

Friends of Hindley Station

Minutes of the committee Meeting

Wednesday 11th February, 2009

1) Jim Ellis opened the meeting by welcoming Chris Ingham from Northern and the following committee members - : Doris Alker, Elaine Briscoe, David Culshaw, Preva Crossley, Sheila Davidson, Jime Ellis, Brian Openshaw

2) Apologies: Malcolm Coe, Elaine Derbyshire, Steve Magner, P. Wickets

3) Minutes and Comments update and matters arising from the committee meeting held on 14th January and issues raised at the AGM 29th January.

Rubbish Bins

We were advised by Chris Ingham that new and improved bins had been purchased and that they were being fitted at stations on a rolling programme. He will chase this up at a meeting he is to attend tomorrow (12th February)

Contacting Justin re: the room beneath station and state of the property - Preva had been unable to do this.

Preva expressed thanks to Northern/Network Rail for the Electronic Timetables and as from today the Recorded Announcements!!

CCTV is now imminent and the pole has been erected

Large Printed Timetables - These have not been laminated and therefore are not suitable for putting outside. David asked if it would be possible to draw a line or highlight Hindley on these timetables so that they would be easier to read - Northern representative will chase this up.

Doris advised the meeting that there had been a problem with the electronic timetables on a Sunday. The representative from Northern advised the meeting that these had not yet been commissioned and handed over yet. However when there is a gap in the time of trains as on Sunday the information does not come up until the train is due.

Complaint re: the 0722hrs from Southport/Airport Service via Bolton not stopping at Hindley.- Northern representative noted this.

16.59 Bolton Timetable doesn't advise people that this does now stop in Hindley - here again the representative noted this matter.

4) Treasurers Report

The balance in the bank at the moment is £350.79. However Preva has not been claiming his expenses and it was proposed by Brian Openshaw and seconded by David Culshaw that he should do so. A sum of £100 was mentioned.

5) Membership

At the moment we have 41 members. People are reminded that the subs are now due from 1st January.

6) Clean Up Days - Update

Next Clean Up Day - 8th March 10-2pm

Steve Magner came and looked at the station and so assess any help which could be given. Preva asked the Northern Rep if weed killer could be applied by ISS. **Jim Ellis to contact them direct and arrange this.**

We need access to the Manchester bound platform and will need a mini digger in order to get a wheelbarrow in. We would need authority to remove the fence panels and bolts. Preva had raised this with Steve Magner who has contacted Network Rail re cutting the vegetation back. **The Representative from Northern will see what can be done.**

Preva had not yet been in touch with Justin regarding the window frames which he said he was prepared to replace - these ideally need to be replaced and covered by marine ply before the murals can be put up once they are done.

Sheila advised the meeting that Drumcroom will be prepared to support Primary Schools in Community Arts Projects - and the representative from Northern advised the meeting that Chowbent School had been involved at Atherton Station on a similar project. **Sheila to advise the Head Teacher at St. Peter's, Mrs. S. Bruton who will contact the Head Teacher at Chowbent.** There was some general discussion on this - we have five doors and five windows and five primary schools in Hindley.

Doris advised the meeting that in Justin's defence the soil had been put on top of the chippings without his permission when work was done on the bridge and since then the weeds had overtaken everything.

Jim Ellis congratulated everyone on turning up to the Clean Up Day on the 8th despite the inclement weather.

David felt that with one more clean up day cobbles will be clear and we are also only 20 foot away from the fence. Then anyone can come and do as much or as little as they like whenever they are available. Jim also asked for photographs of 'before' and 'after' - **Preva will look in his collection.**

7) Footpath Update

Jim advised the meeting the Local Authority were to serve an enforcement notice regarding the path if no meaningful appeal had been received by next week. The original appeal had been rejected. Network Rail to be contacted as their fence has been moved. **Northern representative offered to look into this.**

8) New Timetable Feedback

Preva sat in a PTA meeting and brought back to the meeting an query about trains via the Atherton line on the Sunday Service and noted that this would cost £180,000 per year + 20% to man the stations and signal box.

Trains also run on Sundays from Hindley to Chester - this is not publicised.

Overcrowding on the trains - Preva to write to Geoff Hoon

There was also a discussion on people who dodge paying their fares and whilst there are inspectors on at peak times there is no one checking up in between. Consequently a lot of revenue is being lost.

9) Any Other Business

We have been invited by Northern to an Adopters Conference at the Imperial Hotel Blackpool - 5.30 for 6pm on Tuesday 17th February.

There is also an invitation to the Adopters Conference at the Manchester, Thistle Hotel on Thursday 26th February 5.30 pm for 6pm.

Rail Future - Meeting Saturday 18th April, 2009 at the Edington Arms from 11am for 11.30am meeting.

Northern were thanked by Preva for allowing us to put up posters advertising Friends of Hindley Station advising passengers of meetings.

10) Next Meeting - Wednesday 11th March 12 noon at the Edington Arms.