

Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station
Committee Meeting 10th May 2022 @ Hollins Mill

Attendees. Jim Milner, Peter Burke, Charles Adams (chair), John Hartley, Richard Adams, Joy Edwards & Chris Webster.

Apologies. Mike Payne, Chris Wright, David Harriott, Lauren Brundell & David Whiteley.

Minutes of April Committee meeting 12/4/22, RA not listed as attending, otherwise accepted.

Secretary's Report. Lauren was not at the meeting. JM advised that Lauren is stepping down as Secretary due to other commitments. This role needs to be filled constitutionally. The group appreciate Lauren's term of in office.

Treasurer's Report. JM advised that income from Ward Forum and Northern grants, Sponsorship and Rail Pass usage had been received.

Expenditure had been made for path gravel, Jubilee bunting/flag & watering cans. The groups balance is healthy. JM advised he would be visiting the bank to investigate whether a savings account could be opened alongside the current account.

Emails received from Community Rail Network advising of a 'push' to promote the rail service and surrounding attractions had been received. As a result of Karen Hornbys visit last month (see below), Kerry Taylor of Network Rail is to visit the station to view and hear of issues at the station which impact all users at the station. A couple of dates were put forward for her attendance.

Platinum Jubilee. The bunting and flag have been purchased (see above).

RA/CA plus any other volunteers will erect on 31st May, 18.30 onwards.

Notice Boards. Following April's meeting JM has had contact with Dean Howard of Northern who is happy for another notice board to be made available to the group. Richard Isaac, also Northern is to look into provision of a 2nd black notice board. RA advised that both Red notice boards were either inaccessible or poor to secure.

Gardening Group. JE reported general tidy up and deadheading of flowers had been mainstay of recent activity. The plants for the Summer replant had been ordered, but what arrives could be different from the order. Diagrams for plant arrangements had been drawn up, JE will get them printed onto card before replant. The coffin is to be cleared for fresher plants to be saved in it.

Membership. John Myddelton was not available, but he had sent JM a spreadsheet of the general state of membership.

Sponsorship. JH advised of sponsors definitely renewing, not renewing and a couple he needs new contacts for. CW thought he could sort 1 out. The Rushbearing committee had asked if a poster could be displayed in the groups notice boards, this received a positive vote. The Facebook site would be used for a 'push' to sponsorship levels.

Coach Trip. Having had to cancel the arranged trip in 2020 due to Covid, the trip to the Severn Valley Railway has been rearranged for 18th Sept. Fares being £20 non-members, £18 members/sponsors, various members have already paid all or part of these fares.

CRP Visit. Karen Hornby of the Community Rail Partnership attended the station on 19th April for an informative afternoon. She advised of how promotion of the railways was in her remit, also that Calderdale College were looking at producing a video film using a drone to chart the railway and attractions within walking reach of the railway.

Health & Safety. There has been no positive progress in finding a suitable replacement.

Web/Social Media. CA has updated all sites. The Minutes of Aprils Committee meeting has been uploaded to the Website. MP has updated the Facebook page.

A.O.B. The last free standing goose has been vandalized. The Planter Train and Bronte benches will hopefully be repainted/varnished next week.

Next Committee Meeting 14th June

Next Gardening Get Together 20th May