

# SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

WITH

## THE CAMBRIAN COAST LINE CONFERENCE

### Minutes

of a meeting held at Y Plas Machynlleth on

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 11.15am

Present were:

Name	Representing
Cllr T Roberts	Chair SARLC
Cllr S Griffiths	Chair Cambrian Coast Conference
Cllr M Williams	Vice Chair SARLC
Cllr E Jones-Williams	Vice Chair Cambrian Coast Conference
Robert Robinson	Secretary and Welshpool Town Council
Cllr D Lewis	Aberystwyth Town Council
Cllr R Quant	Ceredigion County Council
Chris Wilson	Ceredigion County Council
Claire Williams	Cambrian Rail Partnership
Roger Whitehouse	Tallyllyn Railway
Cllr J Barnes	Carno Town Council & Action Group
John Ellison	Carno Action Group
Dewie Owen	Gwynedd County Council
Ann Lloyd-Jones	Gwynedd County Council
Cllr A Williams	Ceredigion County Council
Cllr P Adams	Shropshire Council

Name	Representing
Ann Elias	Growing Mid Wales Partnership
Cllr M Douglass	Welshpool Town Council
David Taylor	Rail Future
General Manager	Tallyllyn Railway
Roger Goodhew	SARPA
Ben Davies	Arriva Trains Wales

#### 1. Minutes of the last meeting

The meeting approved the minutes of the last combined meeting.

#### 2. Actions taken since the last meeting

The meeting considered any actions taken forward from the last meeting:

**a) Meeting with Franchise Companies.**

These did not take place due to the poor weather at the time.

**b) Support for a Dementia Friendly Cambrian Lines.**

A report is noted later in the minutes but progress is slow.

**c) Chase up installation of new shelters.**

The new shelters have still not arrived and even with extensive chasing there appears to be little progress.

**d) Accommodation crossings**

Cllr M Williams wishes the minutes to note the successful completion of alterations to the accommodation crossings along the line.

**e) Toilets at Machynlleth**

Those responsible were congratulated on the standard of the new toilet block at Machynlleth Station.

**3. Financial report**

The meeting receive a short financial report from each group as follows:

**Shrewsbury Aberystwyth Rail Liaison Committee**

There needs to be a re-appraisal of how this group is financed as there is limited support from the County Councils (Ceredigion has contributed, Shropshire has not contributed this year and Powys County Council is showing no interest).

This item will be put on the next agenda.

**Cambrian Line Conference**

No issues to report.

**4. Freight on the Cambrian**

Robin Smith was not able to attend. A future date can be set.

**5. Transport for Wales**

The meeting noted the published list of proposals for all lines in Wales and note the high level of investment proposed. (see attached information)

Most activity for the Cambrian Lines is a few years away.

However the hourly train service is confirmed.

**6. Dementia Friendly Cambrian Lines**

The meeting received an update on work to make the line a dementia friendly line. There has been limited progress but nothing happens quickly. Work to achieve the aims and objectives will continue.

Areas such as Porthmadog, Welshpool, Machynlleth and Newtown are progressing locally with Dementia Friendly status.

A copy of the Welshpool Town Council Access for All Plan (including Dementia) is to be copied to Claire Williams.

Some other areas are beginning to add Dementia aims and objectives in their plans.

#### **7. Report on meeting with Welsh Government**

The management team of the SARLC is meeting the Ministers Office on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018 and will report back to the next meeting.

#### **8. Reports from:**

The meeting received reports as follows:

##### **a. Arriva Trains Wales**

Ben Davies was detained in Cardiff so was not able to attend.

There were a lot of concerns over the current service delivery with various reasons given by various staff within Arriva Trains Wales. The Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary are to meet with Ben Davies over the issues identified.

##### **b. Network Rail**

There was not report from Network Rail.

##### **c. Cambrian Rail Partnership**

Claire Williams gave an update on activities by the Cambrian Rail Partnership – a copy will be posted on the web site.

##### **d. British Transport Police**

There was no report from the British Transport Police.

#### **9. Machynlleth Transport Hub**

The Chair reported on a meeting attended to take forward proposals relating to this subject.

#### **10. Date of next meeting**

The meeting noted the dates for meetings during the year as follows:

SARLC Meetings:

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in Welshpool

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in Welshpool

Joint Meetings:

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 11.15am in Machynlleth

## **11. Data Protection Act 2018**

Members were invited to sign the form of consent for receipt of information under the new Data Protection Act.

## **12. Actions to be taken forward**

The following actions are to be taken forward:

- i) Meeting with Ministers Office in Cardiff to be held.
- ii) Welshpool Access for All Plan to be passed to Claire Williams.
- iii) Financing of SARLC to be added to next agenda.
- iv) Date of next Dementia Meeting in Welshpool to be passed to Claire Williams. (Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 6pm in the offices of Welshpool Town Council)
- v) Re-arrange presentation on Freight.
- vi) Meeting with Ben Davies to be arranged asap over service delivery issues.
- vii) Agenda to be issued in both paper and email form. The web site does carry dates and information at <http://shrewsburyaberystwythrailway.org/>

## SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

### UPDATE ON RAIL SERVICES

The new Wales rail franchise will be up and running in October, promising a "ground breaking transformation of transport across the country".

Target timetable for change:

#### 2018

- More capacity on the Valley lines and refurbished diesel trains
- **All stations will be deep-cleaned**
- New services between Liverpool and Chester and additional Sunday services between Wrexham and Bidston

#### 2019

- **First new ticket machines at stations, a new app and website and smartcard**
- Refurbished trains for the North Wales Metro, including extra seats and power sockets
- Pacer trains completely phased out and 12 class 170 trains introduced
- New train assembly starts at factory in Newport
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#### 2020

**Start of new fare initiatives, including half price for 12 to 18-year-olds**

Keolis UK moves UK headquarters to Wales, booking app for passengers who need assistance launched and 22 customer ambassadors will work across the network

**New station will open at Bow Street in Aberystwyth in March**

Pay-as-you-go scheme launched for South Wales Metro (rolling out further in 2021)

#### 2021

- South Wales Metro's new service from Ebbw Vale to Newport
- **First of the 148 new trains start being rolled out**
- Free wi-fi for trains and stations, promising "seamless" internet

## 2022

- Introduction of Metro vehicles. By May, four an hour will serve Aberdare and Merthyr followed by Treherbert by December
- New station opens at Crwys Road in Cardiff
- **Seven extra services from Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth**, 16 more Cardiff to Cheltenham and two on the Heart of Wales line
- Passengers will be able to board on the same level as the train across Cardiff and the Valley lines
- A new Liverpool to Cardiff service via Wrexham General and Shrewsbury

## 2023

- **More Sunday services introduced**
- Metro services come to Cardiff City line. The Loudon Square and The Flourish stations open in Cardiff Bay, offering first on-street trams in Cardiff for 70 years
- New tri-mode (diesel/battery/electric) trains to operate from Coryton, Rhymney to Barry Island and Penarth to Bridgend via Cardiff

## 2024

- Treherbert, Aberdare, Merthyr and Rhymney services increase to two per hour on Sundays
- First class introduced on Swansea to Manchester service
- A target of 100% by 2025 for [secure station accreditation](#)

R A Robinson  
Secretary