

Minutes of the Vale Public Transport Group

21st June 2019 9.45 am

Venue: Pershore Town Hall

Present

Julian Palfrey (JP) Chairman
Helen Whitwell (HW)
Geoff Ransted (GR)
Maurice Hughes (MH)
Bev McCordall (BM)
John Waizeneker (JW)
Clive Bostle (CB)
Julie Tucker (JT)

1. Welcome

JP welcomed all to the meeting in particular Phil Medlicott and Patrick Stringer of Stagecoach. JP outlined to them the history of the VPTG and its development as well as liaising with other organisations including both bus and rail companies.

Phil outlined the structure of Stagecoach, it being a stable commercial company concentrating on bus services. They had recently lost rail franchises. The X18 to Stratford was discussed-good service but some coordination was needed. The Sunday service from Pershore would remain.

Legally companies could not talk directly to each other – timetables were publicly available. They had recently simplified fare structures – with a 3 zone structure rather than a 5 zone, introduced fares for up to 19 as well as various discounts on weekly and on-line tickets. CB enquired as to the potential for a service to the Valley. The Stagecoach representatives then left the meeting after JP had thanked them for the useful discussion.

2. Apologies

Apologies from Brian and Marie Johnson-Thomas, Colin Tether, David Day, Bob Gillmor, Fred Kalar, Tina Pell, Phil Ralls, Val Wood and Debbie Rolls.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting, 10th May 2019

Agreed

4. Update from Open Meeting, 22nd May

This had gone well with a number of attendees. Notes had been circulated.

5. WCC issues

Passenger transport review. The VPTG had been ignored by this group. JP to further follow up with County Councilors. The VPTG response was being coordinated by the bus subgroup. Individuals were encouraged to respond as well.

6. Bus Services

A – First Bus service changes

Meeting with Nigel Eggelton of First was scheduled for 22nd July.

B – Hopper/Plumline

Further work was to be done on Hopper/Plumline routes (JB and CT). The potential route plans done were to be included with the VPTG response to the Passenger Transport Review. Astons were due to move to Defford in 2020

C – Other services

Nil to report

7. Train services and facilities

A – 40th anniversary at Pershore Station

This was a success with the Mayor and representatives of GW present.

B – Timetable issues and Worcester Parkway

Nothing to report.

C – Car Park

The current plan was to have disabled parking in the current area with a foot bridge from the car park on the opposite side. No further news.

D – Other rail business

Nil.

8. AOB

Nil

Date of next meeting 24th July at 2.45 pm – location to be advised.