



MINUTES

**of a meeting of the Liaison Committee held on
Friday 8th February 2019 at 11.15am in the
Town Hall Welshpool**

1. Record of attendance

Present were	Apologies received
Cllr Trevor Roberts Chair	Rail 250
Hugh Evans	Transport for Wales
Clare Williams	Cambrian Rail Partnership
Cllr Eryl Jones- Williams	Gwynedd Council
Cllr Alun Williams	Ceredigion Council
Cllr Ray Quant	Ceredigion Council
Cllr Tony Parsons	Shropshire Council
Cllr Jane Mackenzie	Shrewsbury Town Council
Cllr Jeremy Barnes	Carno Community Council and Carno Action Group
John Ellison	Carno Action Group
Jeff Smith	S A R P A
David Taylor	Rail Future
Roger Whitehouse	Tallylyn Railway
Robert Robinson Secretariat	Welshpool Town Council

Present were	Apologies received
Cllr Michael Williams Vice Chair	Powys County Council & Machynlleth Town Council
Claire Hickman	Network Rail
Eluned Parrott	Transport for Wales
Cllr Malcolm Douglass	Welshpool Town Council
Chris Wilson	
Ann Alias	Growing Mid Wales Partnership
David Crunkhorn	Transport for Wales

2. Chairs introduction

The chair announced the retirement of Ben Davies. He was considered as an asset over his time with railway industry. A card is to be sent from the meeting by the secretariat.

The meeting welcomed Hugh Evans from Transport for Wales.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The meeting considered and approved the minutes of the last meeting subject to the following:

Correct spelling of Roger Whitehouse of the Talylyn Railway.

For clarity:

Coast Line service review to be:

Sundays Winter	increase from 1 to 3 services
Sundays Summer	increase from 3 to 5 services

The weekday services do not change.

4. Matters from the last minutes

The meeting considered the following matters from the last meeting as follows:

i) Station shelters.

From the meeting held in Cardiff on 8th January it was made clear that the shelters are stored in a yard but are not going to be installed but used for spares. There will be a new shelter programme introduced as station improvements take place.

ii) Cattle Docks at Welshpool – refurbishment.

The Secretariat updated the meeting on the project to refurbish the old cattle docks by the main line station at Welshpool.

iii) Letter to Machynlleth Town Council – support for transport hub.

The last meeting asked that the secretariat sends a letter of support – this was done.

5. Financial report.

The meeting received a financial report.

The bank balances stand at £62.48p.

Welshpool is prepared to provide the venue with teas/coffees at no cost.

There are limited funds available for locations such as Y Plas Machynlleth.

The next joint meeting will be held at Machynlleth Bowling Club.

A review of how the group is to be financed needs to be taken forward taking into account the following:

Welshpool is willing to provide some limited finance.

Aberystwyth is will to provide a free meeting room with coffee/teas.

Shropshire and Ceredigion may pay the grant aid of £250.

It is unlikely that Powys County Council will pay anything further.

A further review to take place at the next meeting.

6. Report on meeting with Transport for Wales, Network Rail and Welsh Government in Cardiff

The meeting received the meeting minutes. (made available at the meeting).
The main points raised and discussed were:

The Rail Partnership is now to include Shropshire, Ceredigion, Gwynedd and Powys as strategic authorities.

Various actions from the minutes were to be actioned by Ben Davies, these items will be passed to other officers for completion, and the secretariat will follow up the actions set out.

The meeting was considered positive and set out a good working relationship.

7. Station Audits

Transport for Wales is carryout out a station audit – any ideas for improvements need to be with them by 31st March 2019.

The meeting considered the station audit chart for the line, the attached chart was approved and will be presented to Transport for Wales as part of the audit.

8. Reports:

To receive reports from the organisations as below:

a. Transport for Wales

A verbal report was given with the following main points:

- i) Rolling stock orders have been placed for new trains.
- ii) A regional management approach is being adopted.
- iii) New community rail partnerships are being put in place.
- iv) 22 rail ambassadors are to be appointed (11 in 2019 & 11 in 2020)
- v) TfW wishes to work as a team and not in isolation to gain the best results.
- vi) Forums will be set up in April 2019 with stakeholders invited to take part.
- vii) Station audits are progressing and deep cleaning of stations has started.
- viii) Trains have been modified to try and avoid the situation experienced with rolling stock this last winter.
- ix) Clearance of fence to fence of undergrowth and trees was suggested.
- x) Liaison between TfW and Network Rail much improved.

Continued

- xi) Machynlleth maintenance depot is to remain.
- xii) Shrewsbury station pedestrian bridge is being refurbished by Network Rail.
- xiii) Access from the opposite side of the river to the station at Shrewsbury would be welcomed.
- xiv) Train interior designs are still ongoing. If possible a copy of the proposals is to be circulated via the secretariat to members for comment.
- xv) A Passenger Forum has been held, SARLC was not on the invite list, this is to be rectified for the next meeting with the secretariat added to the email list. Information can then be passed on. Clare Williams is to send details to the secretariat.

b. Cambrian Rail Partnership

The written report is posted on the web site separately.

Newtown has progressed a little further with dementia.

Welshpool is now arranging a meeting on site.

Machynlleth will follow.

The ticket machines on both platforms and in car parks are considered unsuitable for those with dementia or sight difficulties. The new machines will take this into account.

How the orange wallet scheme works was clarified for members.

The penalty fares situation was explained and details contained in the written report of the Cambrian Rail Partnership.

There is a DVD worth seeing on rail safety, this is to be made available for the joint meeting in May 2019.

c. Network Rail

The only update I do have is the schedule of works that are taking place as part of the Cambrian track renewals campaign. I will ensure that I forward the official press release to you to share with the committee.

The dates and locations for works which are planned are set out below:

Llanglan Fechan w/c 09/02/2019-23/02/2019

Bow Street w/c 02/03/2019-09/03/2019

Caersws w/c 16/03/2019

Newtown w/c 16/03/2019

Barmouth viaduct works were discussed, it was too early to ascertain how these works will be implemented.

d. British Transport Police

No report available.

9. Stations:

a. Carno re-opening

An update was given on progress with Welsh Government. It is hoped that some news will come forward from the Minister in February 2019.

b. Machynlleth improvements

The meeting considered an update on progress with regards to Machynlleth Station. A report has been completed, nothing else to say at this time.

10. Welshpool transport

The meeting considered the following:

Main line station improvements

The meeting considered the rail station survey report. (issued at the meeting) Cllr E Jones-Williams proposed and Cllr J Mackenzie seconded the adoption of the report. The vote was unanimous.

The support by SARLC will be passed with a copy of the report to TfW and Welsh Government.

Bus station

The meeting considered the bus survey report. (issued at the meeting) Cllr E Jones-Williams proposed and Cllr J Mackenzie seconded the adoption of the report. The vote was unanimous.

It was suggested that good signage is needed between the station and buses. The support by SARLC along with the report will be passed to the relevant authorities.

A copy of both reports are to be posted on the web site.

11. Date of next meeting

The meeting noted the date of the next meeting as follows:

Friday 10th May 2019 at 11.15am in Machynlleth.

Please note: Coffee/tea and biscuits will be served but no lunch.

CAMBRIAN LINE STATION AUDIT

No	Item	Shrewsbury	Welshpool	Newtown	Caersws	Machynlleth	Dovey Junc	Borth	Aberystwyth
1	Passing place	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES
2	Car Parking	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
3	Information on Platform	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
4	Information outside stn	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
5	Shelters on platform	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
6	Ticket Office	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES
7	Ticket machines	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
8	Public toilets	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES
9	Disabled access	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
10	Lifts	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
11	CCTV	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
12	Lighting	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
13	Station adaptor in place	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
14	Demential friendly	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO