

BEDFORD COMMUTERS ASSOCIATION

BCA COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday 30th September 2020

Present: Arthur Taylor Steve Floyd Mark Spurgeon
 Alison Crompton Howard Pile John Henderson
 Courtney Lee Martin James

Apologies:

As a result of the ongoing COVID19 pandemic this meeting is being held via Zoom.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 26th August 2020 were agreed.

2. Actions

Membership Cards – meeting agreed to switch to an electronic version - **Ongoing**

Suggestions for the way forward – **Ongoing JH/AC/HP**

Improving the website **Ongoing CL/MS**

Suggestions for improvements and why ex members lapsed their membership. **AC/HP/CL agreed to look at this idea - Ongoing**

Beds Life magazine to enquire about a piece about the BCA in the magazine. The committee agreed to proceed and asked SF to arrange. SF reported that he was unable to contact the magazine due to Covid. - **Discharged**

3. Correspondence

Railwatch October edition

4. Treasurers Report

SF reported that some standing order renewals had come in and they will be treated as Donations.

5. Communications

The next newsletter will be in October not September. Any articles to AT.

6. Performance

AT reported that the recent infrastructure failures in the core had been due to Quality Assurance processes. These had been reviewed and NR did not expect any further QA issues.

7. Timetable

Thameslink

The timetable was uplifted from September 7th to take into account the return to school. The next uplift is expected in December. At present there are no details of changes in December.

EMR

The timetable was uplifted from September 7th. The St Pancras to Corby services was restored thus reinstating the full pre Covid service.

8. GTR

AT reported Railcards are now supported on KeyGo as promised from September. However Carnets have been deferred at the request of the DfT. We are awaiting a decision on Flexible season tickets from the DfT which is due within the next month or so.

9. East Midlands Railways

Class 360 refurbishment details are still awaited from EMR.
Electrification work still on schedule for completion by the end of the year.

10. Thameslink Programme

AT attended an on-line meeting of the Steering Group. A copy of the presentation has been distributed to the committee.

11. Website

CL/MS are continuing to discuss improvements to the website. MS agreed to make improvements to the website by the end of October. **Action MS**

12. EWRL

Nothing to report.

13. Bedford Matters

Work continues on the toilet refurbishment.

14. Flitwick Matters

Transport interchange – AT met with Andrew Sidgewick and Berni Lee from Thameslink to discuss the plans and obtained positive clarification on certain aspects of the plan.
PBF – the latest update is that more seating will be provided and a waiting shelter provided, details of which we still await. There is no date for commencement of work yet.

15. MML CRP

The next meeting is scheduled for 6th October.

16. Membership Renewal

HP sent out the letter regarding the extension of the membership to September 2021 at no extra cost to members.

17. AGM

CL has drafted a letter for members regarding the cancelling of this years AGM. AT would finalise the letter and HP agreed to distribute to members in mid-October. **Action HP**
AT has spoken to Neil Middleton and agreed to hold a combined BCA/APTU meeting with senior management from T/L, EMR and NR in November subject to agreement with the TOC's. This meeting will be on-line (Zoom) which Neil will arrange. **Action AT**

18. AOB

AT reported on the introduction of ERMA's as a result of Covid by the government to both Thameslink and EMR. How-ever this means little change to Thameslink as they are a Management Contract not a Franchise.

The government has announced that there will be no refunds for railcards due to the Covid lockdown.

19. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 11th November 2020 commencing at 19.30 via Zoom.