

Meeting Title:	Magor Action Group on Rail (MAGOR) Committee Meeting
	19 September 2019
Time:	19:30 hours
Place:	Function Room, The Golden Lion
Chair:	Laurence Hando
Committee:	Laurence Hando (LH), Julie Wilson (JW), Peter Wilson (PW), Ted Hand (TH), Paul Turner (PT), Steve Lucas (SL), Lisa Dymock (LD), Geoff Cook (GC), John Crook (JC), Frances Taylor (FT), Jo Godding (JG), Paul Godding (PG), Dawn Turner (DT).
Apologies:	We received apologies from Julie Wilson, Peter Wilson, Lisa Dymock and John Crook

Item 1 - Review of the Minutes

The minutes of 27 June 2019 meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

The minutes of 25 July 2019 AGM were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Item 2 – Matters arising

Co-opting

LH reminded the group that at the AGM we co-opted Jo Godding, Paul Godding and Dawn Turner on to the committee however Frances Taylor, who was unable to attend the AGM was not co-opted at that time and LH asked FT if she wished to be co-opted. FT confirmed she would like to be co-opted and the committee agreed.

Decision: FT Co-opted onto MAGOR committee.

President

Further to the AGM decision to reconsider a group president LH inquired if there were any alternative thoughts on the previous Lord German. It was agreed that the group would continue currently without a president.

Constitution

LH asked the committee if there were any aspects of the constitution that they felt should be reviewed or amended.

Decision: The committee agreed that no changes were required.

Other matters arising

TH updated the group regarding an encouraging meeting with Roger Goldsworthy (RG), General Manager of the TY Hotel (formerly Hampton by Hilton which was sold to Celtic Manor). Roger remains supportive of the MAGOR group and was asked if he could support arranging a meeting with CEO of Celtic Manor, Ian Edwards (IE). The committee supported this course of engagement.

ACTION 1/1909: TH and PT to pursue a meeting during October with IE.

Item 3 - Correspondence

LH confirmed to the committee that he had written to John Griffiths (JG) to thank him for his engagement with the children at the Senedd and advised the committee that JG had written further saying that he would chase up progress with the assembly regarding money for Grip 3.

LH also advised the committee that Tim James (TJ), Client Relationship Director for Alan Griffiths Contractors, had made contact expressing interest in MAGOR and asking if he could attend a meeting. The committee supported this engagement.

ACTION 2/1909: LH to invite TJ to the next MAGOR meeting in October.

Item 4 – Committee reports covering: Welsh Government and People; Grip Funding; Transport Review; Local Government; and Finance.

- a. TH reported that PT and TH had recently met with JG and Jessica Morden (JM). It was a very supportive meeting and they continued to encourage the group to persist with the work and not give up. JM will also chase the funding for grip 3.

PT had since received an email from Sam Hughes (SH), parliamentary research officer to JM, informing us that JM had written to Ken Skates (KS) seeking his support or advice on the funding gap for Grip 3 as well as contacting the M4 commission. SH will email again once responses have been received.

FT had also separately considered an approach to M4 Commission as Welsh Government had tasked Lord Burns, who is leading the M4 commission review, with the task of finding ways of reducing congestion.

ACTION 3/1909: FT to seek engagement with the M4 commission for an opportunity to input into their options for reducing congestion review – October.

- b. The committee also noted that the proposal of a station at Llanwern has been dropped and the committee felt that this should enhance MAGOR business case.
- c. FT advised the committee that they should look to safeguard the proposed station site land by submitting to Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) as a candidate site so that it could be included in the forward look within the Local Development Plan (LDP). MCC will be determining its preferred strategy

soon. Consultation period starting from Christmas / January. The committee agreed and PT volunteered to complete this action.

ACTION 4/1909: PT to liaise with FT to make appropriate submission – October.

ACTION 4/1909: PT stated he would speak to JM about raising MAGOR with the new Transport Minister, Grant Chapps (GC) following on from previous discussion with his predecessor – October.

- d. The Committee were informed that at the Strategic Rail Group (SRG) it was advised they had received an application from Grand Union Trains for a train service as an express from Cardiff calling at Newport, Severn Tunnel Junction (STJ) and Bristol Parkway and then straight to London and this would come with an investment of £5 million into STJ. It was stated that Welsh Government and Department for Transport (DfT) are not supporting this application due to timetabling concerns and challenges on the traffic into Rogiet for STJ.

However, PT advised that he would be engaging with the Grand Union Trains as a station in Magor / Undy would take pressure off STJ. The committee supported going forward with a meeting with Grand Union Trains and Rogiet Community Council (RCC) as the potential capital input could be used to ease traffic pressures and compliment developing the car park site on the opposite side of the bridge at STJ.

ACTION 5/1909: PT to continue to engage with RCC, FT to provide PT with contact names for RCC clerk – update next meeting.

ACTION 5/1909: TH to reconnect with Dan Oakey, Stakeholder Manager for SE Wales from GWR – update next meeting.

A map showing Analytics on Population demands had shown Magor and Undy as dark red which indicated great intensity which should add to the MAGOR case.

ACTION 5/1909: TH to arrange a meeting in the next two to three months with Transport for Wales – contacts Paul Chase and Lois Parkes – update next meeting.

- e. A meeting with Paul Keeble and Lisa Dimmock provided update on the Transport Review – the survey of cars and traffic being completed by Capita. They agreed to expand the review to cover Magor.
- f. The committee noted that there is still no money for the plan to put a path between Undy and Rogiet (and cycle track). Money from new developments may in the future provide the funding required, but the current developments LDP is earmarked the Magor and Undy Community Hub.
- g. TH had recently written to Delyth Jewell (DP) from Plaid for an update as at a meeting a while ago had been supportive and advised that she would speak to KS, Minister for Economy and Transport.

ACTION 6/1909: TH to contact Lee Waters (LW) the Deputy Minister for Economy and Transport - October

ACTION 6/1909: FT to write to KS and LW with regard the M4 Commission – a.s.a.p.

- h. FT advised that the owners of the land next to the potential station site had been advised that areas that he had been fencing off was council land and he cannot fence it off.
- i. Decision: **Finance** postponed to next meeting as JW not in attendance.

Item 5 – Petition

LH advised that whilst it only takes 50 signatures to get a petition reviewed by the petition commission, if a petition can gain 5000 names the petition has to go for debate a Welsh Assembly. The committee discussed the practicalities of getting 5000 names and concluded that the committee should remain focusing on the agreed engagements to gain the funding for Grip 3 at this stage. The committee though decided that as 200 plus signatures had been gathered already these should be submitted to the petition commission for review.

ACTION 7/1909: JW to submit signatures to petition commission – by December.

Item 6 – 2019/2020 Plan Review

- a. The committee agreed that the connections with the two local primary schools had been a success and that this engagement should continue. Two immediate suggestions were agreed by the committee 1. Ask for a MAGOR champion from each school preferably linked to their environment / eco councils. 2. Ask for designs for the MUCH group sign to further promote connections between MAGOR and MUCH.

ACTION 8/1909: JW, PW and TH to progress with schools – update next meeting with proposed timeline.

- b. PT provided a hard copy of the milestones chart and proposed restatement of the milestones. All agreed there was a dependency on the completion of Grip 3.
- c. Engagement with local businesses seeking their support also remains important.
- d. LH advised that the Frost Fayre would again be held this December on the Saturday 7th. It was agreed for JW to pay for 2 stalls, for MAGOR & MUCH. As usual we require Raffle prizes and all donations are sort.

ACTION 9/1909: It was agreed to seek support from our supporters to canvass the Welsh Assembly Minister. LH agreed to draft a letter seeking this support while PT/TH agreed to draft a standard letter that could be sent from supporters to the Minister – a.s.a.p.

ACTION 10/1909: JW to book two stalls at the Frost Fayre – October.

ACTION 11/1909: PT to update milestones chart to include new school engagements, petitions and if appropriate other influential engagements – circulate and present at next meeting.

Item 7 – Future MAGOR meetings

The next three meetings were confirmed as follows:

17 October 2019

21 November 2019

19 December 2019

DT advised that she may not be able to make the next meeting 17 October and PT volunteered to take the minutes if this proved to be the case.

The meeting closed at 21:00.

ACTION TRACKER

[illegible]

5/1909	Following discussion regarding information from the meeting of Strategic Rail Group further engagements were agreed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PT to continue to engage with Rogiet Community Council, FT to provide PT with contact name for RCC clerks. Update at next meeting. 2. TH to reconnect with Dan Oakey, Stakeholder Manager for SE Wales from GWR. Update at next meeting 3. TH to arrange a meeting in the next two to three months with Transport for Wales – contacts Paul Chase and Lois Parkes. Update at next meeting. 	<p>In progress</p> <p>PT written to clerk of RCC awaiting further updates</p> <p>In Progress</p> <p>TH wrote to Dan Oakey chasing up previous email of 16 September.</p> <p>Not started</p>
6/1909	To progress understanding when the funding would be provided for Grip 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TH to contact Lee Waters (LW) the Deputy Minister for Economy and Transport during October. 2. FT to write to KS and LW with regard the M4 Commission a.s.a.p. 	<p>Complete</p> <p>KS advised for MAGOR to meet rail officials which JM is in process of arranging</p> <p>Update at meeting</p>
7/1909	The committee decided to submit	JW to submit signatures to petition	Not due

	gathered signatures to the petition commission for review.	commission – by December 2019	
8/1909	Engagement with local primary schools seeking champion from each school and designing MUCH signage to link to MAGOR.	JW, PW and TH to progress with schools – update at next meeting with proposed timeline.	Update at meeting
9/1909	It was agreed to seek support from our supporters, particularly businesses, to canvass the Welsh Assembly Minister.	LH agreed to draft a letter seeking this support while PT/TH agreed to draft a standard letter that could be sent from supporters to the Minister a.s.a.p.	Complete Copies of draft letters circulated with agenda and minutes
10/1909	Attend Frost Fayre and combine stalls with MUCH.	JW to book two stalls at Frost Fayre – October.	Update at meeting
11/1909	Update 2019/2020 business plan	PT to update milestones chart to include new school engagements, petitions and if appropriate other influential engagements. Circulate and present at next meeting.	In progress Confirmation of timings to be agreed at meeting and milestone chart will be circulated after meeting