

Minutes of the Vale Public Transport Group
6th March 2019 9:45 am
Venue: Pershore Town Hall

Present

Julian Palfrey (JP) Chairman
Helen Whitwell (HW)
Geoff Ransted (GR)
Maurice Hughes (MH)
Colin Tether (CT)
Clive Bostle (CB)
David Day (DD)
Bev McCordall (BM)
Phil Ralls (PR)
Tina Pell (TP)

1. Welcome

JP welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Brian Johnson-Thomas, Marie Johnson-Thomas, Patricia Steel, Bob Gillmor and John Bolt

3. Minutes of the previous meeting, 4th February 2019

Agreed.

4. WCC issues

Discussion took place over future meetings with WCC, in particular in relation to bus services. These would remain as is until April 2020 pending the transport review by WCC. JP had met with Andy Baker who was making enquiries re liaison and input to WCC.

5. Bus Services

A - First Bus service changes

NE was investigating a 12.50 rather than 13.50 on the 53 service which would aid the Norton-Littleworth service. A meeting had been arranged for 23rd April at which this and other timetable and loading issues would be discussed. JP had e-mailed NE with queries to be discussed. To be forwarded.

B - Hopper/Plumline

JP thanked CT for his very detailed, excellent plans which had involved considerable work. These needed further discussion by the bus sub-group before finalisation (JP, RG, TP, CB, CT, and HW). This would be scheduled for early April.

Wychavon were committed to a 2 year programme relating to rural bus travel. It was agreed liaison with them was important.

6. Train services and facilities

JP and others had met on the 14th February regarding timetables and services with representatives from GW. New timetables were due December 2019. Parkway would open at that time. Issues such as bus/train integration were also raised.

The 40th anniversary of Pershore to London trains was due on 2nd June. Special events would be taking place including special train trip and exhibitions.

It was noted that the full platform was not operational at Evesham due to signing off as well as software issues in the train cabs.

There was no news in relation to the perennial car park issue at Pershore.

JP raised the issue of promotions, special events including the Plum Fair as well as the new attraction at Honeybourne (All Things Wild). JP and HW to liaise with Angela Taylor from Wychavon (tourism).

7. AOB

CT indicated it would be helpful to have a public transport representative from Wychavon. To be followed up.

CT indicated he would not be standing for Evesham Council. Thus a representative from Evesham TC would be required following elections.

The travel centre at Worcester was under threat of closure. It was agreed that the VPTG would write in support of its retention.

Date of next meeting 10th April 2019, 9:45 am, Pershore Town Hall