

[Peterborough & Spalding Transport Forum Meeting Thursday 5th January 2017.]

Apologies- Anthony Casson.

Attendees- Ivan Hammond, Bill Merger, Kevin Mothers, Liz Sneath, Cristine Lawton, Vanessa Browning, Gunita Sele, Rodney Sadd, Angela Newton, Jack Mclean, Louise McGuinness, Ron Meredith, and Jan Whitbourn.

* Firstly the meeting was well attended with 14 members including the chair.

* We had an email that the chair discussed from Fiona Turner who had tendered her resignation because of some internal matters . A brief discussion took place, but it was felt we should move on with the business on the agenda.

* Roles- It was felt the committee were happy with their roles for the forthcoming term of office.

* Letter from John Hayes explaining his position of support to the forum, he was President of the forum, but will carry on as Patron instead.

* Funding- Jack McClean made a suggestion that we need a person responsible for funding. It was agreed that there would be a sub committee made up of the Chair, George, Jack and Ron to seek out avenues for funding.

* Station Adoption, there had been a large group of the committee very busy with the clearing up campaign at the station, but there has been concern raised over security as over 30 people had just been hanging around the area at night. The chair thanked everyone for their hard work and support on the day.

The facilities in general need upgrading and we need to discuss certain aspects with Network Rail and EMT. Several good ideas came from the committee, Taxi Office, snack bar, shop and business could be invited in to open the scope for amenities within the station. Louise raised access concerns and an idea to have public access from the Park Road location. Also agreed to seek sponsors for the general appearance, flowers, bulbs, hanging baskets and tubs could be sponsored by local garden centres. RS will visit some of our local centres and ask.

Currently bulbs have been planted on Platform 2, repairs have been made by Network Rail to the canopy roof, but there is still work required in order to remove the undergrowth . Also rocks need to be removed as they are being thrown onto the tracks by unwanted visitors to the station.

* Awards Update- This has been concluded and sent in, the amount was £2600.

- Franchise- this is up for renewal for general rail services and should be renewed by 2018. Better services and time table will be the committees aims here.

*Buses- It was felt that for our rural area there is much more room for improvement regarding general bus services and the link to the Johnson Hospital is being looked at. Louise reported back from a meeting with John Hayes and Richard Davis and there could be a possible six month trial bus service from Spalding via Deeping direct to Peterborough.

* Littleworth Station- this campaign is still alive and well, with more housing development in the area it was felt we have a stronger case for a platform link for Littleworth.

* Rail Hub- Question was asked about this, it was felt from a recent meeting that the Deeping St Nicolas site would not be suitable for such a development.

- Rail barriers- Concern was raised about the length of time barriers are closed and the increase in diverted trains and rail freight causing several closures per hour putting an impact on the town traffic and in particular 999 services. It was hoped that long term infrastructure development would include a bridge over the railway at some point linked to the Spalding West relief road.
- Werrington- Bill gave the committee an update on the work being done on the dive under tunnel and the net work rail grading separation. Completion between 2018 and 2020, but concern was raised about noise levels and what could be done to screen some built up areas. JH mentioned the possibility of some form of compensation at last year's meeting. We will get further clarification on this matter.

* Date of next meeting- 9th March 2017 at S.H.D.C office Priory Road. Room 1- 7-00pm for 7-30pm start.