



SHREWSBURY ABERYSTWYTH RAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of an Executive meeting of the Shrewsbury Aberystwyth Rail Liaison Committee held on Thursday 22nd October 2020 at 2pm at Llanfair Caereinion Station SY21 0SF

1. Record of attendance

Present were: Trevor Roberts Chair, Michael Williams Vice Chair and Robert Robinson Secretary.

Apologies received from: Eryl Jones-Williams.

2. Minutes of the meeting held in September 2020

The meeting considered and approved the minutes of the last meeting.

3. Actions to be taken forward from last meeting

The meeting considered the list of actions to be taken forward and their status as follows:

No	Heading	Action	Status
1	Minutes	The minutes are to be posted on the web site.	Completed
2	Newsletter	A draft to be prepared for approval before circulation.	Completed
3	WG and TfW Chart	Update TfW concerns and questions chart	Completed
4	Emails	Update email addresses	Completed
5	Conference	Secretary to attend conference on 14 th October and report back to SARLC	Completed
6	Train set provision in December 2022	SARLC to join a Microsoft Team Video Link with the Mid and North Wales Association of Local Councils on 18 th September with Welsh Government.	Completed
7	Constitution	The revised constitution is to be posted on the web site.	Completed
8	Funding	An approach to be made to Welsh Government to see what funding might be available.	Completed
9	Carno Station	Seek update on Carno Station funding progress.	Funding decision awaited
10	Cambrian Coast rail service whilst Barmouth Bridge is closed	Ask TfW if a service could be taken to Morfa Mawddach during reduce train time period.	Completed
11	Tallylyn Railway	Reply to R Woodhouse	Completed



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4. Financial Report

4.1 Bank Account

The meeting considered a financial update. There is approx. £250 in the bank account.

4.2 Future Funding

The considered the WG response to funding and noted that no money for grants is available. The County Councils are all struggling with finances at present due to Covid 19 and therefore grants from this source are not likely to be forthcoming. There is enough money in the accounts to see the group through to at least June 2021. The matter is to be considered again then when grants maybe more readily available.

5. TfW Action List and Welsh Government Meeting

The meeting considered the following:

1) Meeting with Welsh Government Officers regarding rail issues.

The minutes of the meeting with Welsh Government (with the North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils) had been agreed and issued.

The following was of note:

A review of the type of trains to deliver the Cambrian Lines was to be considered with the ERTMS system put in some 3 car units.

A follow up to the meeting with the following actions to be taken forward to be completed:

No	Action	Action by
1	Minutes of the meeting to be prepared, circulated for comment and approval by those present.	Completed
2	Copy of last TfW update on actions agreed at the February 2019 meeting to be attached to the minutes.	Completed
3	WG to take up outstanding items noted with TfW.	Dave Thomas.
4	WG to issue to Robert Robinson a copy of the details of who to liaise with on the operating side.	Dave Thomas.
5	WG to confirm if they would like to Association and SARLC to prepared a detailed Dementia Report for both lines.	Dave Thomas.



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Items 3-5 will be followed up over the next few weeks.

2) TfW action list review.

The meeting reviewed the list of actions from the meeting with Welsh Government. The updated list is attached at appendix A to these minutes. There has been little movement on the TfW side, however due to the latest announcements regarding the future of Welsh railways there may be some further delay in any progress. Progress since June has been limited.

It was agreed that meetings would be set up with both the MP Craig Williams and the AM Russell George via Zoom. Attending would be the Chair and the Secretary in an attempt to move things along.

6. Meetings

6.1 Full Meeting

The meeting considered an agenda for the above meeting as per appendix B to these minutes. Although the agenda was approved the meeting has been moved to Friday 4th December 2020 by Zoom to allow for a report from a strategic rail meeting.

The meetings will be held by Zoom until Covid 19 restrictions allow normal meetings to take place.

7. Transport for Wales, Network Rail and British Transport Police

The only item of particular note was that Rail Transport in Wales is now effectively nationalised. More news will no doubt evolve as time goes on.

8. Wales Transport Strategy Conference

The meeting considered the results from the Welsh Rail Strategy Conference held on 14th October 2020 and attended by the secretary:

A full report has been issued. There were a few key points to note:

- a) There is to be a projects plan prepared in 2021 following adoption of the Wales Transport Strategy. SARLC should ensure that they are involved in any consultation.
- b) There are aspirational plans (20 year) which include an hourly service on the Cambrian Lines, more stations in North Wales and some improved services.



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- c) The electric car programme has been questioned with the point made that there does not appear to be enough raw materials to produce the batteries needed on such a large scale.
- d) Hydrogen trains appear to be a preferred way forward for some areas.

9. North Wales Coast Liaison Committee

The meeting received an update on the formation of a liaison committee for the North Coast organised and administered by the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils. This is progressing and should be ready to start in the coming few months. Although separate it would be good for each other to exchange information where beneficial to both parties.

10. Carno Station

The Carno Station Action Group is awaiting the results of the funding bid for a new station.

11. Aberystwyth Station

The Chair has been approached for the views of SARLC regarding improvements to Aberystwyth Station. A copy of the SARLC Station Audit is to be passed to the Chair for information.

12. Machynlleth Station

A letter is to be sent to Nigel Brinn of PCC seeking an update on what actions are being taken to complete the interchange at Machynlleth.

13. Date of next meeting

The date for the next Executive Meeting will be agreed early in the New Year. A full meeting of SARLC will be held on Friday 4th December 2020 at 11.15am by Zoom.



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14. Actions to be taken forward

The following actions are to be taken forward:

No	Action	By
1	Minutes to be posted on web site when agreed.	Robert Robinson
2	Copy of SARLC station audit to the Chair.	Robert Robinson
3	Views on Aberystwyth Station to be passed to relevant authorities.	Trevor Roberts
4	Chase up WG and TfW on actions to be taken from recent Meeting with Welsh Government by Zoom	Robert Robinson
5	Letter to be sent to N Brinn PCC for an update on Machynlleth Station improvements.	Robert Robinson
6	Inform members by email and the web site of new SARLC main meeting date.	Robert Robinson
7	Rail Conference notes to be posted on web site and circulated to PCC Councillors.	Robert Robinson Michael Williams