

BEDFORD COMMUTERS ASSOCIATION

BCA COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 8th May 2024

Present: Arthur Taylor Steve Floyd John Henderson
Alison Crompton Martin James

Apologies:

This meeting was held on Zoom.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 7th February 2024 were agreed.

2. Actions

Additional TVM;s are needed and they need to be made more user friendly. AT to speak to Patrick. **Action AT - Ongoing**

Railfuture membership renewal received and passed to SF to arrange payment. SF confirmed that this had now been paid. **Discharged**

3. Correspondence

April issue of Railwatch.

4. Chairmans Report

CRP – due to illness no further meetings had taken place. The next scheduled meeting is in June.

EMR Meeting – No further meetings have been held since the Stakeholder Conference in January. AT will arrange a meeting for the summer.

GTR Summer Timetable – No confirmed news as yet however the indications are that there will be only minor changes affecting Luton to Rainham services. We are awaiting a date for the timetable forum meeting.

AT along with Neil Middleton held a meeting with GTR to discuss poor performance of evening services, Staff shortages and Skip Stopping on 11th April. Our concerns were thoroughly expressed and that the top priority should be the solving of these issues. GTR are looking at some software that will highlight problems of cancelling particular trains (eg the effect on services further up the line). We will continue to monitor and if no improvement is forthcoming escalate up the GTR management structure.

5. Treasurers Report

SF reported the bank balance was £1875.32. Railfuture membership has been paid.

6. Membership Secretary

32 members. Mark Spurgeon has rejoined.

7. Communications

AT will be producing the next newsletter for the end of May.

7. Campaigns

Class 360 Refurbishment – We are now awaiting confirmed details and timescales for the refurbishment. AT will raise with Laura at the next EMR meeting.

EWRL – JH reported that the next stage of Consultation on the route is scheduled to commence in June. JH will prepare a Briefing Paper for members for their response. **Action JH.**

MML Electrification – Over 90% complete. Further weekend closures south of Bedford for the upgrade work with completion scheduled for the end of the year.

Flitwick Interchange/AFA – the latest update from NR is that there has been some issues with the bridge and a new contractor is being sought. A start in late summer is anticipated.

Performance – Cancellations due to staff shortages are still occurring. AT has taken this up with GTR and is trying to arrange a meeting. This was held on 11th April. (see Chairmans Report)

8. New Issues

None

9. Public Relations

Newsletter – next newsletter in May.

Website - SF reported that the minutes of previous committee meetings are still to be put on website.

Social Media – NTR

Press – NTR

10. Consultations

Discussed the EWRL consultation due in June.

11. GTR

Performance still a concern.

12. EMR

AT to arrange a meeting with Laura in the summer.

13. Bedford Matters

.Disabled parking spaces have been increased with a reduction in Premier parking spaces.

14. Flitwick Matters

AFA still ongoing. Stagecoach route 2 has been discontinued so only routes 34 and 42 serve the Interchange,

15. AOB

Some positive news on Industrial Relations with the RDG offering talks with ASLEF.

16. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 24th July 2024 in person at Alison's commencing at 19.30. AC would arrange Zoom coverage for JH and MJ.