that the bus shelter be retained.

**(b) Church Road [Opposite premises no. 119], Yardley**

Local residents, supported by local ward councillors, objected to the proposed relocation of the shelter on the grounds of limited usage, perceived anti-social behaviour and the near-by location of an alternative bus stop/shelter. The Bus Shelter Appeals Officer Panel had recommended that the existing bus shelter be removed and a mini shelter at the proposed location outside house no. 129 and 131 Church Road be installed.

The sub-committee considered the following points:

- the aspirations of a showcase corridor a shelter be retained
- the moderate passenger count
- no recorded anti-social behaviour or crime incidents at the existing shelter

RESOLVED that the existing bus shelter be removed and a mini shelter at the proposed location outside house no. 129 and 131 Church Road be installed.

**(c) Shaftmoor Lane [Opposite premises no. 21], Birmingham**

Local residents, supported by local ward councillors, objected to the location of the bus shelter because of anti-social behaviour and criminal damage to the shelter.

The sub-committee considered the following points:

- the high passenger count
- no suitable alternative location
- the reduction of shelter damage since the installation of CCTV

RESOLVED that Centro to investigate the possibility of installing a bus stop alongside the existing bus shelter on Olton Boulevard East. If this option was viable then both the bus shelter and bus stop on Shaftmoor Lane could be relocated to Olton Boulevard East, and if not then the appeal would need to be reconsidered again by the sub-committee.

*[The meeting ended at 3.10pm]*

**CHAIRMAN**