**Friends of the Derwent Valley Line**

**Minutes of Open Meeting, Tuesday 16th January 2018, Brunswick Inn, Derby**

**Present**

John Weaver, Chris Darrall, John Morrisey, Ernie Marchant, Harry Bird, Roger Jackson, Patrick Rigby, Ian Clark, Ariadne Tampion (Railfuture), Steve Jones (Railfuture)

**Apologies**

Ian Ambrose, Alastair Morley, Robin Lumb

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting on Tuesday 17th October 2017 (which was the AGM) had been circulated with the agenda, and were approved.

**Current Train Service**

The 07.37 from Matlock was formed of only 1 coach on 4th January. It is not known if the following London train stopped at Belper. Comments were made that there were not enough revenue staff on the train to collect the fares.

 The Matlock service was affected by the Nottingham Station fire on 12th January. Early morning trains ran between Derby and Matlock, with a two-hourly service for the rest of the day, and also a train filling the two hour gap in the evening peak. Services were more or less back to normal the next day.

**Derby Station Remodelling**

This will take place between Sunday 22nd July and Sunday 7th October 2018. During the first week the Matlock service will run as normal. From 30th July to 24th August the service will run between Matlock and Derby only, with replacement buses between Derby and Nottingham.

From 25th August to 7th October there will be no trains between Derby and Matlock, with replacement buses running instead. It was noted that this period included the Bank Holiday weekend, and the larger part of the Illuminations season.

**Update from CRP**

The height between platform and train is greater at **Cromford** than at other local stations. However, there appears to be a notable difference between the two ends of the platform. Under the canopy there is a considerable step up to the train, whilst at the south end of the platform this is much reduced. A local disabled passenger has raised the issue of using Cromford Station and was advised to use Whatstandwell which causes them additional stress.

New fencing has been installed at **Matlock Bath** to mark the end of the operational platform. However, it has made the platform too short, and there is concern that this may prevent use of four car trains in the future. This has been raised with EMT.

A recent penalty fine has brought to light some operational issues in the car park at **Matlock Station**. A lady parked in a Derbyshire Dales space but bought an EMT ticket. She was issued with a penalty by the car park wardens, which she is disputing. Additional information needs to be displayed on the machines to instruct people better. In discussions it was also raised that DDDC have concerns that non-rail-users who previously bought a more expensive DDDC annual ticket are now buying an annual EMT ticket.

Work has started on the footpath at **Whatstandwell**.

**Next Meeting**

The next meetings will be on Tuesday 17th April 2018, followed by Tuesday 17th July 2018. All meetings will be held at the Brunswick Inn, Derby, starting at 17.20.