

Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership (DVLCRP)
Minutes of Partnership Meeting
Belper Town Council Offices
17th June 2024

Present:

Cllr Trevor Ainsworth, DCC (TA) (Chair)	John Snell, Wyvernrail (JS)
Alastair Morley, DVLCRP Partnership Officer (AM)	Cllr Richard Walsh, Crich Parish Council (RW)
Cllr Martin Burfoot, Derbyshire Dales DC (MB)	Ernie Marchant, Whatstandwell Station Adopters
Alexa Stott, East Midlands Railway (AS)	David Jones, CrossCountry (DJ)
Tim Nicholson, PDNPA (TN)	Nigel Carabine, Peak Rail (NC)
Paul Webster, Community Rail Network (PW)	Sukie Khaira, Derwent Valley Mills WHS (SK)
John Morrissey, FDVL (JM)	Peter White, Derwent Valley Trust (PWh)
Cllr Nigel Weaving, Ripley Town Council (NWe)	

Apologies:

Andrew Johnston, Amber Valley BC	Dave McAra, Belper Town Council
Charlotte Rose, Network Rail	Kate Pudney, Belper Station Adopters
Chris Balls, Ambergate Station	David Jemmerson, Ambergate Station Group
James Beresford, Peak District NPA	John Weaver, FDVL
Cllr Andy Jordan, Wirksworth Town Council	Lyn Petch, Matlock Station Adopters
Russ Boyack, Cromford Station Adopters	Paddy Petch, Matlock Station Adopters

Min No		Action
13/24	<p>Introductions and Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 Apologies have been received 	
14/24	<p>Public Participation Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Questions have been received. 	
15/24	<p>Now and Next Journey Information - Presentation by Howard Farbrother, Pragmatex (presentation circulated with minutes)</p> <p>Now and Next Journey Information was being developed to provide a clear simple way to plan your journey and to provide updates on your way, of what is happening Now and what you need to do Next to continue your journey.</p> <p>The focus of the software was on interchanges with the aim of boosting passenger confidence by providing simple step by step information to guide people to their onward journey by train, bus or tram. The system was being developed for a trial of the software in the East Midlands at Derby, Nottingham and Sheffield stations. Volunteers were requested to use the service and provide feedback. To register to join the trial email trials@pragmatex.co.uk</p>	
16/24	<p>Minutes of last Partnership Meeting (6th February 2024)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes were ACCEPTED. 	
17/24	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>6/24 Whatstandwell Station Access and CCTV</p> <p>RW asked about the delay to installing the steps to the disused platform. AS stated work was starting on 24 June following Network Rail design and funding approval including planning consent from Amber Valley Borough Council. A conversation on site during a community action day with Network Rail's Route Manager led to this project being taken forward.</p> <p>RW asked regarding the lack of CCTV which had previously been requested. AS explained this had been submitted by AM to Stations, Social, Commercial</p>	

	<p>Development Plan (SSCDP) fund, but had been unsuccessful. A new funding pot had just opened for project proposals for 25/26. DJ stated that CrossCountry also had funding pot available.</p> <p>The East Midlands Combined Authority (EMCA) was asked about for such schemes. TA explained that he was on the EMCA transport group and that funds were for larger schemes. He wished to invite the Mayor to a future CRP meeting.</p> <p>5/24 DCC Sustainable Travel Team PW asked that an update on the Derwent Valley Cycleway was to be given at this meeting. AM would follow up with Dan McCrory.</p> <p>7/24 Matlock station MB requested an update on Matlock station. NC understood that Network Rail had intervened to make safe the building(s). AS commented that this followed legal discussions with ARCHCo to ensure the buildings were safe for passengers using the station platform.</p>	AM
18/24	<p>2024/25 Activity Plan and Partnership Officer's Update</p> <p>TA announced that AM was leaving at the end of August to focus on improving his health. AM had worked for the CRP for 22 years, since it was formed. The group expressed their appreciation and wished AM well for the future.</p> <p>AM referred to the activity plan and that many projects were now completed or were in progress. Launch events had taken place for the Matlock footbridge artwork, Wirksworth schools' Tracks and Trails Booklet and Belper Mosaic and three events had been held in May during Community Rail Week. An updated promotional leaflet and local train service adverts had been placed.</p> <p>Marketing and Communications Role This has been advertised with a closing date of 2 July. https://derwentvalleyline.org.uk/news/community-rail-marketing-and-communications-job-opportunity/</p> <p>Community Rail Week 20 to 26 May 2024 A range of community and promotional activities took place along the Derwent Valley Line as part of Community Rail Week. The week began with schoolchildren making Bee Bug Hotels followed by a community planting and painting day at Duffield Station and a promotional day at Nottingham station. https://derwentvalleyline.org.uk/news/community-rail-week-on-the-derwent-valley-line/</p> <p>Marketing Activity Derwent Valley Line Leaflet An updated Derwent Valley Line leaflet has been printed and distributed by Derbyarts across Derby Derwent Valley and at Derby and Nottingham stations.</p> <p>Local Train Adverts These have been continued in the Duffield Scene, All Things Local in Belper and Crich Standard.</p> <p>Website Renewal The Derwent Valley Line website hosting and security renewed for three years until June 2027.</p> <p>Rail Safe Friendly Education Programme This has started to be rolled out by Learn Live UK to ten selected schools: Long Row Primary, Herbert Strutt and Pottery School in Belper; Ambergate Primary; Crich Carr Primary; Cromford Primary; Matlock Bath Primary; Castle View Primary in Matlock; The Ecclesbourne School, Duffield and Highfields School, Matlock. An interview was conducted as part of this part of this to be used on social media to showcase the CRP and our support towards the programme. https://www.facebook.com/share/v/W6AQ92KizxjMW2RP/</p>	

New artwork unveiled at Matlock

On 9 February Matlock Civic Association hosted the unveiling of the new locomotive artwork on the Matlock station footbridge. The artwork depicts a Midland Railway 1000 Class steam locomotive. A panel installed beneath the artwork tells the story of the Number 1000 steam engine and the creation of present-day Matlock featuring two maps of Matlock station from 1899 and 2024 - showing how much has changed. Present were representatives from Community Rail Network, Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council, EMR and Matlock Town Council who had contributed funding.

<https://derwentvalleyline.org.uk/news/striking-new-artwork-unveiled-at-the-matlock-station-footbridge/>

Schoolchildren Discover Tracks, Trails and Trains

On 22 March, children from Wirksworth Infants School and Wirksworth Junior School launched a new walking booklet celebrating their local history, environment, and the railway. The new walking guide features activities for children to take part in including learning about railway safety. The booklet is also displayed on four information panels located around the town.

The project has been grant funded by East Midlands Railway and Community Rail Network. Ecclesbourne Valley Railway and Wirksworth Heritage Centre have also provided funding for the panels at their venues.

<https://derwentvalleyline.org.uk/news/schoolchildren-discover-tracks-trails-and-trains/>

Belper Mosaic Launch

At Belper, on 25 April volunteers and members of the local community who contributed to the mosaic joined project funders from Belper Town Council, Community rail Network, Derbyshire County Council and EMR to unveil the mosaic.

The 4m wide mosaic was created by more than 50 local people across 15 workshops, led by artist Richard Bett and supported by Belper Station gardening volunteers and East Midlands Railway.

<https://derwentvalleyline.org.uk/news/community-gets-on-board-with-belper-station-artwork/>

Scouts Summer Planting Project at Matlock Bath

Matlock Scouts took the train to Matlock Bath and helped the station adopters plant up and water the platform planting barrels. This followed an evening talk about the Derwent Valley Line and rail safety. The Scouts will be using the train for a summer evening walk.

These activities form part of the Scouts Platforms for Change initiative which is a collaboration between Community Rail Network, the Scouts and the rail industry to engage Scout groups through community rail activity, station projects and rail confidence trips. <https://derwentvalleyline.org.uk/news/scouts-summer-planting-project-at-matlock-bath/>

Summer Planting

Summer planting has been progressing at stations along the line with station adopters and should be completed on 18 June at Cromford where some new planting barrels will also be installed.

Ambergate Community Licence application

A Network Rail community licence application has been taken forward for Ambergate Adopters to manage an area of unused land behind the terraced planting area.

	<p>Derby Station Entrance Garden Five wooden planters have been installed in the garden area at the front of Derby station. These were organised by North Staffs CRP with funding from CrossCountry and EMR, installed by Kev and Neil, EMR's Station Technicians and planted up with the help of station adopters from Tracsis and the CRP Officer. Plans are progressing to replant the silver planters at the front of the station including new decorative sides by Engineered Learning, subject to community rail funding bids.</p> <p>New Customer Information Screens EMR have installed new real time information screens. The screen at Whatstandwell is a traditional TV type display. At Ambergate, Cromford and Duffield these comprise a touchscreen which provides access to additional station information, journey planning and local maps.</p> <p>Matlock Bath and Cromford Painting The station platforms at Matlock Bath and Cromford have been repainted by EMR in their traditional Midland Red colours. A line possession booked for October this year is planned to be used to paint the Cromford canopy.</p> <p>Duffield Footbridge Restoration and Access for All Submission Network Rail has completed a four-month project to upgrade Duffield station's footbridge. Since January engineers have invested £900,000 to bring the much-loved railway crossing back to its original splendour. Network Rail and contractor Amco Giffen carefully planned the work to cause the least disruption to station users as possible. Major improvements took place to the structure, including new handrails, stair treads, and cross beams, as well as masonry and drainage upgrades. All steelwork was mechanically prepared before being painted in heritage railway colours. https://www.networkrailmediacentre.co.uk/news/historic-duffield-station-footbridge-carefully-restored-for-passengers</p> <p>In relation to accessibility improvements this would have to come from third party funding, the most common place for that funding is via the DfT's Access for All program. Duffield (and Belper) were two of NR/EMR's top three submissions for CP7 Access for All funding however the DfT have disappointedly decided to prioritise funding elsewhere. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/railway-stations-awarded-access-for-all-accessibility-funding</p> <p>For context the outline accessible solution for Duffield was for a new footbridge with lifts which would have cost significantly more than the money spent to extend the life of the existing bridge. Network Rail will continue to work with local stakeholders (including the Councillors and the new MP) to see if there is any future opportunity to progress a scheme at Duffield.</p> <p>As part of the restoration of the entrance garden area which became part of the work site contractors Amco Giffen are providing three planters for the entrance garden to be looked after by the station adopters.</p>	
19/24	<p>Partnership Organisations' Updates (Circulated with the agenda)</p> <p>Ecclesbourne Valley Railway Update EVR services so far in 2024 have been restricted to operation between Wirksworth and the outskirts of Duffield because of the landslip that occurred in autumn 2023. Hopefully that will soon change with completion of major track works and reopening to Duffield, where connecting passengers with EMR will be able to enjoy the benefit of the excellently refurbished footbridge. This has been achieved by our volunteers and staff following a major financial appeal: Our target is to reinstate full Duffield services with our 1940s Celebration on 14-16 June but that is subject to impending final testing and approvals. John Snell President, The Ecclesbourne Valley Railway</p>	

Amber Valley Borough Council

AVBC completed its Regulation 19 consultation on the [Pre-Submission Local Plan 2022 - 2040](#) in May and are busy working through the consultation responses and preparing other supporting documentation in readiness of the Submission of the new Local Plan currently expected to occur at the end of June.

Derbyshire Dales District Council

DDDC Local Plan consultation closes on 20 June.

Peak District National Park Authority**1) Local Plan Review**

Subject to approval at the full Authority Meeting in July, the Peak District National Park Authority will be holding an 'Issues and Options' public consultation as part of the Local Plan Review later this year. This is likely to take place in the late Summer / early Autumn. Rail will be covered along with other related areas of interest. The Partnership will be notified of the opening of the consultation in advance. The Partnership and its members are encouraged to respond to the consultation on any items of interest to them.

2) Active Travel England funding

The Peak District National Park Authority was successful in securing funding from Active Travel England to develop a National Park equivalent to a Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan. Our aim is to work with our constituent and neighbouring highway authorities to identify a high-level plan which complements and adds value to those of our partner authorities. We will also be working with key stakeholders to develop our Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan.

3) Sustainable Travel Project

The Peak District National Park Authority Sustainable Travel Project is looking at ways to improve links from the Derwent Valley Railway to sites in the Park. This includes links to active travel routes such as the developing White Peak Loop and improvements in bus services. These efforts will rely on partnership working and future funding from a range of sources.

Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site

We are working on the next iteration of the Management Plan. We are meeting partners to ensure that the objectives and actions reflect their priorities in the next plan, so there is an opportunity to update or amend the actions if they are no longer relevant or have already been achieved. We can also add new actions to the Management Plan.

The timetable is we are currently working on the changes and plan to have a version of the Management Plan for the Partnership Forum meeting in October which is when partners from across the DVMWHS come together. The focus this time will be on the Management Plan. It will be on Thursday 3rd October in the morning at Masson Mills.

Derwent Valley Trust

Derwent Valley Trust are waiting to find out about cycleway plans, when they are known there will be more involvement with work to link to stations.

CrossCountry Trains

- Community Funding – our Community Engagement Fund 2024-25 is now open for CRPs to apply for funding to support projects. We will be launching a separate Customer & Communities Investment Fund week commencing 01 July (details will be announced on our website), which will be available to other community groups and community based organisations to apply for funding to support projects.

- Fleet – Turbostars (Class 170) – All 29 trains to be fully refurbished – first unit to enter works end August 2024. All completed and in service by 2027.
- Fleet Voyagers – 12 extra trains being transferred from Avanti West Coast (60 extra vehicles). First three trains now in service to help deliver much needed extra seating capacity for Summer 2024. The remaining 9 will join CrossCountry from May 2025 and will provide massive boost to capacity and will allow introduction of more trains (e.g. on Newcastle – Reading, via Derby service group). All Voyager trains will be refurbished starting in 2025.
- Timetable – September 2024, two Chesterfield calls each way that were temporarily removed in June will be restored. December 2024 sees introduction of direct daily Cardiff – Edinburgh service, via Derby. An additional benefit of this will be that a couple of trains each way between Derby – Cardiff will be Voyager operated instead of 170s for stock balancing. May 2025 – details TBC but will be more services operated than now with much more capacity provided.

Community Rail Network

Our Regions Support Team managed by Paul Webster now includes the newest member of our team – Jenni Jones who will be supporting our members in the South and Midlands initially on the SWR and GWR networks. Jenni joins Ian Davis (North), Rhiannon-Jane Raftery (Wales), with Paul Webster continuing to support the East Midlands and Anglia and Martin Clarke the South East. Our Thematic Project Developments team is led by Martin looking after Education (through Karen Bennet), Training & Development (Alex Peel) and Integrated Sustainable Transport (Gary Shipp).

We are pleased to announce that our Community Rail Development Fund & Small Grants Fund for 2024-2025 are now open! The CRDF fund is for DfT accredited CRPs and can support projects up to £25,000 (subject to match funding). The SGF can support projects up to £1000 from Station Adoption Groups and up to £2500 from CRPs. The fund is open until 31st March 2025, although projects do not need to be completed until 30th June 2025. Detail and application forms are here - <https://communityrail.org.uk/member-services/grants-funding-and-bursaries/funding-available-through-crn/>

Two major national events to add to your calendars (booking links will be shared shortly) are:

- Our Community Rail Conference takes place in Nottingham on 8th October 2024
- The National Community Rail Awards is taking place in Newcastle on 13th March 2025 with Lumo & Hull Trains as headline sponsors – so get thinking about projects to nominate!

Our partnership with Scouts on the Platforms for Change scheme continues to grow with 270 Scout groups registered and matched with 130 station adoption groups – a reach to over 4.500 young people! The scheme includes railway safety, station based activities, rail confidence and a rail experience. Please continue to spread the word about the project to local Scouts organisations and to your station adoption groups and encourage them to visit our page to register their interest. Full details of the project are also on the page - <https://communityrail.org.uk/member-services/community-rail-education-network/platforms-for-change/>

Next year is Railway 200, the 200th anniversary of the first passenger carrying railway and there are many events planned. The team behind Railway 200 have been very keen to stress that this will be a year which marks not just the developments in trains and infrastructure, but also the role of railways in social and community development over the last 200 years... and looking to innovation and the future too. The celebration is not just for the North East as there is a desire to showcase and open-up collections

of railway history in local libraries, museums, and railway stations. If you would like to know more about the plans for Railway 200, see <https://railway200.co.uk/> or join one of our regular on-line Q&A sessions for members - the latest (with a recording) was on 16th May - <https://communityrail.org.uk/training/railway-200-information-session-2/>

The new Value & impact of Community Rail report is currently being compiled (thank you to the members who contributed towards this). This important report about the local difference your CRP makes, its reach and outcomes, will provide incredibly useful information when talking to partners and completing funding bids. We expect this report to be published in July.

We continue to develop our work with our Corporate Partners, the latest being with Team BA who provide media and comms services to the rail industry. Their offer to community rail is 50 hours of free mentoring and support for Community Rail Network members and discounts (or free) hire of comms equipment for events. See the details of their offer here - <https://communityrail.org.uk/community-rail-network-and-teamba-announce-corporate-partnership/> and our other partners who offer free volunteering of their staff for your work here - <https://communityrail.org.uk/partners-and-supporters/our-partners-supporters/>

We have recently produced a Policy Position Paper on Sustainable Transport and Travel and have another paper in development on Accessibility for the Railway. We also produced a viewpoint paper on the Shadow Rail Policy which came out in April. These are available to download here - <https://communityrail.org.uk/resources/policy-papers-and-consultation-responses/>

Also on the website there are many events and webinars listed that are free for members and partners to attend (<https://communityrail.org.uk/events-and-campaigns/training-networking-webinars/>). Forthcoming sessions include:

- Over four weeks in June (6th, 13th, 20th & 27th) there will be a series of lunchtime learning sessions sharing the outcomes of the recent Integrated Sustainable Transport Funded projects. These include presentations on a producing a promotional bus link film, electric bike hire at stations, access to nature from stations, use of light rail vehicles on freight lines and anti-bike theft measures.
- Demystifying and developing Corporate Fundraising Ideas (17th July)
- Getting involved with your LCWIP - local cycling & walking infrastructure plan (26th September)
- We also continue to run our range of specialist networks:
 - Tourism (18th June)
 - Education (20th June)
 - CRP Chairs (4th July – AM or 8th July – Evening)
 - Community Rail Officers (9th July)
 - Integrated Sustainable Transport (11th July & 5th September)

If you missed any webinars, many of them can be watched back by following the links on our website.

Bespoke training for members is also available – recent sessions have helped CRPs think about their governance structure, overall aims and visions and their marketing & communications messages. Members can also apply for Training Bursaries of up to £200 for courses of their own choosing that will help CRP Officers in their role.

Finally, please do send Erin (news@communityrail.org.uk) details of any good news stories you'd like to share with the wider community rail family through our twice monthly e-bulletin 'Community Rail News' – which now reaches over 2000 subscribers or via our social media channels. We are always looking for interesting examples of

what CRPs and station adoption groups are doing across the country and to amplify the great work you are doing to a national audience. So please send any news you have – either large or small to Erin!

East Midlands Railway CUSTOMER SERVICE

Personalised Travel Trial

EMR is piloting a service at Derby station that offers customers the opportunity to visit and receive a bespoke appointment designed to better support customers with accessibility needs or specific travelling requirements. The free scheme, run in partnership with the software company WelcoMe, offers customers a meet-and-greet service at the station with an EMR staff member. Customers are then provided with a tour and bespoke information on station services and amenities that directly relate to their needs.

This could be:

- A customer who does not require the full Passenger Assistance and wishes to travel independently but would benefit from some extra support before travelling.
- A parent whose child will be using the train for regular solo travel, such as school.
- A customer who has new accessible needs and needs guidance on the accessibility of EMR's stations and trains.
- A disabled customer who is not a frequent rail user or is new to rail travel and requires some help to navigate the station environment to board a train, collect or purchase tickets, and find station amenities.

Users can plan a visit via EMR's website on the Derby Station page or via the WelcoMe website.

Accessible Journey Planning

EMR has unveiled virtual tours of stations, to assist with journey planning particularly for those who feel anxious or have disabilities. The tours currently include Derby, Sheffield, Nottingham, Lincoln and Kettering and are designed to help people travel with confidence. They have been meticulously mapped using 360-degree photography, allowing users to virtually navigate through all public spaces.

Passenger Announcements

EMR has introduced auto-announcements to its regional fleet to help improve the level of information it provides to customers. Customers on board Class 158 and 170 trains now receive regular announcements providing consistent and clear information. This includes information about accessibility and improved awareness of large steps or gaps at stations, as well as advice to customers about how best to complete their journey if it requires a connection. The auto-announcements should allow Senior Conductors more time to support customers face-to-face. The lessons learned and customer feedback from the auto-announcement project are also being incorporated into the introduction of EMR's new Aurora fleet.

RNLI "Float to Live" Campaign

EMR has teamed up with its crisp supplier to support a life-saving water safety campaign.

EMR is supporting Burts Snacks in their Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) pack takeover campaign, aimed at spreading the crucial water safety message 'Float to Live'. This collaborative effort highlights the importance of water safety awareness among the public. Until August, every time an EMR First Class customer opens a complimentary bag of Burts' crisps, a small donation will be made to the RNLI.

PERFORMANCE

T-3 Industry Measures

T-3 measures if a train is within two minutes and 59 seconds of its scheduled arrival time at every station. If the service is not within the two minutes and 59 seconds of the

scheduled time when it departs from the origin station or arrives at each station on the route, the service will be classed as late.
EMR's T-3 in the current reporting period is 77.2%.

FLEET

Aurora

The first Aurora has been at Etches Park (Derby) as part of depot testing to ensure the new fleet can use the upgraded facilities there.

Fleet Refurbishments Programmes

The £60 million programme to refurbish EMR's fleet of Class 360, Class 158 and Class 170 trains has now been announced. The project is being delivered in partnership with Angel Trains, Siemens, Porterbrook, and Eversholt and leverages significant private sector investment. All the work will be carried out in the UK providing a significant boost to the supply chain. The Class 170s have come to EMR from different operators and will be upgraded to provide a consistent customer experience across the fleet. All trains will receive new seat foams and covers, an extensive refresh as well as new passenger information systems and CCTV. The Class 158 fleet will receive new seat covers and foams, an interior refresh and CCTV.

FUNDING

Community Fund

DfT funding for 2024 is now open and applications to EMR's Community Fund for the April 2024-March 2025 funding year are being assessed and approved. This year's fund is also open to third party charities and community organisations and there has been a significant uptake already.

SSCDP

We are looking for projects for the 2025/6 Stations, Social & Commercial Development Plan (SSCDP), facilitated by EMR's Infrastructure & Property team. Projects need to align with our station vision plan and community needs. Previous projects supported include:

- Installation of CCTV
- New benches
- Planters and garden areas
- New fencing

Projects will be subject to business approval. The application deadline is Friday 5th July.

STATIONS

Assets & Facilities

Lots of enhancements are happening at stations across the network including:

- Improved Customer Information Screens
- New help points at stations
- New benches
- LED lighting renewals
- Waiting shelter replacements

Community Action Days

A very successful day at Duffield with volunteers from a travel company in Derby and the station adopters. A second day at the station is planned for this week with EMR's HR team painting the decking.

Whatstandwell Disused Platform

NR has announced that the project to install new steps onto the disused platform will commence on 24th June. We are planning a Community Action Day with EMR and NR colleagues in September to help with the clearing and re-planting.

	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Rail Safety Programme</p> <p>East Midlands Railway (EMR) has launched a new programme designed to promote rail safety education among primary and secondary school students. The Rail Safety Pathway, which is being run in partnership with Network Rail, is a comprehensive three-tiered tool kit aimed at equipping schools with the resources they need to effectively promote rail safety in their communities. Through EMR's Bronze, Silver, and Gold tiers, participating schools will have access to a range of engaging educational materials and activities. The tiers are broken down as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bronze Tier: Schools will receive Rail Safety Friendly (RSF) videos suitable for primary and secondary school students. • Silver Tier: Interactive lessons featuring primary presentations, primary PE lessons, and secondary presentations. EMR activity books, railway safety pamphlets, and links to national resources will also be provided. • Gold Tier: Schools can collaborate with Community Rail Partners and local station adopters to implement a longer-term scheme of work, including a curriculum-based programme spanning six weeks, "Try the Train" familiarisation sessions, and artwork creation for the station. This tier will be led by EMR's Community Rail Team and offers deeper engagement with rail safety education within the school community. <p>Industrial action</p> <p>No further action has been announced.</p>	
20/24	<p>Train Service Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derwent Valley Line Passenger Figures 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 <p>Average of 8.7% growth: notable increases at Cromford 16.1% and Duffield 19%. N.B.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Period 2 and 3 this year coincided with 16-day line closure due to engineering. 2. Period 10 increase is extremely high compared to previous year when there were numerous strike days during December 2022 and January 2023 <p>The first two rail periods of 2024/25 from 1 April to 25 May 2024 showed a 5% increase on last year's passenger journeys.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Rail Derby Area Local Stations Study <p>Network Rail Report considered improvements at Belper, Duffield and Spondon. This Network Rail study sought to answer - How can local railway stations and rail services in the Derby area be made more appealing to users? https://derwentvalleyline.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Derby-Area-Stations-Strategic-Advice-2024.pdf</p> <p>This report considers the options that could encourage more people to use the rail service to/from six selected stations in the Derby area for local or longer distance journeys. These stations include Duffield, Belper, Spondon, Willington, Peartree and Tutbury and Hatton stations.</p> <p>The report highlights travel constraints currently faced by local passengers and presents options to improve the convenience of the local transport network that will encourage a modal shift from road to rail. This makes more efficient use of rail assets, enhances public transport generated revenue, and brings economic, social and environmental benefits to both rail users and non-rail user.</p> <p>The options for improving usage of local rail services in the Derby area categorised in three groups:</p>	

	<p>1) Enhancing local rail service provision (including on the Derwent Valley Line):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional services to provide hourly frequency service on Sunday at Duffield and Belper • At Belper additional stops to improve connectivity to the north (i.e. Chesterfield and Sheffield) • Timetable revision to improve connectivity with Birmingham and Crewe/Stoke on Trent services) • Additional stops at Spondon <p>2) Increased integration between bus and rail services,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated ticketing • Improved bus/rail integration <p>3) Improved station facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of lifts or footbridge with lifts at Belper and Duffield • Provision of secure cycle facilities • Provision of Customer Information Screens at Duffield and Spondon • Reposition existing information screen at Belper • Car park provision at Spondon • Improved Wayfinding at Belper and Spondon <p>Discussions between Network Rail, the DfT and train operators will take place to identify which of the service options will provide the best holistic outcome for connectivity in the East Midlands and the wider network. The options presented in this study will contribute to ongoing discussions about transport connectivity in the East Midlands and a more integrated transport network.</p> <p>Letters of support for an hourly Sunday service from Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site and Visit Peak District & Derbyshire have been sent to Andrew Hudson, who led the Network Rail study for presentation to DfT.</p>	
21/24	<p>AOB</p> <p>TA expressed his thanks to everyone for their hard work and commitment at stations.</p> <p>Several people had received scam EMR phonecalls. This was an issue AS had reported upon at the last meeting and requested that these were reported.</p>	
22/24	<p>Date of Future Meetings</p> <p>The next meeting will be the AGM. This is booked for Monday 21 October at 2pm.</p>	