

Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station

Committee Meeting 11th October 2022 at The Hollins Mill

Attendees: Jim Milner, Charles Adams (chair), Richard Adams, David Whiteley, John Myddelton, Chris Webster, David Harriot, Peter Burke & Joy Edwards

Apologies: Chris Harvey, Mike Payne & Chris Wright

Health & Safety: CH was unavailable, but had sent in a report. He had emailed Richard Isaac of Northern Rail in relation to a H&S meeting for the group. RI had responded indicating due to the ongoing strikes, he would struggle to hold physical meetings at present but would be amenable to Zoom meetings. If Zoom isn't suitable, he will try and fit face2face meetings in. Following the recent graffiti at the station, CH had supplied RI with some photos of the Graffiti. RI has indicated NR may repair any damage to FoSBRS property (container) but no further response has been had.

Secretary: Emails relating to meetings of Sowerby Bridge Ward Forum at St.Pauls Methodist Church on Wednesday 17th October, 19.00 and Calder Valley Rail Partnership at Halifax Industrial Museum on Wednesday 14th December, 11.00 – 14.00, had been received.

Treasurer: JMil advised of income amounting to £251 received via remaining coach trip bookings, Membership and sale of pens at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms. Expenditure of £112.58 was made up of purchase of a Wreath for Remembrance Day, Yorkshire in Bloom travel expenses and coach trip refunds. The only pending expense known is for the Winter changeover plants.

Gardening: JE advised the group had received a Gold award in the Parks, Gardens & Cemeteries category. JE and Chris Ross represented the group at the awards. The small gardening group were doing a good job, additional volunteers always welcome. The Winter plant changeover is scheduled over the weekend of 22nd/23rd October, a general declutter in preparation is on 15th October.

Membership: JMyd handed out a current notice of members, indicating when members fees were due and those whom have yet to renew. A 2 month period was agreed before a membership would lapse on non-renewal.

Sponsorship: John Hartley was not in attendance. CA had referred a possible sponsor to JH for follow up.

Coach Trip: The trip to the Severn Valley Steam Railway gala was deemed a very good trip. The travellers totalled 36 with a near even split of members and non-members. It made a very good profit. JMil was disappointed at the coach being late to SB station on pickup and unfortunately, the 'Star' attraction at the gala not running. The next trip is likely to be in May 2023, with the North Yorkshire Moors Railway (Whitby) or the Llangollen railway being put forward.

Container/Station: The graffiti attack of the station in September has been cleaned by ISS, the groups container falls outside their remit. CVRP/NR are aware and may cover a repaint. The display notice boards are likely to get fresh Perspex panels. The perpetrator of the graffiti is apparently known to the police. The station wall overlooking Myers builders yard is apparently being measured up for repair, it's curved build is apparently an awkward shape. Redecoration of the station has apparently fallen into the laps of West Yorkshire PTE. The flag has temporarily been removed due to it coming loose. A longer ladder required for reinstatement. There had been additional situations of anti-social behaviour within the station area, the police had been made aware of this, and had visited the JRR to follow some of it up.

Social Media: All the social media was up to date and CA will be adding the YiB award pictures soon.

Lucy Zodion: CA had had a positive meeting with a manager. The manager then reported to his seniors who were interested in the water collection exercise, but would prefer it on a smaller scale which they may well fund.

Remembrance Day: This will be held on Sunday 13th November within the Bronte garden area. Due to unavailability of Ben Gordon-Taylor, our usual chaplain, John & Val Frankland of the local Pentecostal Church have volunteered to lead the remembrance. Invitations to the Deputy Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Northern Rail, Sowerby Bridge Rotary Club had been issued.

Annual General Meeting: This is to be held at the Hollins Mill on Tuesday 8th November at 19.00 in the upstairs room (this room has no lift access). CW has indicated he will be stepping down as Convenor, any current members can put themselves forward to take on this role.

AOB: None.

Next Meetings: Gardening Sessions 15th, 22nd & 23rd October, 09.00 onwards.

AGM 8th November, 19.00.

RA