

SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Of the Annual and Regular Meeting to be held

on Friday 10th April 2015 at 11.15am

Welshpool Town Hall

1. Register of Attendance

Present were	Apologies from
Cllr T Roberts Vice Chair	Cllr M Williams Chair
Robert Robinson Secretary	Dylan Lewis Rail Future
Rhydian Mason Cambrian Rail Partnership	Ann Elias Ceredigion County Council
Cllr A Wallbank Caersws Community Council	Chris Wilson Ceredigion County Council
Cllr E Jones Williams Gwynedd County Council	
Cllr M Benjamin Aberystwyth Town Council	
Cllr A Williams Ceredigion County Council	
Cllr M Williams Machynlleth Town Council	
Angus Eickhoff SARPA	

Before the meeting started Cllr T Roberts gave an update on Cllr M Williams and his illness.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The Committee approved the minutes of the last meeting of this Committee.

3. Actions taken since the last meeting

The secretary gave an update on actions taken since the last meeting as follows:

Request for a survey of the North Coast

The request by the Minister to carry out this survey is to be taken forward later in the year.

Preparation of the Franchise Document

The Franchise Document has been published on the web site.

Actions noted in last minutes

All the actions noted in the last meeting's minutes have been actioned.

LDP land for rail use

The secretary reported that he had written to each Council on the subject. Ceredigion was the only one to reply with a follow up letter sent regarding land use. Copies to County Councillors for Ceredigion to be issued.

4. Annual Meeting matters

4.1 Election of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.

The Committee elected the following:

Chair	Cllr M Williams
Vice Chair	Cllr T Roberts
Secretary	Robert Robinson

4.2 To approve the annual accounts.

The Committee considered and approved the annual accounts.

The Chair signed these as approved.

4.3 To consider a press release on the last years activities.

The Committee considered if a press release was right at this time and to consider what it should contain. A press release is to be issued prepared by the Vice Chair and Secretary in consultation with Rhydian Mason. When it is complete it is to be circulated by email for any comments before being released in line with the Marketing Group for the Cambrian Lines programme.

4.4 Independent examiner of the accounts (if required)

The Committee agreed that there was no need for an independent examiner.

4.5 Changes to the constitution (none proposed)

There were no constitutional changes proposed.

4.6 Payment for administration by Welshpool Town Council

The Committee considered a payment to Welshpool Town Council for administration and approved the sum of £300.00 for the year to 31.3.2015.

A letter of thanks is to be sent by the Vice Chair to Welshpool Town Council.

5. Consultation and Franchise 2018

The Committee received the results of the consultation on the document.

The Committee also considered a request to alter the document as follows:

"The authors of this report support the re-opening of stations on the main line provided they are underwritten by a robust business case and provided any new facility does not significantly affect the enhanced train service to be introduced in May 2015 or prevent the subsequent introduction of a full hourly service."

After discussion it was agreed that the statement is to be replaced in the document to read exactly as it is recorded in the minutes of 6th August 2014 with reference to Carno and Bow Street stations.

6. Report on new rail service to start on 18th May 2015

To consider reports on the following:

- i) New Timetable**
The Committee considered a report by Cllr T Roberts on the final timetable to come into effect on 17.5.2015.
- ii) Marketing and promotion**
Rhydian Mason gave a report on the marketing.
It was agreed that no individual member group may promote anything with regard to the new service without prior approval of the Secretary as the Welsh Government is leading on this.

7. Station and infrastructure

To receive a report on the following:

- i) Welshpool station car park**
The Secretary gave an update on progress with the new car park at Welshpool.
- ii) Town Bus Service for Welshpool**
The Secretary gave a short report on the proposed Town Bus Service changes for Welshpool.
- iii) Machynlleth station works**
A report was given by Cllr T Roberts on the works at Machynlleth.
The car park has been delayed but the bridge works are going ahead.

8. Rail Reports

8.1 Arriva Trains Wales

Arriva Trains not present. No written report given.

8.2 Cambrian Rail Partnership

A report was given by Rhydian Mason which was also issued in print for the web site.

8.3 Network Rail

Network Rail not present. No written report given.

8.4 British Transport Police

British Transport Police not present. No written report given.

9. General discussion on matters of concern

The Committee considered relevant matters raised by the Membership as follows:

Meetings held at Y Plas Machynlleth

The Committee considered this as a location for any joint meetings due to the cost. It was agreed that the next joint Cambrian Lines meeting will be held in Aberystwyth on 2nd October 2015.

Network Rail

Network Rail has issued a press release on the dangers of railways due to the new services on the Cambrian Line and faster trains.

Wi Fi on trains

There was an announcement 3 weeks ago that Wi-Fi should be on the Cambrian Line services in 2017.

Plus Bus ticketing

This item is to be considered in due course for Welshpool.

10. Actions to be taken forward

The following actions are to be taken forward:

- i) Minutes to be posted on Web Site.
- ii) Letter to WTC from the Vice Chair.
- iii) Letters to Arriva Trains and Network Rail on non-attendance.
- iv) Press release to be prepared.
- v) Note to be issued on press release when completed.
- vi) Franchise consultation to be altered.
- vii) New venue at Aberystwyth to be booked for joint meeting in October
- viii) Accounts for grant to be sent out including reminder for PCC

11. Date of next meeting

To note the date of the next meeting - Friday 24th July 2015 at 11.15am in Welshpool Town Hall.