

PRESENT: Jody Ball (JB), Ian Clark (IC), Dave Dowbenko (DD), Emma McIntosh (EM), Rowley Osborn (RO), Mark Osborne (MO), Claire Sandys (CS), Alexa Stott (AS), Paul Webster (PW), Michael Willmot (MW) (Chair)

Lisa Alcock, Richard Swancott, Phillip Norris

| 1. | Any questions or matters of concern from stakeholders | Action |
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| | <p>Issues at Tutbury & Hatton were raised: both the fencing of the area volunteers were working on and the availability of clean water for plant watering. AS replied that both were being pursued Lisa Alcock agreed that she could be included in quarterly meetings email list as a representative for Cheshire East.</p> | MW |
| 2. | <p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Jo Buckley (JB), Donna Adams (DA), Vicky Cropper-Clarke (VC), Rob Goulding (RG), Clare Horton (CH), Brian Edwards (BE), Chris Hegarty (CH), Marika Latham (ML), Neil Roberts (NR)</p> <p>Kath Reader, Zoe Jones, Carol Brammer, Janice Sherratt</p> | |
| 3. | <p>Minutes of the last meeting (21/01/21)</p> <p>Accepted.</p> | |
| 4. | <p>CRPOs' report (attached) [The report was circulated with the agenda. Only matters raised in the meeting are noted here]</p> <p>Concern about increased number of cases of vandalism at stations during lockdown. Station volunteers urged to report any such incidents to BTP using the 61016 text number. Incident at Stone observed by caretaker, Greg Simister, who reported to Police. Police attended and engaged with vandals.</p> <p>16th May – new timetable and full service to be restored at Alsager. Event there to mark service return</p> <p>Longport: uncertain who owns window shutters on main building which need re-painting. Thought to have been in situ before building was sold. Alexa will check with EMR property team and Claire with Alison at Longport</p> <p>Safety Team needs to do assessment before planters put into place at Stoke. Some uncertainty about NR permissions. Should not be needed for any moveable item such as platform planters – although it seemed to be unclear whether arrangements are different if in a listed building curtilage.</p> <p>CRN talking to Liz Holford at NR to clarify situation nationally. EMR, & CROs now have meeting with NR quarterly; this should be raised at the next meeting. EM to be invited to next meeting.</p> <p>At Stone problem might have arisen because station building is listed. PW to raise this aspect with Brian Barnsley to get clarification on this</p> <p>Trees at Peartree: some have now been cut down and some removed. There was some delay in gaining NR funding</p> | AS CS PW |
| 5. | <p>NSCRIP 2021-22 Action Plan – for approval</p> <p>60 activities, colour coded – effective way of identifying different status.</p> | |

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| | Plan approved and CRPOs thanked for their work on this. | |
| 6. | <p>Community Rail Network (CRN) items</p> <p>CR major part of restoring confidence and enticing passengers back onto the network Regional briefings – summary of what CRPs are doing. Can be used for local promotion work. See https://communityrail.org.uk/resources-ideas/case-studies/</p> <p>Small Grants Fund has reopened. Community Rail Development Fund also open for major schemes</p> <p>Integrated Sustainable Transport Fund open to 30/04/21 – up to £8k Round 1 examples on website</p> | |
| 7. | <p>TOC and Local Authority funding for 2021 – 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in Stoke contribution was gratefully acknowledged. Other LAs still considering. • Formal letter of request to DD for Derby contribution • Funding should be received shortly from XC. Funding from EMR – slightly increased on last year – gratefully acknowledged • CRN assured that core funding from TOCs should be secure; other TOC funding sources discretionary • At AWC all discretionary funding suspended as contract is being renewed. NSCRP will be kept informed • Events continue as webinars for now – details on CRN website: https://communityrail.org.uk/events-training/events-diary/ • 30 June: Community Rail in the City – this year local discovery, encourage exploration of local lines, name still being worked on • Hope that there will be full opening of rail network at end of June • Community Rail Awards, 9 Dec at Southampton. Submissions between 14th June – 2nd August | CS |
| 8. | <p>East Midlands Railway items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report will be circulated after the meeting • Summer timetable from 16 May. Full Alsager service and extension to Nottingham included • Stations & trains regularly tested for Covid – none yet found – enhanced cleaning regime continues. • Annual plan being submitted to DfT and funding streams, apart from core funding, paused until this is agreed • Suicide prevention measures are being enhanced • Work of Neil Read & Kevin Knight, Station Service Technicians, acknowledged • Smart kiosk ticket machine installed at Uttoxeter & Derby for testing, will be rolled out to all stations • Rail to Refuge scheme is being supported • JAM (Just a Minute) card training – staff training for assisting those with communications disabilities • WAN & LAN wifi being upgraded across the network | CS |
| 9, | <p>Increasing the rail service at Peartree (paper by Ian Clark circulated)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose increasing 5 trains/ day to 10 when through service to Nottingham & Newark. AS has requested a 15:00 stop. • Timetable & Planning team suggest Peartree be focused on in Autumn timetable consultation | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue of lack of dedicated station parking – although there are parking areas not currently in full use but some are private – and bus service interchange. Local bus services limited by Derby pattern of radial bus routes. Alternative bus services would need to be investigated • Potential conflict with plans to improve line speeds. Maybe request stop possible • National Bus Strategy – enhanced partnerships between LAs & bus operators. In place by next April. Infrastructure should be helped and hopefully timetables co-ordinated with rail • Noted that no extra time is included in schedule for Peartree stop • EMR will alert NSCRP & Derby City when next timetable consultation comes up. • Could Peartree be a request stop to avoid unnecessary delays if stopping for no passengers? IC supports this. • MW suggested that a smaller group take this issue forward: AS, DD and IC | AS |
| 10. | <p>Extending community rail partnership activity beyond Derby? Alexa covers up to Derby, Kaye Robinson beyond. But Attenborough & Beeston already adopted. Route beyond Derby should be promoted.</p> <p>Alastair Morley oversees Spondon & Long Eaton stations as these are served by the Matlock service.. Claire to discuss joint promotion with Alastair</p> <p>Ian felt there was little CRP activity on the Newark line. Should there be a Nottinghamshire CRP? EMR looking at plans Robin Hood Line and Erewash line. Notts is well served by community rail station groups, not necessarily within CRPs. CRPs working together.</p> | CS |
| 11. | <p>London Northwestern Railway</p> <p>In her absence VCC has circulated a report ahead of the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipation of reduced commuter travel so will be keen to promote tourism • Moving on to a direct award contract from September. Direct rail contracts coming in for all TOCs at various dates. PW will provide the CRN in-house schedule for circulation with these minutes. Contracts will be known as Passenger Rail Contracts once franchising has been phased out and will last 2 – 4 years. Williams Review to be published after purdah (May). Avanti's contract to last until 2030 to tie in with HS2. | |
| 12. | <p>CrossCountry</p> <p>From 16th May Derby – Nottingham service reverts from hourly to half hourly. Also more frequent trains from Derby to Birmingham. Claire will be attending XC's CRP conference tomorrow</p> | |
| 13. | <p>Avanti West Coast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four trains /hour to md May. Demand slowly returning. New message: "Travel safely" • New Hitachi trains being assembled. Don't tilt but will accelerate faster • Hixon and Sherborne Garden Crewe have received funding. Discretionary funds currently on hold • West Coast Partnership about to start a 10 year contract including intor ?? of HS2 • County Line drug courier apprehended at Stoke • Southeastern 'Travel with Confidence'. Good 55 sec travel safely message: https://www.southeasternrailway.co.uk/travel-information/live-travel-information/travel-with-confidence . More promotion of rail expected in June | |
| 14. | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Future meetings: Stoke does not have capacity to hold blended meetings in the town hall. Suggested alternate meetings online and face to face keeping on line next time (July) and face to face in October for the AGM</p> | PW |

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| | Siemens when doing work on rail infrastructure do contacts local CRPs to see if they could. Paul will put us in touch re. Crewe project. | |
| 15. | Dates & Times of Next Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday July 15th [on-line]• Thursday October 14th (AGM) [hopefully face-to-face] | |

MFW/
21/04/21