

Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station
Committee Meeting 9th June 2026
Held at The Hollins Mill Inn, Sowerby Bridge

Attendees; Mike Payne, Richard Adams, Peter Burke, James Hennighan, Jim Milner, David Harriott, Chris Webster, Charles Adams & Julia White.

Apologies: Joy Edwards, Stuart Town, Sylvia Kelly & Chris Harvey.

Minutes of May Meeting; Accepted as a true record.

Chairman's Report; MP offered Thanks to JE, JH & Pam Steele for completing a quick turnaround in the plant change over.

Health & Safety; CH was not available, but had nothing to report. JH added he had a self inflicted wound the previous day which he will advise CH off. No other person was involved.

Secretary's Report; CA advised that Northern Rail have sent an invitation out for people to attend a free course on Managing Suicidal Contacts. This has dates thru' to December, if anyone interested he will forward details, JH put himself forward as interested.

Projects & Grants; CA advised the 2025 Ward Forum Grant had now been signed off as completed. The group would now consider what could be gained with a new 2026 grant. JM suggested the cleaning and revarnishing of the Bronte benches and possible purchase of some cast iron geese statuettes he had found on the internet.

Treasurer's Report; CA/MP advised a quiet month for financial activity. There had been a small amount of income from pen sales and membership, £13.50. Expenditure had been high, £817.37 but most was covered by outstanding grant monies.

Station 150 re-siting; CA had drawn up a general itinerary of suggestions for this event! The group had gained use the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms for a few hours on Tuesday 1st September for hosting a photo/video montage that JM/CW were hoping to produce. CA had secured a copy of the recently released Calder Valley Past & Present film by David Ball. It was hoped to invite various

dignitaries to officiate the presentation of Notice Boards and Totems about the station re-siting. These activities would probably be duplicated morning and afternoon. Tea and coffee would be available at the JRR (a group funding of these was agreed). CA had also looked into supplying badges and fridge magnets. NR/ISS would be asked if they could put up some bunting. An application for a NR grant to cover this day was to be asked for. JM did suggest attempting to get an advertising piece in the next copy of 'Go Local'.

Gardening Team; The summer plant changeover had been carried out. The Yorkshire in Bloom judging would be twixt 29th June - 19th July, the Awards presentation would be on 24th September. JH said he would be happy to represent the group and wondered if our newest volunteer(s) would like to join him.

Infrastructure; JH advised most of his recent activity had been to conclude work required for the 2025 WFG. He had been able to do work for the new Goose boards. He and CA would look at suitable locations for the re-siting boards and totems. JM advised the station 'Welcome' board on platform 2 may be suffering high temperature blistering.

Membership; John Myddelton was unavailable, but had supplied his monthly report which shows membership numbers remain static.

Sponsorship; JW advised that new sponsor Benvic/Dugdale were very pleased with the work carried out on their sponsored planters. The continued sponsorship for Viking Access and Flowquip was not due until July. MP would see Liz Marsden about her group's continued sponsorship.

John Hartley Book; There had been no recent activity to promote this book, would the re-siting day be suitable!

Coach Trip; PB advised that the next trip (20th September) would again be a Whitby/ North Yorkshire Moors Railway collaboration. A coach had been sourced at a reasonable price. This would likely be an earlier start than usual due to a revised train service on the NYMR.

Station Update; The JRR were chasing the repair of their compound fence.

Website/Social Media; CA/MP advised these were all upto date.

Remembrance Service; This was all in hand.

Christmas Activities; This was all in hand.

Other Agenda Items; No activity on these at the moment.

A.O.B. None.

Next Committee Meeting; 14th July 2026 at The Hollins Inn, 19.30hrs.

Next Gardening Session; 20th June 2026 from 09.30hrs.

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