

Meeting Minutes



Date/Time of Minutes	Meeting Title	Meeting Ref
20 th February 2014	Magor Action Group on Rail (MAGOR)	February 2014
Subject:	Committee Meeting - Open	
Location:	Function Room, Golden Lion, Magor Square	

Attendees:	Laurence Hando, Julie Wilson, Peter Wilson, Paul Turner, Ted Hand, Phil Inskip, Phil Walker, Stuart Cartmall, Geraldine Cartmall, Charlie Pattinson, Colin James, David Dovey, Brian Lloyd, Michael Vaughan (Arriva) Brian Lloyd.
Apologies:	Frances Taylor, Jessica Crook, Keith Plow
Minute Taker:	Steve Lucas
Distribution Copies:	As above

Item	Actions/Notes:	Action by	Target Date
1.	<p>Welcome by Chairman to those Attending this meeting :</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed those attending to this meeting and also a warm welcome to Michael Vaughan from Arriva Trains who has been invited to hopefully engage with this group.</p> <p>The Chairman gave a brief history presentation, explaining that prior to the station opening the population of Magor/Undy was approximately 475 people. A hundred years later the population had increased to about 878. It was at this time that the Beecham report concluded that the Magor station and Undy Halt should be closed, the decision was probably the right one. However, today's population has really exploded to around 7000 people, and there are more plans for increasing the housing stock in the immediate area and surrounding areas.</p> <p>The Chairman explained that our mission was to aspire to develop a gateway for the people of Magor and Undy, to the rail network. Our objective is to have a community station whose location is central with the MUSLA Community Hall.</p>		

	<p>Our target is for 1st March 2018 and our unique selling point is that we are looking for access to this community station by foot or cycle. The location of the station being within easy walking distance from the majority of the homes within Magor and Undy. With 11,000 vehicles passing through the area on a daily basis, the provision of a community station would have a dramatic effect on reducing that amount and reducing the carbon emissions.</p> <p>The Chairman further explained, that what we as a group are looking for from Arriva Trains, is their support in our endeavours, their endorsement on what we are aspiring to achieve and also for their advice in helping us to put forward the right feasibility study.</p>		
2.	<p>Arriva Trains – Michael Vaughan – Response:</p> <p>MV responded by firstly confirming that Arriva Trains would be happy to provide support. However, in going forward, the following factors would need to be taken into account in order to define the strategy that will be needed to be developed. The rolling stock strategy has yet to be decided for the area between Bristol/Cardiff areas. The need to have an understanding of the concept behind the metro complex for Cardiff. Electrification of the rail route and of course cannot rule out the fact that the Government Elections are in 2015 and the Welsh elections a year later in 2016. This is important, because this is where funding for the infrastructure will come from – Department of Transport.</p> <p>It is recognised that the key stations are Bristol and Cardiff, and Magor and Undy sit clearly between the two.</p> <p>We need to be aware of and maintain focus of the aspirations to the political arena with its changing environment. The possibility of Monmouthshire and Newport local authorities emerging would also have a dramatic effect and the sooner the group can get involved the better.</p> <p>At this point the meeting took a break – 20:40 hours</p>		
3.	<p>Meeting Resumed:</p> <p>Those present: Laurence Hando, Julie Wilson, Peter Wilson.</p>		

	Paul Turner, Ted Hand, Phil Inskip, Charlie Pattinson, Colin James and Steve Lucas.		
4.	<p>Committee Reports:</p> <p>Welsh Government and People: (PI) There are currently discussions ongoing with regards to the Wales Border Franchise. Councils are to make their bids to the Government. Instead of SEWTA, it is now the County Councils and Metro Cardiff.</p> <p>The business of the Joint Rail Working Group is now going to be dealt with by a new group within Monmouthshire County Council. It is hoped that we will be able to put a member of this group into the MCC Group.</p> <p>Railway Industry: (TH) Confirmed that John Pockett (Great Western) will be attending our next meeting in March 2014.</p> <p>Jessica Morden MP will be trying to arrange a meeting with Network Rail.</p> <p>Community and MUSLA: (LH) The date of the next meeting is today – 20th February 2014 – which is why Keith Plow is not at this meeting. He will report back at our next committee meeting.</p> <p>Communication: (TH) Confirmed that a meeting had taken place with the two local schools. Both the Heads have been very supportive, with Magor having their own ECO Council who have got involved.</p> <p>Undy will be Naming the Train and Magor naming the Driver.</p> <p>On a separate note it was suggested that we look at obtaining some car stickers with the right strapline incorporated. Also we need to consider the use of a banner and capitalise on our logo and the schools naming the train and driver. We also need to consider the right prizes for the schools.</p> <p>Funding: (JW) JW confirmed that notification has been received that we have been granted funding for our group to the tune of £950.00. Our online banking is now up and running.</p> <p>It was agreed that the advances made to the group with</p>		

	<p>regards to the purchase of the fridge magnets and brochures should now be repaid.</p> <p>Looking forward, JW alerted the group to the possibility of applying for Lottery Funding under the umbrella of 'People and Places – Investing in Your Community'. It would initially appear, that we meet the criteria that has been set. The grant range from £5000 through to £1M.</p> <p>Update by PT Good progress is being made with inBev. The Severn Tunnel Junction foot fall survey went well. All prize draw winners have been contacted and the prizes delivered. The website has been updated and currently we are running at about 400 hits per month. The database has been updated, specifically adding the contact details that we received via the Frost Fayre and the brochures. We are now affiliate members of the Rail Future group and hopefully in the next year or two, may have access to additional funds. The communications plan has also been updated.</p>		
5.	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>CJ thanked the group for their assistance in the Severn Tunnel Junction Footfall Survey. The results from which, did emphasise the need for weekend travel.</p> <p>Mark Youngman has agreed to attend one of our meetings to discuss what the process will be with the demise of SEWTA. He will be invited to attend our April 2014 meeting.</p> <p>Need to look at the possible costings to put forward the 'plan'.</p> <p>A strategy plan is to be circulated and a meeting to be arranged for discussion. Suggested meeting prior to our scheduled April monthly meeting and PT has kindly offered his premises for the venue.</p> <p>The Chairman informed the meeting that Mike German has been approached regarding becoming President of the group. No decision as at yet.</p> <p>Meeting closed 21:45 hours</p>		

Next Meeting:	20 th March 2014, 19:30 hours, Golden Lion, Magor Square		