

**PRESENT:** Donna Adams (DA), Jody Ball (JB), Tim Bellenger (TB), Ian Clark (IC), Emma McIntosh (EM), Rowley Osborn (RO), Mark Osborne (MO), Claire Sandys (CS), Alexa Stott (AS), Paul Webster (PW), Michael Willmot (MW) (Chair)

1.	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Dave Dowbenko, Jo Buckley, Brian Edwards, Neil Roberts, Katie Ellison, Chris Hegarty, Peter Cousins	<b>Action</b>
2.	<p><b>Minutes of the last meeting (15/07/21)</b> Katie Ellison replaces Lisa Roberts from Cheshire East</p> <p>Owner of window shutters at Longport station building still unknown, they badly need decorating but owner, whilst agreeing verbally, will not give permission in writing. MW &amp; CS will discuss further outside the meeting.</p> <p>Landlord's consent now given for the planters at Stone; now waiting on finalising date with partners for work to start. PW said this should be recorded so case can be quoted if similar situation arises again.</p> <p>CS has written to Verna Bayliss, Director of Planning, Transport &amp; Engineering at Derby City Council to invite them to join the CRP. No reply as yet.</p> <p>XCountry provided around £10k at start of April for the current financial year. CS to check arrival. Receipt of funding confirmed following the meeting.</p> <p>CS still to discuss with Alastair Morley about CRP activity beyond Derby.</p>	<p></p> <p><b>MW CS</b></p> <p><b>EM</b></p> <p><b>CS</b></p> <p><b>CS</b></p>
3.	<p>CRPOs report</p> <p><u><i>A written report was circulated with the papers for the meeting; only matters requiring attention or reported at the meeting are noted here.</i></u></p> <p>Promotion of on-train events? What is TOCs' position? EMR still waiting for guidance on distancing and face coverings. Poacher Line music train currently paused until face coverings and social distancing come to an end. Nothing planned for the rest of 2021. Suggested that NSCRP on train events postponed to 2022.</p> <p>Leaflets at stations? Eg Station Walks booklets. Are these available at Avanti stations? MO will check when leaflet racks can return. Also EM meeting with Stoke Manager next week and will raise issue there.</p> <p>Underground remediation works at Kidsgrove now complete and bridge sections being lifted into place. NR expressed gratitude to volunteers for being flexible and accommodating. AS commended the effective working relationship between NR and volunteers at Kidsgrove – an example of how it should be done. Paul Etherton states finish date November 2021.</p> <p>Decking at Peartree which should have been installed in April still waiting and weeds abundant, including platform edge. AS to investigate. This has now been completed.</p> <p>Penkridge: new triangular planter installed yesterday and new Dibond posters from the Phoenix Art Club to replace the damaged ones.</p> <p>New Penkridge vols came via Facebook. Stoke vols, recruited via Hanley Park have helped at Longton whilst station volunteering not permitted at Stoke.</p>	<p></p> <p><b>MO EM</b></p> <p><b>AS</b></p>

	<p>Penkrige: Still awaiting the underpass mural, NR is moving slowly in giving consent. Both Tim and Alexa (at the EMR quarterly meeting with NR) will follow up. EM reported that there had been a lot of staff changes recently</p>	<p><b>TB AS</b></p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Community Rail Network (CRN) items</b></p> <p>Await to see how travel demand changes in the weeks ahead. CRN campaign starting on 26<sup>th</sup> July to promote travel by rail and public transport. Will promote out-of-the-way places accessible by rail.</p> <p>Alice Mannion has been in touch about marketing materials. This will be a digital campaign with different themes each week, highlighting different community rail lines.</p> <p>End of October, Community Rail Week – further details shortly  Rail Delivery Group launched Golden Tickets scheme today. Also, tocs are advertising themes to encourage more people back to rail. PW to check with Alice that featured lines are notified to TOCs</p> <p>CR Development Fund and Small Grants funds still available.</p> <p>Community Rail awards entries now open until 2<sup>nd</sup> August with ceremony on 9<sup>th</sup> December in Southampton (hopefully)</p> <p>Williams Shapps review: CRN briefing – a lot of promise for community rail and station adoption groups. List of FAQs being compiled to take to the DfT. Contact PW if any queries to be raised.</p> <p>Longton Arches Art Project entry will be submitted + new category responding to Covid – Waiting Room Gallery at Longport hope to be submitted.</p>	<p><b>PW</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>CS</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>East Midlands Railway items</b></p> <p>Still awaiting confirmation of guidance on face coverings on public transport from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July. Passengers can use the seat finder tool to check how busy their train is likely to be based on recent averages. The Seat Finder Tool: <a href="https://www.eastmidlandsrailway.co.uk/travel-information/seat-finder">https://www.eastmidlandsrailway.co.uk/travel-information/seat-finder</a>; also keeping passengers updated on the day of travel via our Rainbow Boards, as well as the Plan &amp; Buy journey planner on the EMR app</p> <p>Latest Coronavirus Travel Information can be found at: <a href="https://www.eastmidlandsrailway.co.uk/covid-19">https://www.eastmidlandsrailway.co.uk/covid-19</a>.</p> <p>Proposals for the December 2021 timetable have now been submitted to Network Rail for their comments. The details of these timetables will be shared in due course</p> <p>Due to the ongoing RMT strike action by EMR senior conductors, Sunday timetables will be amended from Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July. For the North Staffs route, Sunday afternoon Derby-Crewe services will be replaced by buses. [AS confirmed on day following this meeting that these timetable changes have been posted at station.]</p> <p>Work is being undertaken to minimise emissions from the new Aurora fleet and from current class 170s</p> <p>The Community Development Fund (CDF) and CRP Station Improvement Fund (CRP SIF) are now available for applications until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Forms and details have been provided to all the EMR CRPs. At Blythe Bridge EMR has contributed £1k to the Jubilee Rose Garden via the SIF fund. “Last Mile” projects can also be funded.</p> <p>Hope is to have around 50 stations repainted (weather permitting) by the end of the summer</p>	

	<p>Over the next two months EMR will be leaving Prospect House and moving to a new Head Office building next to the Customer Services Academy and a short walk from the station at Derby. Should be in by October.</p> <p>IC asked if the Peartree additional stops had been submitted as part of Dec 21 timetable changes. AS to check.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Update on full Crewe – Newark Castle Service restoration</b></p> <p>To be hoped this will be from the December timetable</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>London Northwestern Railway</b></p> <p>Tim introduced himself in Vicky’s place while she is on maternity leave</p> <p>Trespass &amp; suicide has been a problem this year as has train crew availability</p> <p>Passenger levels at about 40% of pre-covid levels and growing slowly. Commuter market still suppressed.</p> <p>Train crew peak retirement this year + new trains + Covid means training programme is behind schedule; some crew shortages especially on Sundays – train crew volunteer working.</p> <p>Currently negotiating direct award arrangement form September 2021.</p> <p>Staff training programme on accessibility issues. Passenger assistance app now available [<a href="https://passengerassistance.com/?qclid=CjwKCAjwuvvmHBhAxEiwAWAYj-J7lRM3Z6mmNVCH7h3vtnnGwJNberLbT1JuDxqrJyG8Bq3hczYyhlhoC92cQAvD_BwE">https://passengerassistance.com/?qclid=CjwKCAjwuvvmHBhAxEiwAWAYj-J7lRM3Z6mmNVCH7h3vtnnGwJNberLbT1JuDxqrJyG8Bq3hczYyhlhoC92cQAvD_BwE</a>].</p> <p>Value for money needs to be demonstrated to DfT. Therefore more reason for volunteers to log their volunteering hours @£15 per hour. Claire to include an estimate in the CRP annual report.</p>	
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>CrossCountry</b></p> <p>Tailoring marketing to national campaign when details available</p> <p>Longport Waiting Room Gallery project &amp; Rails to Trails station walks being promoted via XC website and social media</p> <p>Project funding still available</p> <p>19<sup>th</sup> August: Train naming at Strafford in memory of Hixon disaster victims</p>	
<b>9,</b>	<p><b>Avanti West Coast</b></p> <p>Stoke awaiting Council on Transforming Cities Fund – then assistance required from CRP on how to get to and from station. EM reported contact has been made with project leader Michael Healey &amp; Jo Buckley</p> <p>Old bay platforms at Stafford may be developed by volunteers awaiting NR decision</p> <p>Crewe LK Gourmet keen to do enhancement on platform 6 around kiosk. CRP may be involved – they may be in touch. CS &amp; EM will find contact via Crewe community champion.</p> <p>Weston Rd gates being repaired after flood</p> <p>Navilens QR code system (to help visually impaired) being piloted here: <a href="https://www.navilens.com/">https://www.navilens.com/</a> planned before the end of year</p> <p>Hitachi trains in preparation and Pendolino fleet being refurbished.</p> <p>Only services not running post Covid are third services to B’ham, Manchester &amp; Chester-N Wales, but shutter between Crewe &amp; Chester</p> <p>At peak times passenger numbers increasing towards Covid capacity</p> <p>Re-signalling in Macclesfield area is starting &amp; Trent Valley blockade to mid August.</p>	<b>EM</b>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Account detail will be circulated with minutes.</p>	

	<p>MW asked if repainting /rebranding work to continue or will there be a cut off date in preparation for Great British Railways (1 April 2024) AS: no GBR brand suggested yet. Possibly a phased introduction.</p> <p>Notice cabinets at Peartree are showing incorrect information – serviced by EMR, other notices by CRP. Claire &amp; Ian to discuss after meeting. Corrected post meeting.</p>	<b>CS</b>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Dates &amp; Times of Next Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday October 14<sup>th</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Management Group at 15.30 (Apologies for absence: Alexa)</li> <li>○ AGM at 17.00</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>MW &amp; CS will try to find a venue suitable for a blended meeting, possibly in Longton (though too time consuming for some to attend there). Reliable wifi required. PW: a different CRP hybrid meeting suffered some glitches mainly due to interference caused by inadequate home connections. Paul suggested this should be part of a revised pattern of alternate face-to face and on-line meetings.</p> <p>For October meeting there may be still be difficulties for some with reduced EMR service. Also we should recognise the expanded area of the CRP now including Stafford, Stone &amp; Penkridge and consider a venue at the Stoke / Crewe end of the line</p> <p>Venue suggestions: North Staffs Hotel; Staffs Uni. Both should have good wifi capability</p>	<b>MW CS</b>

**MFW/CS/EM**  
**30/07/21**