

**Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership (DVLGRP)
Minutes of Partnership Meeting**

Held at Derbyshire County Council Offices, County Hall, Matlock, 4th February 2019

Present:

Cllr Trevor Ainsworth, DCC (TA) (Chair)	Sukie Khaira, Derwent Valley Mills WHS (SK)
Alastair Morley, DVLGRP Partnership Officer (AM)	Nigel Carabine, Peak Rail (NC)
Cllr Garry Purdy, DDDC (GP) (Vice Chair)	John Snell, Wyvernail (JS)
Cllr Chris Furness, PDNPA (CF)	John Weaver, FDVL (JW)
David Marsden, PDNPA (DM)	Cllr Michael Wilderspin, Matlock Bath PC (MW)
Donna Adams, East Midlands Trains (DA)	Cllr Russ Boyack, Cromford PC (RB)
Jody Ball, CrossCountry Trains (JB)	Cllr David Ellsworth, Matlock Town Council (DE)
Chris Hegarty, DCC (CH)	Chris Darrall, Minutes Secretary (CD)

Apologies:

Paul Mobbs, East Midlands Trains (PM)	Cllr Steven Evanson, Duffield PC (SE)
Rachel Coates, AVBC (RC)	Cllr Michael Misset, Ripley Town Council (MM)
Andy Jordan, Wirksworth Town Council (AJ)	Tania Pells DerwentWISE (TP)
Paul Webster, ACoRP (PW)	

Min No		Action
1/19	<p>Introductions and Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 apologies were received 	
2/19	<p>Public Participation Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions have been received. 	
3/19	<p>Minutes of last Partnership Meeting (8th October 2018)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These were ACCEPTED. 	
4/19	<p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no matters arising 	
5/19	<p>2018/19 Action Plan (plan circulated with Agenda)</p> <p>The Action Plan was discussed, and the following points noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matlock Station, enhancement of waiting facilities – The original plan was to add a glazed screen at the north end of the canopy (at right angles to the platform), and was subsequently changed to include a screen at the back of the platform. However at a recent site meeting it was found that there would be problems in locating and fixing this screen. Network Rail did not want to fix the screen to the existing columns, as they did not know if these would have sufficient structural integrity. The designs are being amended, and work to install the single screen at the north end is expected to start in mid-March. The revised scheme better meets the concerns raised by DDDC Conservation Officer. • Whistlestop Centre, Matlock Bath – The refurbished building (owned by DDDC and leased to Wildlife Trust) is due to re-open on 16th Feb. The main refurbishment, including roof works, is complete, and new heaters and wood-burners funded by ACoRP have been installed. Enhancements funded by CrossCountry include a new (internal) porch and refurbishment of the existing toilet. It has not been possible to widen the door to meet disabled access requirements because of conservation issues, so it is intended to enhance disabled access provision in the other building. AM to confirm with JB that remaining CrossCountry funds can be spent of further refurbishing, including 	AM

	<p>external painting. It is hoped to have a formal re-opening at Easter. MW requested replacement of the outside tap that had been removed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matlock Bath Level Crossing – The crossing was closed by Network Rail during December 2018. Work in being undertaken to construct a new walking route alongside the existing road, which should be ready early next year. GP said that DDDC had offered land to the Heights of Abraham to allow this to be done. Negotiations are ongoing with Network Rail to enable the full footway improvement to take place. MW stated that this should have been referred to RAIB at the time of the original trespass incident. Representation regarding the closure was made to Network Rail, and copied to ORR. • Family Activity Booklet – Design work for a booklet that would help families explore the line is progressing with DerwentWISE and the Wildlife Trust, and AM circulated some sample pages. The first proofs should be ready soon, and the intention is to complete the booklet in time for a launch in the next few weeks. • Passenger Figures (to 8th December 2019). The passenger figures are nearly back to the level they were at this point last year, following the works at Derby they were about 2½% down in the period 14/10 to 8/12. 	AM
6/19	<p>Partnership Organisation Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecclesbourne Valley Rly - JS said that the operating season starts this month. There would be steam trains during the summer (from June). • Peak Rail – NC said that Peak Rail also starts running trains again this month, and that they had had a very busy Christmas period. • Cromford Station Group – RB said that a reporter had visited the station to interview volunteers, and a piece will appear in the March edition of “Reflections”. Bird and bat boxes, produced jointly by Greenaway Workshop and Cromford School, require installation • World Heritage Site - SK reported that they had started planning the Discovery Week events for October 2019. The theme this year would be transport. The “Vital Valleys” project is looking at all the leaflets available about the area. This intention is to get these on-line, but it was important to make sure they could also be printed off easily, as many people liked a paper copy. • National Park - DM reported that the PDNP authority is pleased with the number of people using its trails, many of which were over old rail routes. In 2017 there were 330k ‘activities’ on the Monsal Trail (essentially people passing the various counting points – not necessarily the same as number of users). Over all the trails the total ‘activities’ was 519k. He also mentioned that the Authority would like to see enhanced cycle parking facilities at Matlock station. • DDDC - GP said that the council were trying hard to get Travellers’ caravans removed from Matlock Bath coach park before the summer. He also reported that work by the Matlock Bath Development Company was going ahead, with sensory trails and interpretation projects. • East Midlands Trains – DA said that another Direct Award was being agreed from the end of the existing award in March to the start of the new franchise in August. This was awaiting confirmation. There was no news yet of the franchise award. • CrossCountry Trains – JB said that the existing Direct Award ends in October, and so hopefully a new Direct Award will follow. CRP core funding commitments currently exist to October. Project funding should also hopefully be available from April. • TA thanked both EMT and XC for their works and funding that really makes a difference to what is achieved. 	

7/19	<p>Looking Ahead to 2019/20 (Draft Plan circulated with Agenda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AM outlined the draft plan for information. With the new East Midlands franchise (hopefully in August) the new franchisee would be carrying out ‘mobilisation’ activities beforehand and this work would involve stakeholders. • It was hoped to carry out work to extend cycle storage provision, Duffield station is one candidate, also Matlock. • There would be a “Community Rail in the City” event on 15th May 2019, when CRPs would have publicity opportunities at various Network Rail stations. The Derwent Valley Line would take part in the event at Birmingham New Street station, and AM asked for volunteers to assist for all or part of the day. It was hoped to have a peregrine falcon and handler (the peregrine falcon features as the mascot in the Family Activity Booklet). • There is to be a new accreditation process with ACoRP. AM thought that the Partnership would not have any difficulty accomplishing this, and it would continue to enable funding from ACoRP to be applied for. 	All
8/19	<p>Ambergate Junction Works 10th to 16th February 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The line from Derby to Matlock is being closed for a week (10 – 16 Feb.), with trains replaced by buses, to allow upgrading work to take place at Ambergate Junction. This would allow trains to cross the junction at 50mph, rather than the current 15mph, and would also bring benefits to the main line. • Main line services would be as they were during the line closure in September, with 1 train per hour between Sheffield and London (not calling at Derby), and 1 per hour between Derby and London. CrossCountry trains to and from the North East would operate via the Erewash Valley, with journey times increased by 30mins. • AM handed out copies of the timetables for replacement bus services that would operate between Derby and Matlock (30 min frequency Monday to Saturday, 1 hour on Sunday). • General satisfaction was expressed for the way the bus services operated last year during the Derby works, and it was hoped that the services next week would operated just as efficiently. An additional member of staff would be on each bus to assist passengers. 	
9/19	<p>DerwentWISE Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DerwentWISE project closes on 31st March, after 5years work. There is to be a final celebration event 22 – 24 March (Friday – Sunday). The CRP has been asked to take part, and AM needs volunteers to assist. • The meeting recorded its thanks to Tania Pells and her team for all their involvement and assistance with the work of the Partnership 	All
10/19	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
11/19	<p>Dates of Future Meetings</p> <p>Monday 20th May 2019, 1015 at Belper Town Council Offices, Belper Monday 16th September 2019, 13.30 at East Midlands Trains Academy. This will be the AGM</p>	