



Date/Time of Minutes	Meeting Title	Meeting Ref
17 <sup>th</sup> July 2014	<b>Magor Action Group on Rail (MAGOR)</b>	July 2004
<b>Subject:</b>	Annual General Meeting - Open	
<b>Location:</b>	Function Room, Golden Lion, Magor Square	

<b>Attendees:</b>	Laurence Hando (Chair), Paul Turner (Membership Secretary), Julie Wilson (Treasurer), Steve Lucas (Secretary), Ted Hand, Phil Inskip, Peter Wilson, Frances Taylor, Keith Plow, Ann Scaye, Bill Felton, Brian Hughes, Roy Francis, Neeta Baicher
<b>Apologies:</b>	Jessica Morden, Colin James, Phil Walker, Jessica Crook
<b>Minute Taker:</b>	Steve Lucas

Item	Minutes
1.	<p><b>Chairman Address:</b></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending this our second Annual General Meeting of Magor Action Group On Rail (MAGOR).</p> <p>We were first formed in 2012 with the launch meeting taking place in March 2013 and the first AGM in July 2013. Here we are a year later and hopefully closer down to track to achieving our aim.</p> <p>The Chairman then gave a brief about our campaign to strive for an environmentally friendly, walk to, centrally located, integrated Railway Station. During the year we have moved our campaign forward in many ways. Having secured the early support of the local Community Council, who kindly granted us funding. This was closely followed up with Monmouthshire County Councils' official approval and another grant followed from their Severnside area. Which provided the group for the first time with a much needed funding to fight our campaign. We also attended both the Frost Fayre and May Fayre which helped to spread the word across the community, with the launch of our new logo and the sale of Fridge magnets to help boost the funds.</p> <p>During our consultation activities, we have reached a number of guests at our monthly meetings, in particular: - Mark Youngman, Transport Policy and Compliance Manager for MCC; Michael Vaughan of Arriva Trains; Jon Pocket of First Great Western. These</p>

	<p>meetings provided us with the appropriate information and guidance to enable us to understand the various stages required for the “Governance in Rail Industry projects”, known as the GRIP Process. This included the need to fund a survey report (at a cost in the region of £20,000 - £40,000). Therefore we launched a £40,000 fund raising campaign.</p> <p>Apart from the support of the community at large, the two local councils and local businesses, we have been involved with the two local schools, raising awareness as part of their environmental active travel curriculum. We were pleased when George Williams of Magor Church In Wales School named our driver as “George” and when Megan Peacock of Undy School named our engine “Maggy”.</p> <p>I would like to thank both schools and their pupils who participated in this naming process. I would also like to thank one of our strongest supporters and Member of Parliament Jessica Morden, who attended both schools to present our thanks to the children and schools for their support in our campaign. Jessica did express her disappointment that she could not be with us tonight. In fact Jessica Morden was recently heard at a Parliamentary Committee, mentioning and supporting the MAGOR campaign.</p> <p>We have been fortunate to receive television as well as many press articles over the past year. There is definitely a lot of interest in rail at present. With electrification coming to Wales and talk of a Cardiff Metro, our stretch of track has seen marked passenger increase as compared with other areas.</p> <p>In March of this year we were pleased that Lord Mike German agreed to be our Honary President. As you may know Mike was the Chairman at our launch meeting in March 2013 and has been a supporter ever since, and his experience gained in the Welsh Assembly will be extremely valuable to this group.</p> <p>Bringing us up to date, we are still looking to raise the £40,000 GRIP costs. One particular idea that we are exploring is through ‘Crowd Funding’, and I am sure it will not be too long before we can announce our movement on that. We are also in the process of arranging a meeting with the First Great Western new franchise bid team and also Edwina Hat, Assembly Minister for Transport.</p> <p>Finally, as part of our ambition for an integrated transport system, you may have spotted the Severside Area but timetable displayed, as courtesy of the MAGOR Group. I would also like to express my personal thanks to the team and all those others that have supported us over the last year, that haven’t been mentioned in person.</p>
<p><b>2.</b></p>	<p><b>Treasurers Report:</b></p> <p>The treasurer announced that the Savings Account was opened on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 and that £223.20 was transferred from the current account in the this savings account, which is to be used for holding the funds in for the campaign.</p> <p>It was also confirmed that the accounts have been audited and the balance as at 17<sup>th</sup> July 2014 stands as follows:</p> <p>Current Account - £649.50  Savings Account - £223.20  -----</p>

	Total Amount - £872.70
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Membership Secretary Report:</b></p> <p>Following our initial launch in March 2013 we have managed to sign up around 60 members plus our committee (although we were lacking a secretary at that time).</p> <p>Through 2013 and particularly because of the 'Free Prize Draw' which we promoted at the Frost Fayre, we gathered another 75 members. We are particularly grateful to the 17 local businesses (who have also signed up to our cause), for donating an excellent range of prizes which made the draw so successful.</p> <p>In 2014 as a result of our stall at the May Fayre (and some intensive fridge magnet selling) we gained another 55 members. Also our committee has come up to full strength, together with around 14 VIPs, including John Griffiths (AM), Jessica Morden (MP) and Lord German have all confirmed their support for this group.</p> <p>This now brings our membership to around 230. But I should also mention the great support we have had from our two local schools, both from the Staff and Children. I am now wondering if we should have a 'junior membership'. The children are very enlightened, recognise the importance of rail travel and have told us that they will continue to help with the campaign.</p> <p>So, I believe from a membership point of view it has been a very successful year with something like a 400% growth.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Resolution 1:</b></p> <p>Resolution 1 was to adopt the amendments to the constitution, these being the removal of reference to membership subscription, the required quorum for the sub-committee, removing the not yet invoked status of the committee and removal of the section on subscription cost. All were carried unanimously.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Resolution 2:</b></p> <p>Resolution 2 was to confirm Joanna Coombes as the Auditor for the group. Agreed unanimously.</p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Resolution 3:</b></p> <p>Resolution 3 was for the re-election of the committee members. Agreed unanimously.</p>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Resolution 4:</b></p> <p>Resolution 4 was for the election of other volunteers to the committee. Peter Wilson was put forward for this and the decision was carried unanimously.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Resolution 5:</b></p> <p>Resolution 5 was to confirm election of Lord Mike German as Honorary President to this</p>

	group. Agreed unanimously.
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <p>KP informed the meeting of the NATO event due to take place in Newport during September 2014 giving brief details on the arrangements and what could be expected during this time in terms of security and expected numbers.</p> <p>BF raised his concerns regarding wheelchair access to the proposed development and also access to the trains itself. It was conformed that should the development that the campaign is fighting for go ahead, then it would have to conform to the current disability access legislation.</p> <p>PS informed the meeting that during 2015 work will be going on at Severn Tunnel Junction, which would ultimately mean that the existing car park would possibly lose between 15 and 20 car parking spaces.</p> <p>BH asked for clarification that the building of the station could not go ahead without the survey being completed, and that the cost of conducting the survey would be in the region of £40,000. This was confirmed as being the case, therefore the priority of this action group is to raise the funding required.</p> <p>RF raised an important point which this group should add to their publicity campaign was that it has shown many times in the past, that with the provision of a rail station the value of properties have increased and that businesses has also benefited alongside tourism to the area.</p> <p>There being no other business, the Chairman gave a special vote of thanks to Phil Inskip who will be retiring shortly and will be stepping down as the consultant to this group. Without the advice and guidance that we have received from Phil, then there would be no doubt that this committee would not have achieved what it has. Nor would this group have gained the recognition that it has gained from those in political power and from the train companies, such as Arriva and First Great Western. A small gift was presented as recognition of our appreciation.</p>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Resolution 4:</b></p> <p><b>Dates of Next Committee Meeting:</b> 14<sup>th</sup> August 2014 – Function Room, Golden Lion, Magor Square.</p>