

**Contact**

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# MELDRETH, SHEPRETH AND FOXTON RAIL USER GROUP



Launched in February 2010, this group is comprised of rail users dedicated to improving access to rail service at these small but essential stations. Our Rail Operator is First Capital Connect and our service links the villages to Cambridge, Royston and London King's Cross.

We are pleased to have the support of Railfuture East Anglia, First Capital Connect, National Express, Network Rail and Passenger Focus, all of whom have taken an active interest in our campaign.

## Campaign successes so far

- First Capital Connect has improved the 16-18 year-old student discount from 30% to 50% off the adult fare. This translates into a substantial saving for young people.
- Cycle racks at Foxton Station have been provided and installed by Cambridgeshire County Council on council-owned land.
- A less restrictive ban on full-sized cycles on trains than originally intended by FCC has been agreed, with only one train affected (Meldreth 8:10 to Cambridge).
- Following customer feedback, new ticket machine screens have been installed at Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Stations.
- British Transport Police data on criminal and anti-social behaviour at rail stations is now incorporated in police reports to the Neighbourhood Panel meetings, giving a more accurate picture of our villages and where police response is needed.
- Parking charges at Meldreth Station have been reduced from £3 per day to £1.50 per day, and charges at Shepreth Station abolished (previously £3 per day) – effective 1/1/2012.
- At Foxton Level Crossing, improved flashing light system on the vehicle barriers, significant steps toward safer pedestrian gates.

## Continuing campaign

- Full disabled access at Meldreth Station.
- Maintaining the 50% 16-18 year-old student season pass discount.
- Keeping Meldreth's manned booking office.
- Free parking at Meldreth Station.
- Better provision for cycles on trains, particularly in view of overcrowding.
- More cycle parking particularly at Meldreth and Foxton Stations where there is high demand.
- Improved safety at Foxton Level Crossing for cyclists and pedestrians.

## Upcoming meetings

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30PM (special meeting with Network Rail Managing Director at Foxton Village Hall)

Regular meetings, all 7:30PM: June 20 (Shepreth), September 11<sup>th</sup> (Foxton), December 12<sup>th</sup> (Shepreth), March 13<sup>th</sup> AGM (Meldreth)

Minutes, agendas: <http://melbourn.org.uk/railusergroup/>

## Rail Station Gardens

In 2011, Meldreth and Shepreth Stations turned 160 years old, while Foxton Station turned 163 years old. In honour, we have initiated railway station gardens at all three stations.

The idea is to give our stations a village identity, and to encourage use of the sustainable transport network on our doorstep. The gardens are supported by local residents, schools and businesses and depend on continuing commitment.

## To support the group in any small way:

Contact Susan van de Ven, details above.