

**Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership (DVLGRP)**  
**Minutes of Partnership Meeting**  
**Held at Belper Town Council Offices, Belper, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**Present:**

Cllr Trevor Ainsworth, DCC (TA) (Chair)	Cllr Mark Spilsbury, Duffield Parish Council (MS)
Cllr Garry Purdy, DDDC (GP) (Vice Chair)	Cllr John Porter, Belper Town Council and AVBC (JP)
Alastair Morley, DVLGRP Partnership Officer (AM)	Cllr Richard Walsh, Crich PC (RW)
David Jones, CrossCountry Trains (DJ)	Cllr Russ Boyack, Cromford PC (RB)
Donna Adams, East Midlands Railway (DA)	Cllr Michael Wilderspin, Matlock Path PC (MW)
Cllr Chris Furness, PDNPA (CF)	John Weaver, FDVL (JW)
David Marsden, PDNPA (DM)	Nigel Carabine, Peak Rail (NC)
John Snell, Wyvernrail (JS)	Catherine Croney, High Peak & Hope Valley CRP
Wilf Carey, Campaign for Better Transport (WC)	Chris Darrall, Minutes Secretary (CD)
Peter White, Derwent Valley Trust (PWh)	

**Apologies:**

Paul Webster, ACoRP (PW)	David Jemmerson, Ambergate Station (DJe)
Rachel Coates, AVBC (RC)	Martin Burfoot, Matlock Station Adoption Group (MB)
Chris Hegarty, DCC (CH)	Lisa Witham, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (LW)
Cllr David Elsworth, Matlock Town Council	Ellen Fineran, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (EF)
Sukie Khaira, Derwent Valley Mills WHS (SK)	

Min No		Action
1/20	<p><b>Introductions and Apologies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After introductions, the Chairman welcomed new members to the meeting</li> <li>9 apologies were received</li> </ul>	
2/20	<p><b>Public Participation Session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No questions have been received.</li> </ul>	
3/20	<p><b>Minutes of last Partnership Meeting (9<sup>th</sup> December)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Min 38/19</b> The 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet point should read "... the next CrossCountry Direct Award would start in October 2020 ... ". With this change, the minutes were <b>ACCEPTED</b>.</li> </ul>	
4/20	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	
5/20	<p><b>Update on Community Rail Accreditation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>AM</b> advised the meeting that the Partnership has received Community Rail Accreditation for the current year.</li> </ul>	
6/20	<p><b>December 2020 Timetable Consultation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Partnership's response to the December 2020 timetable consultation had been circulated, and submitted to EMR early in February. EMR will be publishing an overall response to the consultation.</li> <li><b>JP</b> said that the on-line consultation was not particularly user-friendly, and did not allow for mention of new proposals. In particular, he suggested that a later connection from London could be provided by stopping the 22.20 departure from St. Pancras at Belper. He believed that this could be done at minimal cost and not impact on arrivals at Chesterfield and Sheffield. The last connection currently is the 20.31 from St. Pancras, and he thought a connection nearly 2 hours later would be well supported.</li> </ul>	

7/20	<p><b>2019/2020 Activity Plan</b> (circulated with agenda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project funding has been confirmed for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ #6 (Pilot train travel project with Alderwasley School): £800 from EMR Community Development Fund</li> <li>○ #13 (Matlock Bath planters): £1,000 from EMR Station Improvement Fund</li> <li>○ Artwork and Planters at Matlock Station: £3,000 from EMR Community Development Fund, and £1,000 from ACoRP</li> </ul> </li> <li>• #15 (Matlock Bath Level Crossing): Work on the improved footpath to Heights of Abraham is well advanced, and should be finished soon. Structural issues have been found which have delayed the project and pushed up the costs.</li> <li>• #14 (Access to Belper Town Centre). <b>JP</b> circulated a paper with proposals, and it was suggested that a working group, driven by Belper Town Council, be set up to progress this. <b>AM</b> has already had a meeting with the landlords, EMR and Network Rail to look at station staffing proposals</li> <li>• <b>Passenger Figures:</b> For the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 1<sup>st</sup> February, passenger figures were up by 17% compared with the same period last year. Figures for individual stations are: Duffield 17%, Belper 18%, Ambergate 5%, Whatstandwell 26%, Cromford 15%, Matlock Bath 19%, and Matlock 18%.</li> </ul>	Belper Town Council, AM
8/20	<p><b>Marketing Projects 2020/21</b></p> <p>The following marketing projects have been agreed with EMR, with final funding to be confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Derwent Valley Line marketing campaign (£35,000 bid)</li> <li>• Escape to the Country with an EMR Heritage Railway ticket (£2,350 bid). <b>JS</b> said this was for through tickets from the National network to Ecclesbourne Valley, and he wanted this to be available with advance tickets. <b>RW</b> said integration with rail tickets should be extended to other attractions.</li> <li>• Head for the Heights School Training Campaign: (EMR £3,500, ACoRP £2,500 bids)</li> </ul>	
9/20	<p><b>Other Potential New Projects for 2020/21</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matlock Town Welcome Map (with Matlock Town Council)</li> <li>• Ambergate Welcome Map (with Ripley Town Council).</li> </ul> <p><b>PWh</b> said that both these maps should also be available on line, so that visitors could plan before their arrival. It was agreed that local maps of places along the line should have a consistent style to match those in the existing Activity Book.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Derby station subway artwork. <b>DA</b> said that the lifts at Derby station were to be renewed, and so during this period there would be increased use of the subway. An art project is being proposed to make the subway more attractive for passenger use.</li> <li>• Investigate options for Toilets at unstaffed stations (long term project) <b>GP</b> declared and interest in this because of proposals from Matlock Bath Development Association, of which he is a member.</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed to include these projects in the Activity Plan for 2020/21.</p>	AM

10/20	<p><b>2020/21 Activity Plan Draft</b> (circulated with agenda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• #3 (Community Rail in the City). ACoRP are running a national day in May. It was proposed that the CRP would have a display at the Intu Centre in Derby, but because of the difficulties encountered this will not be going ahead.</li> <li>• #9 (Derby Ram Trail). This runs from mid June to late August. As part of this event, the CRP and EMR are to sponsor a ram, to be set up Derby station. <b>DA</b> said there will be a series of themed weeks to promote the Ram Trail. <b>AM</b> is proposing several CRP days at the station in connection with this, details to follow.</li> <li>• #12 (Duffield Station Gateway feature). This would be done by Engineered Training CIC, an organisation that trains disadvantaged young people in welding and steel fabrication.</li> </ul>	
11/20	<p><b>Partnership Organisation Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>East Midlands Railway.</b> <b>DA</b> said that changes to the fleet would be happening this year. The single car class 153 trains will be leaving, and more class 156s will be coming in their place. Some HSTs from LNER would be arriving, because this is only for a short time they would remain in LNER livery. These will be supplemented by class 180 sets.  The new Managing Director, Will Rogers, has arrived and Chris Wright is the new commercial manager.  Whatstandwell is to become one of EMR's "Carbon Free" stations  <b>DA</b> reminded the meeting that EMR still had funding available to be claimed for projects.  A query was raised regarding the opening hours of the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Lounge on Derby station. Subsequent to the meeting, <b>DA</b> advised that the opening hours were 06.15 to 18.15 (Monday to Friday). Opening on Saturdays had previously been trialled, but there was insufficient use to make this worthwhile.</li> <li>• <b>CrossCountry Trains.</b> <b>DJ</b> said that XC would be getting another class 170 unit from May, for the Birmingham Nottingham and Birmingham – Stansted routes, and also further DfT funding for six middle cars to make 2-car 170 sets up to 3 cars from Spring 2021. There will also be 2 more HST power cars for long distance services. These should be running from December 2020. It was hoped that XC would have another Direct Award from October this year</li> <li>• <b>Peak Rail.</b> <b>NC</b> said that the river bridge at Matlock was being repaired, after being damaged by the floods in November.</li> <li>• <b>Cromford Station.</b> <b>RB</b> thanked EMR for funding provision of sleepers for landscaping work at the station.</li> <li>• <b>Ecclesbourne Valley Railway.</b> <b>JS</b> said that Network Rail had now formally signed off the transfer of EVR to Wyvern Rail, which means they now finally own the line.</li> <li>• <b>ACoRP.</b> In the absence of <b>PW</b>, <b>AM</b> reported that ACoRP was being rebranded as "Community Rail Network".</li> </ul>	
12/20	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
13/20	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, Derbyshire Dales DC Offices, Town Hall Matlock, 13.30</li> <li>• Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September, EMR Training Academy, nr. Derby Station, 10.30</li> <li>• Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December, DCC Offices, County Hall Matlock, 13.45</li> </ul>	