

Minutes of Vale Public Transport Group
August 14th 2018 at 230 pm
Venue: The Town Hall, Pershore

Present

Bob Gillmor (RG)
Colin Tether (CT)
Helen Whitwell (HW)
George Glaze (GG)
Geoff Ransted (GR)
Maurice Hughes (MH)
David Day (DD)
Bev McCordall (BM)
Patricia Steel (PS)
Brian Johnson-Thomas (BJT)
Marie Johnson-Thomas MJT)
Tony Rowley, Chair Wychavon District Council (TR)
Phil Ralls (PR)
Tina Pell (TP)

1. Welcome

RG welcomed all to the meeting, chairing in the absence of JP.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Julian Palfrey and Clive Bostle.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting, July 24th, 2018

These were accepted as a correct record.

4. WCC issues

See below under Item 5

5. Bus issues

A - Update on First Bus services and b - Hopper /Plum line

There was much disquiet over the changes to the First services due to take effect from September 16th 2018. The villages particularly affected were Fladbury, Cropthorne, Charlton, Wyre Piddle, Eckington, Norton, Littleworth as well as others to a varying degree. Letters had been written to a number of county councillors as well as officials. These had been met with silence with no offer to meet. Further correspondence would be sent to the two local MPs. It was hoped that

press coverage would also put pressure on the CC. Emergency funding on an interim basis was discussed. The possibility of alternate day services was also discussed.

Discussion took place over the potential involvement of the Hopper as well as the Plumline. It was agreed an urgent meeting of the bus group would take place to go over in particular, suggestions from Colin Tether and John Bolt. This was scheduled for August 23rd. The hub arrangement would be considered at this meeting – Pershore, Evesham and Worcester. Connections with the X50 were essential as was improvement in bus/rail links, including to Parkway when operational. Extension of First 32 from Worcester to Norton/Littleworth was also discussed as a possibility in relation to those villages near Worcester.

6. Train issues

Limited discussion took place on rail issues due to time. There was no news to report on the Pershore Station issue. Staffing and faculties remained problematic.

7. AOB

CT mentioned signage and the disorganised way this happened – or did not.

Date of next meeting - TBC