

Magor Action Group on Rail (MAGOR) Meeting Minutes

23rd July 2013

Present: Laurence Hando, Ted Hand, Paul Turner, Frances Taylor, Keith Plow, Phil Inskip & Mark Youngman

Meeting was opened at 19:30

1. Apologies:, Jessica Crook, Julie Wilson

2. Minutes from 4th June 2013:

Accepted as true reflection of meeting

3. Matters arising from 4th June 2013:

3.1 JW suggested that Lloyds/TSB would be a better option for our banking as Caldicot has a main branch, rather than a sub branch for HSBC. It was agreed to allow JW to look into this further and decide what is best within the perimeters of a free banking community account. It was also agreed that a Savings account should be opened to deposit fund raising monies.

5. Guest speaker Mark Youngman:

3.1 Mark confirmed that the cabinet report from Bryan Jones Cabinet member of MCC confirming there agreement to investigate the feasibility of a Magor/Undy station was progressing on 24th June.

3.2 Mark outlined the process for progressing our village station desire. Which involves possibly 8 Stage Gate process (Grip Stages). Initially requiring a "Grip 1-2" (Concept & Feasibility) to be commissioned from either Network Rail or a Consultancy firm. The cost, we would have to supply in the upward region of £20,000 - £40,000.

A "Grip 4-5" would be even more expensive. Full details of the State Gate process can be found under "Programme and Projects" on the SEWTA website.

3.3 Mark to forward to LH the 2005 pre Grip, for a previous Magor report.

3.4 The support of network Rail is paramount, as the could "blackball this idea at anytime. The committee thought utilising Network Rail to undertake the Consultation would prove beneficial, although ideally it was felt we possessed enough experience and expertise to undertake the Report in house. Mark thought this was not a good decision, stating the consultants have access to more information and would produce a faster response.

3.5 Sources of funding was discussed. We would need to raise sufficient funds/backing prior to requested that MCC commissions the report. It was felt that MCC might be sympathetic to assisting us, if we had accumulated a substantial proportion locally. It was felt that our next meeting should focus on fund Raising initiatives.

3.6 The JWRG have offered assistance and Paul Matthews requires us to advise them, "What we want them to do".

3.7 Initial 5 stage plan:

- .1 Raise Money
- .2 Take to MCC to Brief and Commission report
- .3 Grip n1-2 Report
- .4 Speak with Network Rail
- .5 Speak with Operating Companies

4. New Committee and Co-opting Nomination under Section 5.8:

4.1 LH nominated that we Co-opt Phil Inskip on the committee as a nonvoting expert member. This was carried unanimously.

6. Magor Station, What if:

6.1 PT presented his paper on the implication of the effects on STJ footfall and parking needs in Magor/Undy. It is believed that about 25% of present STJ passengers originate from Magor/Undy (although a 2005 Report estimated it nearer 37%) Although nominal car traffic needs are anticipated, these could have substantial implications and would need to be managed appropriately in terms of legitimate and illegitimate parking and congestion.

7. Sub Committees:

7.1 PI Presented a paper on proposed Sub Committees, headed by Committee members. It was agreed that Each Leader/Chair would find other people to assist their subcommittee. (attached Sub Committee report agreed)

8. Communication:

8.1 It was agreed that The Agenda and Minutes of meetings would be circulated to the Committee. PT will add the Agenda to the website and advertise the meeting as well as a synopsis of the meeting. PT as recruitment officer will communicate with the "followers" as felt necessary.

8.2 It was agreed that we should have a publicity Frost Fare stall in December. Potentially with a Petition/Travel Plan survey/Recruitment Drive/Fundraiser.

8.3 No decision was made about how we could use the "Village Model" to our benefit as we do not know who owns it and what are their plans. It was felt that if it could be displayed somewhere, this would strengthen our profile.

8.4 It was felt that we could involve the local schools in a travel survey/public awareness talk. We thought FT would be best suited to head this up.

8.5 Further conversations with business is required, especially Tesco and Wilkinson. It was decided that, a well thought out Sponsorship/Funding campaign / would be added to the next Agenda.

9. A.O.B:

9.1 No action taken yet regarding meeting Vaughan Gethin of Cross party rail group as it was felt we should look for a Labour party Regional Assembly representative.

9.2 At present we decided not to proceed with the offer of Southampton University to undertake a study on MAGORS feasibility due to the cost and after listening to Mark Youngman.

9.3 LH to Email politicians of update.

9.4 LH to contact Bev at community Council re their Community Fund.

9.5

Next meeting: **Tuesday 20th August 2013**

In the Wheatsheaf at 19:30

Meeting was closed at 22:00

Signed as true reflection of the meeting

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