
NETWORK and VEHICLE CHANGE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting No.24
held at Kings Cross on 18 May 2004

Present: Tony Holland (Chairman)
Steve Carter
Nick Hortin
Tricia Mitchell
Nigel Oatway
Andrew Pennington
Geoff Sandberg
Mike Scott

Apologies: Bob Goundry

In attendance: Chris Blackman
Martin Shrubsole

24/1 Minutes of meeting no.23

The minutes of meeting no.23, held at Kings Cross on 5 May 2004, were approved, subject to minor modification. The Chairman signed a copy of the minutes, as modified, as a true record of the proceedings. A copy of the approved minutes will be circulated to all Industry Parties.

24/2 Matters arising from the previous meeting

Minute 23/5: Hearing of Reference NV59

The determination is expected to be published within ten days.

24/3 Hearing of References NV69, NV70 and NV71

The Committee, having considered the references NV69 and NV70 received from West Coast Trains and Central Trains respectively on the subject of Stockport renewals and Slade Lane possessions, agreed that it would be sensible and appropriate to hear the two references together. Members noted that reference NV71 from West Coast Trains was on the subject of Network Change, and in particular whether the withdrawal of five Network Change notices concerning Manchester South was itself a Network Change. Members agreed that they should hear NV71 first, and, if necessary, hear the other two references subsequently.

After hearing reference NV71 the Committee published its determination and handed it to the parties present at the hearing. (A copy of the determination of the Committee is attached to these minutes.)

The Committee then adjourned briefly to enable the parties concerned to consider whether they wished to proceed straightaway with a hearing of references NV69 and NV70.

After the adjournment the parties advised the Committee that they were all agreed that there could be significant benefit in holding further discussions, in the light of the Committee's determination NV71, concerning the issues referred in references NV69 and NV70. The Committee therefore directed the parties to enter into full discussions, and in due course to advise the Secretary if these had been successfully concluded, or if the parties still wished a formal hearing of their respective disputes.

24/4 Update on references

The Secretary reported that the position on outstanding references received was as follows:

nv47/51 [see minute 18/5] North Western Trains and English Welsh & Scottish Railway have not yet confirmed the current position on these references (concerning the WCRM Major Project notice 2004);

nv51 [see minute 18/5] English Welsh & Scottish Railway has advised that the issue relating to access to terminals in the Ditton Jcn area is now fully resolved, and EWS has formally withdrawn this element of the reference;

nv60-68 Nine Train Operators have notified intention to refer an issue relating to the WCRM Major Project Notice for Dec.2004 - Dec.2005; a hearing has been postponed pending the issue of further documentation by Network Rail, and consequential consultation; a hearing will be arranged, if required, in late June.

24/5 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

24/6 Date of next meeting

To be advised.