

Record of Meeting on 27th May 2021

By Zoom

Present

Peter Blackburn	<i>Chairman</i>	Roger Witt
Graham Ellis	<i>Vice Chair</i>	Peter Chidley
Mark Harris	<i>MWPC</i>	Miriam Zaccarelli
Pat Aves	<i>MTC</i>	
Tom Price	<i>MTC</i>	Kevin Hayes
John Hamley	<i>Secretary</i>	David Redgewell

Apologies

John Glover	<i>Cllr MWPC</i>	Paul Johnson	<i>Chair TWCIC</i>
Judith Gradwell	<i>Treasurer</i>	Sophie Martin	<i>TWCIC</i>
Peter Tapscott		David Phillips	<i>WC</i>
Lee Fletcher		Eddy Watts	
Margaret Willmott		David Mcknight	

Abbreviations:

<i>CCIF - Customer and Community Improvement Fund</i>	<i>MRUG – Melksham Railway User Group</i>
<i>GWR – Great Western Railway</i>	<i>SNTB - subNational Transport Bodies</i>
<i>LEP - Local Enterprise Partnership</i>	<i>TWCIC - TransWilts Community Interest Company</i>
<i>MTC - Melksham Town Council</i>	<i>TWCRP – TransWilts Community Rail Partnership</i>
<i>MWPC - Melksham Without Parish Council</i>	<i>WC – Wiltshire Council</i>
<i>ACoRP - Association of Community Rail Partnerships,</i>	<i>WWRUG-- West Wilts Rail Users Group</i>
<i>-now CRN, Community Rail Network</i>	

The meeting followed the Annual General Meeting

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting on 17th March were agreed

2. Hub Update

A Fun Day is being held on 31st May. As well as a number of activities there is a raffle taking place with some generous prizes being donated by local businesses. A canopy is being erected over the outdoor seating area. The café is being very well run and is gaining custom from surrounding businesses, which supplements patronage from station users which have not yet reached pre-covid levels

3, Line and Service Update

There are few changes to the service from May but on Saturdays there is a later train north from Westbury. The morning service (0859) runs through to Weymouth on Saturdays, as does the first Sunday morning train.

Graham Ellis outlined the duties which can be carried out in respect of station adoption, although not all are currently permitted.

The issue was raised concerning the compulsory reservation requirement on many services, including those to Weymouth which causes the train to be shown as full when it has plenty of space available. It was stressed that it is still possible to book at the station on the day and catch the next available train without a reservation.

It was also raised that the current lack of catering on many stations is also a disincentive to travel.

4. Web Site and Social Media

The web site is to be updated to reflect the change of name, together with adding ideas for days out

5. Forthcoming Events

It is hoped to support local events this year but no definite dates not yet available.

Melksham carnival will not take place this year.

It is probable that Imber Bus will be cancelled because of reluctance by MoD to allow access to the plain. The need to sanitise the buses after the event is also a problem.

It is planned to run the Santa trip this year subject to agreement with GWR.

6. Papers for the meeting.

These are available at <http://melksh.am/agm2021>

7. Websites for Reference

- MRUG www.mrug.org.uk
- TransWilts <https://transwilts.org>
- Station Hub <https://melkshamhub.co.uk/home>
- GWR <https://www.gwr.com>
- Railfuture <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Sevenside+Branch>
- Coffee Shop <http://www.firstgreatwestern.info/coffeeshop/index.php>.
- Neighbourhood Plan <https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/copy-of-housing>
- Faresaver Buses <http://www.faresaver.co.uk/>
- Frome Buses <http://www.fromebus.co.uk>
- Travelwatch SW <http://www.travelwatchsouthwest.org>
- Community Rail Network (was ACoRP) <http://communityrail.org.uk/>
- Trans Wilts leisure Leaflets <https://transwilts.org/2020/09/29/transwilts-walking-and-cycling-leaflets/>

The meeting closed at 21.16