SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

AGENDA

For a meeting to be held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall
Welshpool on
FRIDAY 13th MAY 2016 at 11.15am

1. Introductions
   A short time for people to introduce themselves.

2. Record of attendance
   To complete the record of attendance and note apologies for absence.

3. Minutes of the last meeting
   To consider and approve the minutes of the last meeting as per appendix A.

4. Financial & Administration Report
   To consider the financial report as follows:
   i) The current position - £796.36p in the account.
   ii) Grants from Shropshire and Ceredigion.
   iii) Grant from Powys County Council.
   iv) Web Site

5. Actions taken since the last meeting
   To note the following actions taken since the last meeting:
   
   i) The survey for Welsh Government in July/August 2016
      The Secretary has contacted Dave Thomas at Welsh Government and it appears that they are looking to the Rail Partnership to complete this work.
ii) **Meetings with the Minister**  
Now that the May elections have passed a meeting can be arranged with the new Minister.

iii) **Press release**  
This was approved and released.

iv) **Submission of the Joint Committee Cambrian Lines Franchise Document**  
The document as approved was submitted to Welsh Government.

v) **Submission of the Shrewsbury Aberystwyth Rail Liaison Committee consultation response**  
The document as approved was submitted to Welsh Government.

6. **Reports:**

To receive reports as follows:

i) Arriva Trains Wales  
ii) Network Rail  
iii) Cambrian Rail Partnership  
iv) Transport Police

7. **Infrastructure**

To consider an update on infrastructure as follows:

i) Progression towards another train to compete the hourly service.
ii) Station improvements at:
   i. Shrewsbury
   ii. Welshpool (car park, lifts and Town Bus Service)
   iii. Newtown
   iv. Caersws (car park)
   v. Machynlleth (lifts and car park)
   vi. Dovey Junction
   vii. Borth
   viii. Aberystwyth

8. **Tourism matters**
   To consider the following:

   i) Tourist Information Office provision along and around the line.
   ii) Rail ticket sales at Newtown and Welshpool.

9. **Matters raised by members**
   To consider any matters notified to the Chair or Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.

10. **Date of next meeting**
    To note the day of the next meeting to be held Friday 8th July 2016 at Machynlleth.
SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Of a meeting held on

on Friday 12th February 2016 at 11.15 am

in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall Welshpool

Record of attendance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present were</th>
<th>Apologies were received from</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cllr T Roberts Chair</td>
<td>Cllr S Griffiths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barmouth Town Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cllr M Williams Vice Chair</td>
<td>Angus Eickhoff SARPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powys County Council</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Robinson Secretary Welshpool</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Town Council</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>D Ellis-Thomas AM Merionnydd</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R Mason Cambrian Rail Partnership</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Davies Arriva Trains Wales</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr Ray Quant Ceredigion CC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cllr E Jones-Williams Gwynedd CC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cllr M Benjamin Aberystwyth TC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr J Smith Aberystwyth TC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A Wallbank Caersws CC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>P Addams Shropshire Council</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr R White Newtown TC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>David Taylor Rail Future</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr J Barnes Carno CC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>D Woodhouse Aber/Tywyn Tourism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R M Whitehouse Tallylyn Railway</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: It was agreed that the Secretary will write by email to Cllr S Griffiths about a submission of a consultation form from the Cambrian Coast Conference. A copy of the responses from this meeting is to be included in that email. The document presentation is to be submitted as discussed at the join meeting and is a joint submission.
1. Mansell Williams
The meeting received a report on the health of Mansell. The Meeting also AGREED to alter the constitution to allow the appointment of a president.
The meeting further AGREED to appoint Mansell Williams as the President.

2. Minutes of the last meeting
The meeting approved the minutes of the last meeting of this Committee with one alteration to a name.

3. Elections
The Elections for the officers were held with the following appointed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Cllr Trevor Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>Cllr Michael Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Robert Robinson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Cambrian Rail Survey
The meeting received a report on the following:

i) The final copy of the survey report as presented to the Minister.
ii) To receive a report on the meeting with the Minister on 11th January 2016.

The points of note were:

a) Welshpool Town Council has agreed to continue with administration support in the future to ensure sustainability for the Committee with its links with the industry and Welsh Government.
b) The surveys will continue on a regular basis starting in July/August 2016.

The full survey results are to be posted on the web site after the meeting.

A meeting with the Minister before the elections is to be sought and also a meeting with the new Minister after the elections.
5. **Actions taken since the last meeting**
The meeting received an update on the actions taken since the last meeting which were:

i) The completion of the rail survey
ii) Visit to the Minister
iii) Completion of the Welshpool Station Car Park

6. **Visit on site by Welsh Government**
The Chair had met with Officers of the Welsh Government on a tour of the line with various improvements discussed including extension of shelter provision and lift access at Welshpool, signage at Newtown, car parking at Caersws etc.

7. **Infrastructure on the line**

i) **Machynlleth Station**
Lifts and bridge almost complete, some concern over access if lifts fail. Car parking provision with a bus turning circle taking its course.

ii) **Caersws station car parking.**
A new site for car parking has been identified and investigations are progressing.

iii) **Shrewsbury Station staff.**
The Secretary will pass emails sent later year on the matter to Ben Davies for information.

iv) **Further investment at Welshpool Station.**
The addition of further shelters, lift access and litter bins (by the Town Council).

v) **Rail Ticket Sales – Tourist Information Office Welshpool.**
It was confirmed that the business at Newtown has been purchased and will continue. Welshpool Tourist Information Office will sell rail tickets from just after Easter.

vi) **Holiday trains on the coast line.**
The provision of holiday trains was noted.

vii) **Newtown**
Signage to be improved.
8. **Rail Reports**  
Reports were received as follows:

8.1 **Arriva Trains Wales**  
The following points were made:

   a) Performance of the line continues to improve with very good indicators.
   b) The toilets on the trains are to be refurbished with new pans in the next few months; further refurbishment will take place over the next few years.
   c) ATW offered its support for the survey planned for July/August.
   d) The driver's dispute has been resolved.
   e) Support the Machynlleth Comedy Festival continues with the event being a good part of the Mid Wales Calendar of events.
   f) The indicators show:
      
      | Year | Percentage of trains on time |
      |------|------------------------------|
      | 2005 | 80%                          |
      | 2015 | 92.8%                        |
   
   g) There is a need for more trains within the new franchise; this issue needs to be addressed early.

The report will be posted on the Web Site in due course.

8.2 **Cambrian Rail Partnership**  
The following points were made:

   a) The rail film has been put up for another award.
   b) The orange wallet scheme is still being rolled out.
   c) There are discussions to location at Aberystwyth a Shop-ability base for those using mobility scooters.
   d) The focus over the next few months will be on Tourism with two new brochures planned.

The report will be posted on the Web Site in due course.

8.3 **Network Rail**  
There was not Network Rail Report.

8.4 **British Transport Police**  
There was no British Transport Police Report.
9. **Consultation and Franchise 2018**
The meeting considered the following:

Rail Franchise Consultation by Welsh Government
Rail Franchise Presentation Document prepared last Autumn

Both documents were discussed in detail and were approved with alterations as per the attached. Both documents are to be posted on the web site.

10. **Carno Station**
The meeting received an update as follows:

a) Timetables have been submitted and further versions have been issued to Welsh Government. These show how a service can be provided within the existing timetabled trains.

b) The crossing points near Tallerddig were of concern as there appears to be budget issues.

c) Matters continue with regard to the possible re-opening of the station.

11. **Date of next meeting**
To note the date of the next meeting as:
*Friday 13\textsuperscript{th} May 2016 at 11.15am in Welshpool Town Hall*

12. **Press Release**
The meeting AGREED that a press release should be issued following the meeting. The press release is to be prepared by the Secretary and approved by the Chair.

13. **Actions taken forward:**
The following actions are being taken forward:

i) The survey for Welsh Government in July/August 2016

ii) Meetings with the Minister

iii) Press release

iv) Submission of the Joint Committee Cambrian Lines Franchise Document

v) Submission of the Shrewsbury Aberystwyth Rail Liaison Committee consultation response.