

Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group
June 20, 2012, 7:30 for 8:00
Shepreth Village Hall, small meeting room

1. Welcome and apologies (Robert Stripe, Christine Adams).

Present: Susan van de Ven, Paul Hollinghurst, Sue Hanson, Jane Eggleton, Jim Eggleton, Mark Wyatt, Beatrice Fisher, Brian Farmer, David Reed, Peter Wakefield, Mark Howard, Alexandra Abbotts

2. Minutes of May 21st meeting: Although we are still awaiting minutes for the special public meeting with Network Rail Route Managing Director Dave Ward regarding Foxton level crossing, Susan van de Ven succinctly summarised the meeting as constructive, with Dave Ward answering all questions in a full and frank manner. A summary can be found online at <http://melbourn.org.uk/railusergroup/meeting-with-dave-ward/>

3. Foxton Level Crossing safety campaign: result of meetings with Network Rail Route Managing Director and Cambridgeshire County Council. The next step after the public meeting was an official meeting with Susan van de Ven, Dave Ward and Cambridgeshire County Council officers. This meeting took place on the 14th of June. In summary Dave Ward announced that Network Rail are going to fund a feasibility study to look at the broadest range of possibilities to deal with the safety issues at Foxton Level crossing, such as the creation of a bridge or underpass.

4. Thameslink Franchise consultation response: the draft response (posted on the RUG website) was circulated and discussed. The draft to be forwarded to Cambridgeshire County Council and any further comments should be sent to the RUG's email address, to be incorporated before a final version sent to the Department for Transport on August 9th.

5. Station Gardens update:

- Gratefully received donations: £100 donation from Foxton Garden Association for Foxton station's tubs.
- AmeyCespa donated skips of compost at all three stations.
- Chrysanthemum plants from Country Home and Gardens Garden Centre.
- Thank you for the help from First Capital Connect with the watering rota, posters, litter pickers and a strimmer.
- The station gardens continue to help local school gardening clubs, and are currently opportunities for volunteering, for example through the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.
- They've also attracted wildlife such as a mother duck with a clutch of eggs, a bird box full of wagtail fledglings (both at Shepreth station) and a beagle which burst into the meeting last night!
- Unfortunately on a less positive note there has been some vandalism to posters etc around the shelter on the Cambridge side of the Shepreth station. However if it is known when the damage tends to happen FCC can arrange Police Community Support officers to come down and hopefully sort the problem.

6. Other points-FCC have stated they will try and contact Network Rail about the use of and damage to Angle Lane in Shepreth, so hopefully this issue will be sorted by the next meeting or at the next meeting if a representative attends.

7.Date of next meeting: 11 September, 7:30 (meetings will now start at the earlier time of 7.30 pm), Melbourn Village College.