

## **Friends of the Derwent Valley Line**

### **Minutes of AGM held 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Brunswick Inn, Derby**

**Present:** John Weaver (chairman), Chris Darrall (secretary), Ernie Marchant, Ian Ambrose, Alastair Morley, Roger Jackson, Steve Jones (Railfuture), Ian Clark (Railfuture).

**Apologies:** Robin Lumb, David Rayner, Harry Bird, Paul Wright, Richard Buckley, Patrick Rigby

#### **Minutes of previous meeting (with agenda)**

The minutes of the previous meeting (17<sup>th</sup> July 2018), had been circulated with the agenda, and were accepted.

#### **Chairman's Report**

The chairman outlined the main points of his report, which had been circulated with the agenda.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report (circulated with the agenda) was accepted. It was noted that no transactions had taken place this year.

#### **Election of Officers**

The following were appointed:

**Chairman:** John Weaver

**Secretary:** Chris Darrall

**Treasurer:** Harry Bird

**Webmasters:** David Rayner, Harry Bird

**Steering Group:** above officers + Ian Ambrose, Allan Dare, Robin Lumb, Ernie Marchant, Alastair Morley, John Morrissey.

#### **Derby Station Works**

The station remodelling works at Derby were completed on time, although it was noted that there were a number of branch services cancelled on the first day.

The general view was that the replacement services had worked well, and there was general appreciation of the services that had been provided.

However there was concern that further work to be undertaken at Ambergate Junction was not included, with the result that there would be a further complete shutdown of services north of Derby, for 9 days from 9<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February.

#### **Matlock Bath Station**

The platform length at Matlock Bath has been reduced, apparently because of the condition of the platform surface. It is now limited to a maximum of 3 coach trains, so this will preclude any use by longer trains at busy periods (e.g. Illuminations) The chairman is to pursue this with Network Rail.

### **Future Franchises**

It has been announced that the new Cross Country franchise is pending the outcome of the review by Keith Williams. There was concern that urgent improvements to services by CrossCountry Trains, particularly to relieve overcrowding, would be deferred. There was also some suggestion that the new East Midlands franchise will also be delayed.

### **Data Protection**

A draft Privacy Statement was circulated at the meeting, and it was agreed that this would be sent out to all members.

### **Update from CRP**

During the line closure during the resignalling works at Derby, the opportunity was taken to carry out work at various stations on the branch. The canopy at **Matlock** station was refurbished by Network Rail; further wind screens are to be installed at the sides. The Whistlestop Centre on the platform at **Matlock Bath** was re-roofed, with funding from various sources, including grants obtained via the CRP. The footbridge at **Cromford** was cleaned, and work was done on the platform coping stones. Further work was also done on the disused platform at **Whatstandwell**.

The level crossing at **Matlock Bath** is to be closed by Network Rail before the end of this year.

### **Future Meetings:**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Meetings will be held at the Brunswick Inn, Railway Terrace, Derby, at 17.20