

**Minutes of the Vale Public Transport Group**  
**March 12th 2018 at 10 am**  
**Venue: The Town Hall, Pershore**

**Present**

Julian Palfrey - Chair (JP)  
Helen Whitwell - Great Comberton (HW)  
Bob Gillmor - (RG) Pershore TC and Mayor  
Phil Ralls (PR)  
Colin Tether - Evesham (CT)  
Tina Pell - Drakes Broughton (TP)  
Geoff Ransted - Eckington (GR)  
Clive Bostle Evesham (CB)  
Patricia Steel (PS)

**1. Welcome**

JP welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Chris Hordern, Terry Joy, Bev McCordall, Maurice Hughes, Marie Johnson-Thomas, George Glaze, and Brian Johnson-Thomas

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting, February 14th, 2018**

These were agreed.

**4. WCC - Update**

Potential dates had been notified - to be confirmed but early April. A draft agenda was circulated at this meeting for comments and additional issues.

**5. Bus issues**

A - New services - update and issues arising including timetables.

B - Meeting with Nigel Eggleton, March 5th 2018

Combined note - NE had confirmed minor timetable changes from March 24th 2018. The provisional loading figures were good. JP commented we needed to concentrate and promote the service improvements with increased off peak services, Saturday services and improvements to villages such as Eckington, Norton etc. JP had written to NE with suggestions on Saturday services, and late Friday/Saturday services (Appendix A and B). NE had responded positively to suggestions relating to the increased Saturday services Pershore/Worcester, in particular the later services. Costings were awaited on the possible late Friday services from First (Appendix C – e-mail from NE). JP would put forward a potential more detailed development to PTC. Discussion took place over other potential funding streams including from WCC as well as individual

councilors and new homes bonus. It was noted the latter was for capital development. Funding from individual Parish councils was also a potential possibility.

C - Other bus services including the Hopper.

In advance of the meeting with WCC JP, HW, CB, BJT and CT meet to go over the issues of the Hopper as well as other WCC issues.

## **6. Train issues**

A - Reliability and service issues - letter to MPs

There were many problems including cancellations, late running, ticketing, stations, revenue protection (lack of) etc Letters had been sent to the various local MPs. A letter would also be sent to Mark Hopwood, GWR. WCC were apparently aware of the problems. CT indicated there were still problems with Evesham station with staffing etc He had had a less than satisfactory response from GWR.

JP had a meeting with Andy Baker, Transport, WCC planned.

B - Car park

No further news.

C - Response to the future of the GWR franchise

A response had been submitted from VPTG. PTC and ETC had also submitted responses.

## **7. AOB**

Discussion took place over placing the minutes on the VPTG website. This was agreed. RG would input after checking re sensitive data.

Achievements of the group would be noted on the website for publicity.

## **8. Date of next meeting**

April 11th 2018, 10 am at Pershore Town Hall