

Friends of the Derwent Valley Line

Minutes of Open Meeting, Tuesday 18th July 2017, Brunswick Inn, Derby

Present: John Weaver (Chairman), Chris Darrall (Secretary), Harry Bird, Roger Jackson, Ernie Marchant, Patrick Rigby, David Rayner, Mike Hancocks, Alastair Morley, John Morrissey, Ian Clark

Apologies: Garry Purdy, Robin Lumb, Ariadne Tampion (Rail Future), Steve Jones (Rail Future)

Minutes of last meeting on 25th April 2017

These were **ACCEPTED**

Current Train Service

The train service on the line has been fairly good of late, with no new issues to report. Overcrowding continues to be a problem, and it is expected that this will increase during the summer.

There is evidence that the new early morning services on a Sunday are being used, which is good news

East Midlands Trains Franchise Renewal

There is still no further announcement regarding the new East Midlands Franchise, and we still have no dates for when public consultation will be held.

Derby Station Remodelling

This is set to take place in two phases in 2018: 22nd July to 2nd September, and 2nd September to 7th October. During the first phase the southern end of the station is closed, but the northern end will function, this should include Derwent Valley services. There is likely to be a limited London service using a new platform built at the east side of the station before the remodelling begins.

During the second phase, the northern end of the station will be closed, but the southern end will be fully functioning.

The completed station will have 6 through platforms (no bays). Platforms 1 & 2 will be for north – west services (cross country), platform 5 (currently 6) and the new platform (6) will serve the London and Nottingham direction. Platforms 3 & 4 will serve both routes.

Update from Community Rail Partnership

The Cross Country direct award contract includes additional funding for Community Rail Partnerships along the XC route, and the Derwent Valley CRP will receive £10,000 per annum as part of this provision. This should help to reduce concerns over the present funding position.

Station Community Days are being held with EMT over the summer to give stations some extra maintenance, in addition to that provided by station adopters. These

days involve office staff from EMT and also staff from Network Rail joining Station Adopters to improve stations. Work is predominately staining of fencing, painting and other maintenance work including vegetation cut backs. So far days have been held at Cromford, Matlock Bath and Duffield, with future days at Whatstandwell (11th August) and Matlock (15th September).

Work has been done at Duffield to install decking and planters on part of the gravel area of the platform. This was completed as part of the Station Community Day.

Passenger Figures to 31st March 2017 showed a 6% increase on previous year. Figures per station: Ambergate 13%; Belper 2%; Cromford 12%; Duffield 14%; Matlock 3%; Matlock Bath 7% and Whatstandwell 16%.

Other Business

None

Future Meetings

The next meeting (which will be the Annual General Meeting) will be held on Tuesday 17th October 2017, at the Brunswick Inn, Railway Terrace, Derby, commencing at 17.20.