

Paddington Meeting Minutes



Meeting Paddington Community Liaison Panel
Date 15th December 2010
Place The Boardroom, Paddington Station
Attendees See list at end
Chair Graham King – City of Westminster
Prepared by Catherine Hagan - Crossrail

Action

1 Welcome from Chairman, introductions and apologies

GK welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone to complete the attendance sheet.

Apologies were received from Cllr Connell, Cllr Barrow, John Shepherd, Carolyn Agocs and Sara Kouchakji (TfL), Penny Linnett, Will Windham, Lady Margot Bright and Anne Mallinson (who has now retired from the Panel).

GK introduced Rob Holden, Crossrail CEO attending the Paddington Liaison Panel meeting for the first time

2 Minutes from the last meeting and matters arising

2.1 Item 5.2 GK advised that investigation had shown there was insufficient space to install an effective corridor for the utilities at Eastbourne Terrace (EBT) . GK confirmed that the utilities trench would be backfilled.

Item 5.4 GK stated that the issue of Crossrail banners on hoardings at EBT had now been addressed.

Item 6.4 GK invited Richard Crathern (RC) to cover the issue of pick up/drop off at Departures Road. Richard offered to do so in a later presentation.

Item 7.8 GK confirmed that Crossrail contractor had not, and would not, use Woodfield Road as a lorry route.

3 High level update

3.1 GK then invited Rob Holden to give a general update on the Crossrail project.

Rob Holden (RH) began by stating that 2010 has been an eventful year for Crossrail. Progress has been made since the third of 4 review points early this year leading towards a final review as required by the sponsors in the 1st quarter of 2011. The Crossrail submission in respect of this will be made early next year.

The Government Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) confirmed that Crossrail would go ahead with the totality of its scope. The funding has been reduced by £1 billion and the saving will be achieved by extending the programme for the central tunnelled section. Costs have been reduced by delivering the project in a more orderly and efficient way.

The four principal tunnelling contracts have just been awarded; including the Royal Oak to Farringdon tunnel drive awarded to BAM Nuttall Ltd, Ferrovial Agroman (UK) Ltd, Kier Construction who were also awarded the separate station tunnel contracts at Bond Street and Tottenham Court Road station, so that these contracts now had the potential

to be combined . The result would be that the main tunnel drive would go ahead before the station works, reducing the number of lorry movements in the central area as construction spoil may be removed through the tunnel drive.

Design activity has proceeded well, meaning the remaining stations and tunnel works would be awarded in 2011.

Land acquisition is almost complete in the central section and demolitions are already in progress in a number of areas.

RH concluded by stating that Crossrail is in good shape and confirmation of contract awards will enable the project teams to establish more detailed updates for the liaison panels.

GK expressed the Panel's interest in the possible reduction of lorry movements and the local effect that this would have in the Paddington area. The panel were invited to raise questions.

3.2

Peter Denton (PD) thanked Rob Holden for covering the broader picture, not just Westminster. He asked about proposals for marshalling yards at Kensal Green and if it was proposed to use the Grand Union canal for spoil removal.

RH responded that Network Rail would undertake all works outside the central section. Progress has been made in discussions between Crossrail and Network Rail in respect of the delivery of Crossrail works together with upgrades and the part-electrification on the Great Western Railway (GWR) covered in the Crossrail scope. Re-signaling will go ahead on the GWR under an EU directive.

In respect of Kensal Green; discussions are taking place between the sponsors and the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea (RBKC) in respect of a station and turn back facility. The Mayor has visited the site and instructed Kensington and Chelsea that they must establish:

1. there is no additional cost to the taxpayer
2. that no delay is caused to the delivery of the project
3. that there is no interference with the operation of the GWR

Negotiations are also taking place between the RBKC and Network Rail and a report shall be ready next year. The Department for Transport and the Mayor will determine if this proposal is to be included in the Crossrail scope.

GK advised that Westminster City Council have asked the RBKC to keep them updated in respect of their Kensal Green proposals.

RH briefly mentioned that Old Oak Common is also included in HS2 proposals and that he has recently met with the chair of HS2 regarding this matter.

3.3

Toby Gale (TG) from Westbourne Forum raised the issue of employment and training opportunities for local people.

RH assured TG that this was a matter of interest for both the Crossrail chairman and for Valerie Todd, the Crossrail Talent and Resources director and that funding was already in place for a training facility in east London.

GK advised that Westminster Works agenda is the subject of a meeting with Valerie Todd in January 2011.

GK concluded this agenda item by thanking Rob Holden for his contribution.

4 Community Relations Update

4.1 Michelle Saint updated on the following community relations activities:

- MS advised that Crossrail were in early discussions with Network Rail in respect of establishing a Visitor Information Centre within Paddington Station.
- Copies of the new "On Track" newsletter were passed around the table and extra copies made available.
- A recent "Drop In" at Stowe Centre advised local residents about Christmas works planned by Network Rail at Westbourne Park.
- The helpline number on letters sent to notify residents is that of Network Rail; however a procedure will be put in place to allow residents to call the Crossrail Helpdesk number should they prefer.

GK welcomed Crossrail's "On Track" Newsletter and again highlighted the need for a future visitor centre in the Paddington area to be delivered in the near future.

Clinton Leeks (CL) informed the panel that the Crossrail exhibition of central station designs at the NLA in Store Street (near Tottenham Court Rd) has now been extended till the end of January.

4.2 Buses

GK invited Stephen O'Connor (SOC) to update on the bus diversions. SOC advised that with effect from 4th December 2010:

- Bus Stop F in Praed Street is now the final stop for routes 436 and 205
- Bus Stop E in Eastbourne Terrace has been taken out of use due to pedestrian safety concerns because of the narrow footway width

SOC confirmed that as of 4th December 2010 there will be no buses using Westbourne Terrace between 2300 and 0530.

He then introduced Tony Peters of Stagecoach who operate the 205 route and Alan Austin of Go Ahead who operate the 436 bus.

Both representatives confirmed that complaints were acted upon immediately and that measures had been taken to ensure that drivers were fully briefed in respect of changes to the operations of the bus stands.

Both companies have inspectors on duty; Go Ahead has 2 inspectors working from 7am-9pm daily and Stagecoach has controllers on site 7 days.

Drivers will be subject to disciplinary action should any anti-social behaviour be observed.

Alan Austin (436) conceded that drivers may make genuine mistakes if not familiar with the route, but that this will be addressed.

Tony Peters (205) advised that drivers are hand delivered route update notices with their weekly wage slips; and that ad-hoc checks are made in respect of engines left running.

4.3 John Walton (JW) enquired about the proposal raised previously to utilise Bishop's Bridge Road stands from 2200 – 0600.

SOC advised that internal discussions were still taking place between TfL Buses, the taxi companies and WCC and that no further information is available at present.

GK thanked the representatives from the bus companies for their input and stated that lessons would need to be learned in respect of the delivery of information relating to any future alterations in the area.

4.4 John Zamit (JZ) enquired as to the extent of contractual obligation to operate the 436 as a bendy-bus. The date was confirmed as 30th November 2011.

4.5 SOC returned to the subject of Craven Road, and confirmed that residents had advised

that buses were incorrectly using the bus stop as a stand and that the drivers have been leaving the vehicles. The bus operators have been made aware and will ensure drivers are notified.

5 Christmas Working Arrangements

- 5.1 Dean Hall (DH) of Network Rail updated the panel in relation to advanced works undertaken on behalf of Crossrail taking place at Westbourne Park.

The works are scheduled whilst the rail network is closed on 25th/26th December. Two large cranes will arrive on 24th December and will be utilised in the replacement and construction of overhead gantries. An under-track crossing will also be installed at the site. The crossing will be used for utility cables. The cranes will not access via Alfred Road; and noise monitoring will be in place at all times during the works. All residents within a 250 metre radius have been notified.

GK welcomed Network Rail's decision not to use Alfred Road.

6 High Level Works Programme

- 6.1 A presentation was given by Richard Crathern (RC) and Danny Trup (DT) depicting Crossrail plans for Paddington Station and the Royal Oak portal from the current works taking place until the start of trial operations in 2017. More details will be added for future presentations.
- 6.2 John Walton (JW) questioned if the slides shown depicted the exact tunnel alignment. DT advised that the presentation slides were illustrative only.
- 6.3 John Zamit (JZ) asked if Praed Street would remain open for one-way traffic during subway construction. RC advised that this would be the case.

7 Paddington Integrated Project – H&C station and taxi ramp construction

- 7.1 Andy Swift (AS) of Carillion gave a presentation on Phase 2 of the PIP project which includes the construction of a new taxi ramp on the north side of Paddington station. The contract began in October 2010 with completion date of the taxi ramp expected to be on 2nd November 2011; and the H&C station Crossrail works to be completed by January 2012.
- The slides shown described the proposed works in detail, including the taxi deck, new escalators and gate lines, provision for lifts and an illustration of the new entrance.

JW queried whether there will be provision of a lift at the new Hammersmith and City station. AW confirmed this and informed the panel that London Underground was in the process of lift procurement. AW also informed that a bomb resistant glass roof would be installed.

8 Eastbourne Terrace

8.1 Utility Diversions

Mick Walsh of Laing O'Rourke informed the panel that the works were progressing well; despite some unforeseen circumstances. MW highlighted the following:

- A diagram showing the works and a slide depicting vacuum excavation was shown to the panel.
- Pedestrian access in March is planned and pedestrian safety will be given priority.
- All the utility companies are working together to ensure works are completed as soon as possible.
- Noise monitoring has successfully ensured that limits are not exceeded.
- MW advised that he would personally check on the issue of "ponding" raised earlier in the meeting.

JW asked when the works were due for completion; and MW advised that the anticipated

date was 27th July 2011.

GK enquired about the hastily arranged EDF night works on 14th/15th December (last night) and MW confirmed that the works had gone ahead with no issues.

MW reminded that panel that EBT is an "open site" and that the public may visit and ask to speak to him directly should they have any concerns.

8.2 Eastbourne Terrace Full Closure Option Update

A presentation, including a series of images was given by Roger Hewitt (RHe).

RHe informed that both partial and full closure have been considered by Crossrail and a recommendation will be made for full closure of Eastbourne Terrace and Departures Road with effect from November 2011. The basis of this recommendation is that is seen as a far safer option, and would also provide programme benefits finishing the works well ahead the partial closure option.

RH stated that EBT would be fully open again by 2017. This would also allow the re-instatement of buses 2 years early.

RHe informed the panel that studies Crossrail consultants had carried out have demonstrated that there would be little difference in traffic impacts between full and partial closure.

8.3

GK stated that the proposal for full closure had not been discussed in detail with the City of Westminster as yet; and that a full report is awaited.

GK reminded the panel that an undertaking is in place which addresses the issue of a partial closure. GK advised the panel that a public consultation period of 6-12 weeks was anticipated to be required and that any decision would be taken by Cabinet Members after consultation and later in 2011.

8.4

Peter Denton (PD) referred to a previous meeting and requested clarification from RH of the time saved by the full closure option. RH advised that the previous estimate was 1 year and 8 months.

8.5

John Walton (JW) emphasised that time is required for consultation and requested that reports were prepared as soon as possible. He expressed concern that full closure was proposed before the expected date of completion of the new taxi deck on the opposite side of the station. He accepted that the speeding up of works was the main benefit of the full closure option; but did not agree that a partial closure would have similar traffic impacts in the area as a full closure.

Post Meeting Note – as noted in section 7.1 above, the taxi deck is due to be operational November 2011 ahead of the closure.

Cllr Mukerjee was pleased to confirm that WCC are responsible for Eastbourne Terrace and questioned the findings of the full closure option study on local traffic impacts.

JZ endorsed Cllr Mukerjee's comments and requested that additional traffic studies are undertaken after the congestion charge is removed in January 2011.

8.6

RH advised that a suite of reports regarding the EBT closure options would be ready by the end of 2010.

GK informed the panel that the reports would be looked at in January; and that the proposals did not conform to Schedule 7 or normal planning applications. He expected that Crossrail bear the cost of producing hard copies of all consultation materials presented to WCC and said that a sub-group would be set up to consider the proposals. He recommended that 2 representatives from PRACT and 2 representatives from the

Paddington BID group attend the sub-group.

GK proposed that the sub-group meet least 4 weeks after all parties have looked at the information; that this meeting would take place in April 2011.

GK advised that the earliest date for any decision by WCC on the reports should not be before April/May 2011 but that this could be delayed by several months, dependent on consultation responses and technical analysis as well as submitting reports to Cabinet Members.

- 8.7 At this stage GK expressed concern that the agenda was running behind schedule. Danny Trup agreed to stand down at the request of the chairman as most of the updates included in his Royal Oak presentation had been covered earlier in the meeting. Westbourne Park works to be covered fully at the next meeting.

9 Network Rail presentation

- 9.1 Martin Treacy presented an overview of the ongoing Span 4 works which are progressing well. The biggest challenge to meeting the mid 2011 full completion date is expected to be adverse weather, as works cannot go ahead in temperatures below 6C. Steelwork repairs and parcel deck strengthening works have already been completed. The Red Star parcel desk will be handed over to Crossrail for construction of taxi ramp.

GK and PD complimented Martin Treacy on the presentation.

10 Royal Oak Portal/Westbourne Park updates

This item was not covered due to late running of the agenda.

11 Topics for future meetings

Eastbourne Terrace full closure option. GK concluded that this may be the main agenda item at the next meeting
Lorry movements – Spoil and use of canal (3rd meeting of 2011)

12 Date of next meeting

12.1 21 March 2010

- 12.2 GK concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance and wishing Seasons Greetings.

Present at the Paddington Community Liaison Panel meeting held 15 December 2010

Attendees

Chair:

Graham King City of Westminster gking@westminster.gov.uk

CRL

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Clr Guthrie McKie	City of Westminster (Westbourne Ward)	
Crossrail Complaints Commissioner	Tony Gregory	complaints@crossrail-complaints- commissioner.org
Community Representatives		
Sam Briddes	St Marylebone Society	
John Payne	Hyde Park Gardens & Stanthope Terrace Resident's Association	
Robert Driver	Hyde Park Estate Association	
Jason Swerling	Westbourne Forum	
Christopher Peers	Paddington BID	
Peter Denton	North Paddington Society	
John Gilroy	Orsett Terrace Management Company	
John Walton	PRACT	
John Zamit	South East Bayswater Resident's Association	
Rose Doyle	Brunel Estate Westbourne Park	
Elizabeth Virgo	Paddington Waterways and Maida Vale Society	
Bob Rodgers	Local resident	
Toby Gole	Westbourne Neighbourhood Forum	
Apologies		
Clr Barrow	City of Westminster	
Kay Buxton	Paddington Waterside Partnership	
Carolyn Agocs	TfL	

Penny Linnett

Westbourne Park Road East RA