

FOHS—Friends of Hindley Station

Minutes of Committee Meeting

11th June 2008, Edington Arms, Ladies Lane, Hindley, 12 noon

ATTENDEES:

Doris Alker, Anthony Bradshaw, Mrs E. Briscoe, David Culshaw, Preva Crossley, Sheila Davidson, Elaine Derbyshire, Brian Ellis, Jim Ellis, Mr & Mrs Fisher, Frank Howard (yosemitefrank@yahoo.co.uk) Peter Wicket *Wigan MBC*, Mr A. Winterflood. If any member's name has been omitted, please advise accordingly.

APOLOGIES:

Justin Rushworth (Industry Developments); Diane Kisiel, Malcolm Coe *Wigan Township*; Terry Regan; Peter Garvey; Jane Ashurst; Bob Brierley, Malcolm Roberts.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved

MATTERS ARISING

Footpath There was much discussion and Preva read out an e-mail received from Malcolm Coe who had contacted Planning, advising that because of the legal ramifications, Wigan Council's Legal Department be approached for advice. The issue will not be going to the June Committee and as an objector we will be notified as soon as progress has been made.

Jim Ellis felt Network Rail should be more involved as they would have to maintain the footpath.

The feeling of the meeting was that we need more publicity, perhaps a letter to all the properties concerned. We must be seen doing the right thing at the moment. If the issue is not scheduled for the July Planning meeting, then we should write to the legal department and if necessary FOHS should approach the Ombudsman.

Secretary's Correspondence Northern Invites: Northern Brass event, 22nd June (2 seats) Stakeholders' Day Excursion to Keighley and Haworth, 13th July 2008 (9 seats).

Treasurer's Report Anthony reported a balance at bank of £170 and current membership 38.

Electronic departure screens and CCTV Peter Wicket *Wigan MBC* said they should be installed around August.

Brick Wall (Railway Street) Doris Alker reported the wall had been repaired.

CLEAN-UP DAY

Preva had tried to contact ISS (Northern's cleaning contractors) to arrange a date when they would be available to attend and help out. Discussion took place over trees which had been inadvertently cut down. It was proposed by David Culshaw and seconded by Elaine that a notice should be placed indicating that FOHS had not been responsible for cutting them down. Jim Ellis suggested we get someone to advise us how best to make the area more attractive. Mr A. Winterflood suggested a Mr Michael Kilbride of St Helens may be able to help and he would make some enquiries. Mrs Briscoe suggested families could be encouraged to help with weeding during school holidays. Community Service/Probation Service was also suggested, although the problem with the latter would be super-vision. Preva thanked the donation by Mr John Crossley, a local Hindley resident, for bedding plants. These had been planted with the help of Terry Regan (*Gardens-4-You*). Elaine suggested that we should

hold a clean-up day once a month. **A Clean-Up Day has been arranged for Sunday, 29th June.**

BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE

Preva had received an e-mail asking if BTP could attend one of our public meetings. Unfortunately they could not come on 26th June, but hopefully we could invite them to the October meeting. It was also suggested we involve the local police too;

A/P that the next meeting tries to arrange a mutually convenient date for BTP to attend.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Northern Draft Timetables from 8th December 2008

Preva had attended a meeting with Northern and received their draft timetable. Off-peak services to the Airport are to call at Hindley. Preva expressed concern that no peak time services would call. Discussion took place as to whether the early morning train to the Airport operated by Trans-Pennine would call. Peter Wicket suggested we write to Wigan MBC if we are not happy with the proposed changes. Elaine expressed her thanks to Preva for all his work fighting the case for Piccadilly/Airport trains to stop at Hindley.

A/P Preva to investigate further with GMPTE / Trans-Pennine.

Membership Fees Discussion took place whether the membership fee should be increased. David Culshaw said this should left for decision at the AGM. Anthony (Treasurer) had asked Peter Garvey to produce membership cards at a cost of £38 and these should be ready at the next meeting.

Replacement bus services Doris Alker raised the matter of these services not stopping at Hindley (Sun 8th June); passengers had not been aware that buses were replacing trains to Bolton. Preva said he had reported similar problems at Lostock Parkway.

Steam Train Excursion Alan Winterflood suggested such an event would bring many people to Hindley station. The cost would be very high. Jim asked that enquiries be made.

A/P Preva to seek information from other friends of stations/rail user groups and bring to next meeting.

Fencing at 2 Hall Lane Alan Winterflood raised issue of unsightly fencing at this property. Although previously raised, it had since come to the Committee's attention that the residents pay rent to Network Rail for access to the rear of their property. David Culshaw stressed *disabled access* had to be maintained. Preva had received an e-mail from Diane Kisiel attaching a draft of a DfT document *Access for All*. There is a possibility disabled access could be provided subject to Transport Innovation or Transport Infrastructure funding being available.

A/P Peter Wicket to make further enquiries and provide some information.

DATES OF FUTURE COMMITTEE AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

Can they be arranged now in advance. **A/P That they be discussed at the next committee meeting**