

BEDFORD COMMUTERS ASSOCIATION

BCA COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 6th June 2019

Present: Arthur Taylor Steve Floyd Martin James
Alison Crompton Howard Pile John Henderson

Apologies: Mark Spurgeon

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 2nd April 2019 were agreed.

2. Actions

AT has raised the issue of Thameslink Expresses using Platform 1 in the evening peak. He is awaiting an answer – **Ongoing**

Membership Cards – meeting agreed to switch to an electronic version - **Ongoing**

Membership Renewal Form - wording to be amended - **Ongoing**

AT has spoken to Jim who confirmed he would be the independent Auditor– **Discharged**

Suggestions for the way forward – **Ongoing JH/AC/HP**

Identified minor adjustments by an Independent Auditor to the Accounts have been made - **Discharged**

3. Correspondence

None

4. Treasurers Report

SF reported that the balance was £1743.57 with a surplus of £60.68 this financial year to date.

An Independent Auditor had reviewed the accounts and the overall financial position of the

5. Communications

June Newsletter is complete and will be distributed shortly.

6. Performance

All agreed that Performance/Reliability of the timetable continues to improve and is now back to pre May 2018 timetable changes.

Continuing infrastructure failures south of the river are still a concern.

7. Timetable

Thameslink

AT reported that from May 2020 the number of trains through the Core will increase to 22.

There is still no date for 24 tph through the core.

Since the May change the weekend services has returned to 4tph.

Few changes are expected in December 2019.

EMT

AT reported that he met with the timetable planner on 25th May. He continued to lobby for some reinstatement of peak Bedford stops. EMT had looked at this but said due to rolling stock and capacity issues no changes would be made until December 2020. This would be when EMT resumes stopping at Luton and Bedford in the peak with the introduction of their electric services.

8. GTR

AT reported that the new Managing Director for Thameslink/Great Northern is Tom Moran. A meeting will be arranged.

AT explained the recently announced Passenger Benefit Fund. Both Bedford and Flitwick will receive £80K to be spent at the respective stations. Ideas are welcome from Stakeholders/Rail User Groups/local authorities and the general public. HP/AC will arrange an email to all members outlining the Passenger Benefit Fund and ask for ideas. **Action HP/AC**

AT will be speaking to Flitwick Town Council to get an article in the local Flitwick Papers. Responses to be sent into GTR by July 31st at the latest.

9. East Midlands Trains

AT reported that Abellio had been awarded the East Midlands Franchise which will commence on August 18th.

AT will now arrange a meeting with Abellio to discuss the details of the Franchise and how it will affect Bedford and also our concerns and issues.

10. Thameslink Programme

Nothing to Report. A new meeting date is awaited, probably during July.

11. Website

Nothing to Report.

12. EWRL

Nothing to Report.

13. Bedford Matters

AT reported he would be meeting Joe and Bernadette on 11th June. Please let him know of any issues that need raising.

The notice board has been updated.

14. Flitwick Matters

Flitwick did not get funding. AT will email the DfT asking for an explanation why funding was not granted but granted at Cricklewood – **Action AT**

New planters and flowers have been provided.

15. MML CRP

AT reported that the CRP was officially launched today.

16. Membership Renewal

Dates for membership renewal are Bedford Tuesday September 24th, Flitwick Thursday 26th September.

AT will arrange Site Access – **Action AT**

Renewal Forms to be updated and 2500 copies printed. AC/HP to arrange – **Action AC/HP**

17. AOB

None

17. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 4th September 2019 at Alison's house commencing at 19.30