

2021-07-22 CRP Stakeholder meeting

28 January 2021 13:52

Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Community Rail Partnership Stakeholder Meeting (Garden of the British Queen, Meldreth)																					
Date:	22 July 2021, 11am																				
Present :	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Susan van de Ven (SvdV)</td> <td>CRP Chair and CCC Cllr for Melbourn and Bassingbourn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sarah Grove (SG)</td> <td>CRP Project Officer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tim Sparrow (TS)</td> <td>Community Rail Network (formerly ACORP)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paul Webster (PWe)</td> <td>Community Rail Network (formerly ACORP)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peter Wakefield (PWa)</td> <td>Railfuture</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sarah Hatcher (SH)</td> <td>CCC (officer)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roger James (RJ)</td> <td>Meldreth Parish Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ruth White (RW)</td> <td>Shepreth Parish Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stephen Pritchard (SP)</td> <td>Melbourn Science Park</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nigel Stadwick</td> <td>Whaddon PC</td> </tr> </table>	Susan van de Ven (SvdV)	CRP Chair and CCC Cllr for Melbourn and Bassingbourn	Sarah Grove (SG)	CRP Project Officer	Tim Sparrow (TS)	Community Rail Network (formerly ACORP)	Paul Webster (PWe)	Community Rail Network (formerly ACORP)	Peter Wakefield (PWa)	Railfuture	Sarah Hatcher (SH)	CCC (officer)	Roger James (RJ)	Meldreth Parish Council	Ruth White (RW)	Shepreth Parish Council	Stephen Pritchard (SP)	Melbourn Science Park	Nigel Stadwick	Whaddon PC
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Item 1	Welcome and apologies																				
	<p>Apologies from:</p> <p>Andrew Chillington -GTR Charles Baker - NR Jay Clark - SCDC Peter MacDonald Jose Hales Sally-Ann Hart Peter Sutton Rebecca Willers - Shepreth Wildlife Park Andy Brown - Foxton PC Daniel - North Herts District Council</p>																				
Item 2	Minutes of previous meeting																				
	Minutes of last meeting approved																				
Item 3	Line Action Plan																				
	<p>Revolves around four pillars, looking forwards:</p> <p>Consultations New timetable consultation, finishes in August. Thanks to lots of meetings with GTR, from May 2022 there are semi-fast trains in morning and evening peak, bringing journey time down to 58 mins Foxton-London. All stops to Hitchin, 6 in morning, fast to Welwyn North then Finsbury Park and Kings Cross. Spreads the load as fast trains won't overtake slower ones so won't get people hanging around for faster train.</p> <p>Promoting sustainable, healthy and accessible travel Anecdotally heard of younger people making more use of Thameslink, eg people travelling to Brighton. Wanting to get into schools again in September.</p> <p>Bringing communities together Plans for Memorial Garden in Shepreth. Had confirmation of grant from SCDC which will fund some planting of shrubs and wildflower seeds.</p> <p>From Monday 26th Community Rail Network big push on days out by rail.</p> <p>RUG user groups being online has made it much easier for GTR and NR to attend. Might be an idea to keep that format going.</p>																				
Item 4	Draft Annual Report																				
	<p>Haven't been able to do any 'out and about' activities this year due to pandemic. Report brings together all the online things that have been done.</p> <p>Arranged around the four pillars:</p> <p>Voice for community</p> <p>Foxton Travel Hub - was meant to be consultation end May/June, pushed back due to elections. SvdV and SG went to NMU user group about it and keeping fingers in pie.</p> <p>Meldreth Road level crossing: SdV and SG responded to consultation, not terribly positively, stationary traffic. Meeting with NR and district Council.</p> <p>Cambridge South - concerns about possible figures, access a bit clunky for passengers etc and station may not be big enough when it first opens</p> <p>EWR - made representation to EWR Co. Some is around the problem of severing of community that railway might happen. Also lack of facilities at our own stations, won't be connected into EWR. Issues with shelter etc Passenger Benefit Fund</p>																				

	<p>Promoting sustainable, healthy and accessible travel</p> <p>Put together local rail improvement plan. Have sent to LCWIP consultation. Successes include new cycle rack at Meldreth, safety messages on social media and SC Mag. GTR planning to start on confidence to travel campaign</p> <p>Bringing communities together</p> <p>More active on Facebook, online CRP and RUG meetings. Station gardeners have continued to keep the stations well maintained.</p> <p>Supporting Economic Development</p> <p>Installed Amazon locker at Shepreth. Updated walks on website encouraging people to come and walk in the local area. A lot more going on with local leisure and tourism at moment. Walks being put on Scenic Rail Britain website. Going to put in nomination to Community Rail Awards. South Cambs are also creating a Visit South Cambs website. SG writing sections on training.</p> <p>Financial Report</p> <p>Grant of £6,500 received which supported installation of Meldreth Cycle Rack and installation of CCTV.</p> <p>Other</p> <p>Have communicated a lot with GTR over past year and wanted to pass on thanks for help.</p>
Item 5	Updates
	<p>Ramp and adjoining path to Meldreth Station</p> <p>Have some formidable tools in the box including money to do it. A multi-agency project as complex. Patrick Ladbury from Thameslink got the Passenger Benefit Fund directed towards the Feasibility Study. Completed recently. Adjoining path is a CCC project and an element of land ownership negotiation. Additionally, an assault in underpass, have police and community safety partnership. A project is forming to improve the environment, high traffic due to students going to MVC and MSP. Patrick also said he could put more monies from Passenger Benefit Fund.</p> <p>Shepreth Station Water Supply</p> <p>Passenger Benefit Fund has put another planter at Shepreth Station without any warning. Station Garden has no water. Bit of a sore point for volunteers as weren't able to tell them their job was going to get bigger, have to carry pails of water. TS advised had similar problems on their patch and they have cracked the problem in a few areas with the local water company.</p>
Item 6	Local Businesses and Rail - issues
	SP said staff had been comfortable going into work by train until this week now that masks aren't mandatory.
Item 7	Station Partnerships via Parish Council Champions
	<p>Will be in a better position to draw in funding to our small stations if we formalise station partnerships.</p> <p>Nigel asks about Whaddon not being on list. Meldreth, Melbourn, Shepreth and Foxton all put in £700 per year to partnership. Have also approached Barrington. Nigel to put on agenda for Whaddon PC. Tim made point that joining partnership is because you have an interest in the issues that the the partnership campaigns for.</p> <p>ACTION: SvdV to write to parish councils to raise issue of formalising station partnership</p> <p>ACTION: sVDv TO FOLLOW UP WITH PW membership of Station Partnerships</p>
Item 8	Passenger confidence in new Covid era
	PW - don't think we can do much about confidence in Covid but assume railway companies will do their best. Suggest broaden out in future to encourage more people onto railways to decarbonise.
Item 9	CRP post-franchise
	SvdV was hoping for a funding update but hasn't received. Due imminently.
Item 10	AOB
	EWR - do we need to take a position. CRP is a stakeholder.
Item 11	Date of next meeting
	TBA