



CTA conference delegates take a tour of York Minster



From left: Julian Ridge, City of York Council; Dave Kirby, Kirby's Coaches; Fiona Mulliner, London & Partners; Dave Parry, Parrys International Tours, and John Wales



CTA Chair John Wales (second left) with 'Vikings' from the Jorvik Museum

For more on the benefits of joining the CTA, see coachtourismassociation.co.uk

Going for green

This year's **Coach Tourism Association Conference** pointed towards a positive, environmentally-friendly future for the industry

THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS for a net zero emission future will create major opportunities for the coach industry, transport experts told the Coach Tourism Association's 2020 conference in York.

Stressing the need for Government to move people away from cars to high occupancy vehicles, Confederation of Passenger Transport chief executive Graham Vidler told CTA members: "The only way to travel that is more environmentally friendly than coach involves pedalling."

He added: "When people choose to travel by coach rather than by car or plane we get

better air quality and reduced congestion, which helps to combat the climate emergency by taking cars off the road and planes out of the sky. There would be absolute chaos at tourism hot spots around the country if everyone travelled by car."

Inaccurate public impressions of the pollution created by coaches were highlighted by Dan Hayes of the Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership whose figures showed that, in terms of NOx emissions, buses and coaches contributed just 5% compared with cars and vans at 75%.

He said: "Not all diesels are dirty. There has been a big broad-brush picture painted, what

with things like diesel gate. But from our testing, which we have done with both TFL and National Government, we can safely say that Euro Level 6 vehicles - whether they be gas, diesel or hybrid - are all clean. We have the test certificates to prove it and we have published these on our website.

"An important point is that emissions per passenger are much much lower from a coach than they are from a private car and that is a key message you need to press home whenever you are talking to a local authority."

Looking to the future Dan Hayes said that, with Euro 6 'being as clean as you can get' the next step would involve renewable fuels - now being worked on - followed by a gradual move to electricity, with some 5-10 electric coaches likely to be running in the UK by the end of the year.

The record number of delegates attending this year's conference at the DoubleTree by Hilton York also took part in two one-to-one buyer workshops, including a special Yorkshire workshop on the final day. **GTVV**