

**Friends of Hadlow Road Station – Open Meeting**  
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 7.45pm in the Memorial Hall**  
**Draft minutes**

1. Members in Attendance  
Chris Hampshire, Sue Powell, Jon Penn, Gill Knock, John Morgan, Sue Unsworth, John Williams, Ben Jackson, Jenny Jackson, Debbie Weeden, Carole Collins, Lyn Jackson-Eves, Martin Eves, Ceri Jones, Dorothy Kirk, Pat Jones, David Warren and Hilary Booth.
2. Apologies  
Barry Vowles and Paul Janvier.
3. Minutes of Last Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016 **Action**  
Minutes read and agreed as a true record. Proposed by HB and seconded by Jon Penn.
4. Matters arising from Previous Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
DW sent mugs to Radio Merseyside.  
ME to send a good quality colour photo to DW for further mugs. ME  
The dishwasher has been installed.
5. Joint publicity officer resignation  
Ged Weeden has resigned due to work commitments but is available for a handover up to end of March. The committee offered their thanks to Ged for his contribution over the last 2 years and wished him well with his new job.
6. Creation of Social Networks officer position  
The need for this new Social Networks officer role was proposed by Debbie Weeden, seconded by Hilary Booth and agreed by all.  
The election of Ceri Jones to this position was then proposed by Jon Penn, seconded by Debbie Weeden and agreed by all.
7. Luggage trolley already on platform GK  
GK will lead on this refurbishment project.
8. 2nd Luggage trolley stored in yard GK  
GK will lead on this but the first trolley should be completed first.
9. Hand cart stored in yard GK  
GK will also lead on this.

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| <p>10. <u>External building signs</u><br/> Rust to be removed and signs retained in a stable condition (ie not restored to appear 'new') as agreed with the Conservation Officer.<br/> DW advised that a couple in the village has offered FHRS a <i>VIMTO</i> sign</p> <p>providing it is always retained at the station. All present agreed to accept this kind offer and DW to advise the owner. It will noted that CWaC's agreement will be required that CH will progress once photo and size details received.<br/> JW offered use of his mobile scaffold for the fixing of this to the wall</p> | <p>DW<br/> CH</p>         |
| <p>11. <u>K6 telephone box</u><br/> BV is leading this project and looking into various issues.</p>  | <p>BV</p>                 |
| <p>12. <u>Original HRS station opening plaque</u><br/> GK is leading this and will obtain a restoration proposal for both options from Shawcross as they'd previously suggested that the original in the station master's house is retained in its current good condition and that the one currently on display is restored.</p>   | <p>GK</p>                 |
| <p>13. <u>Existing railway track replacement</u><br/> GK advised that the quotation already received to relay with new sleepers, including plant, labour and ballast from NIB was £13k and would take 5 days. CH advised that a couple more quotes are required to comply with grant funding. CH will see if Network Rail can suggest companies for alternative quotes.<br/> JP will ask his contacts for suggestions too.</p>   | <p>CH<br/> JP</p>         |
| <p>14. <u>PA system</u><br/> Simon Le Barber has made some suggestions on the type and brand to purchase with the £1300 secured funding. CH to lead this and purchase a system with 2 wired and the options for wireless speakers.</p>   | <p>CH</p>                 |
| <p>15. <u>Film show</u><br/> CH to approach Neston School to see if they would be interested in a railway related film showing.<br/> JP to check licence issues.<br/> A couple of short films could be shown at the FHRS AGM and JP will ascertain what films may be available.</p>  | <p>CH<br/> JP<br/> JP</p> |
| <p>16. <u>Electronic projector system for waiting room</u><br/> There have been 98 responses to the online questionnaire predominately in favour of the display. It was agreed to run the survey for a further 2 weeks and also post it on the Residents website.<br/> ME agreed to produce and maintain the AV material.<br/> GK will send the 200+ scanned historical photos to ME.</p>  | <p>CH<br/> ME<br/> GK</p> |

- Action**
- ME and CH to identify and purchase a suitable display monitor and system.  
ME/CH
17. &18 Railway track extension and re-instatement of platforms  
These projects are anticipated to cost around £28k so will not be progressed at present unless specific opportunities arise.
19. Signal operational from signal box  
CH to approach NIB for a quote. CH  
JP will also see if he can find out about likely work involved and cost from JP  
Llangollen railway.
20. Repairs and painting of level crossing gates and fences  
The involvement of Pinehirst has not been successful. John Fisher compiled a list of necessary repairs. GK to liaise with Paul Taylor to see if he can supply the wood for repairs. GK and JM to lead this project.  
GK/JM  
CWaC have confirmed that FHRS can carry out the painting.  
CJ to put a call out on Facebook for volunteers to assist. CJ  
CH to issue the current database to CJ and also in *Word* format to DW. CH
21. £2k postcode lottery grant opportunity  
CH has submitted an initial grant inquiry for £2.5k to create a picnic and wild area at the signal box end. If the 1st phase is successful CH will submit a more detailed bid for phase 2. CH  
A £500 grant is also available for high school age pupils to sew wild flowers. Need to know by end February if either Neston High School or Wirral Girls Grammar would be interested. LJE GK
22. Grounds progress  
GK advised that the hanging baskets are about to be changed over. Interior of signal box will be painted this summer.  
GK will think about ways to add plants to conceal the fence to back of border in front of station master's house. GK  
GK is compiling an inventory of items in station master's house and ticket office for CWAC. GK  
A further grounds project is to uncover the location of the old signal box and to leave an outline of bricks to define it although committee approval of the brick outline with costs will be required. GK
23. Financial update  
HB issued a summary sheet relating to the Santa's grotto event showing that the event made a good profit particularly on the raffle. There is £7,556 in the bank of which approx £5k is pre-allocated. FHRS has over £5k of assets.

- 24. Catering update** **Action**
- DW advised that throughout 2016 all targets on the development plan were achieved. £850.65 has been taken for the 3 cafe openings so far. Thanks were expressed for the commitment of the catering team. Plans for 2017 are to extend the menu, increase the number of volunteers and ensure they are all fully trained. Options to increase the number of openings from the current 12 per year will be considered. Catering for small parties is being considered as 2 groups are currently interested and these may be tagged on to regular openings.
- A 3 tier trolley has been purchased which is proving very useful. The cleaning schedule and H&S policies are being reviewed. DW
- Items needed: music in the kitchen, calculator, small bucket, menu holders, A3 laminates for display, cutlery and a reception desk. Having teams of 7 volunteers will be trialled. There is a coffee morning for new volunteers on 8th February and CJ will add this to Facebook. CJ DW
- Loan of gazebos requested for the children's group.
- 25. Publicity and communications update**
- No further matters.
- 26. Santa's grotto 2017**
- It was agreed on 10th December starting at 12.30 or 1pm and finishing at 4.00pm or 4.30pm with precise times to be agreed at a later date. Catering team to consider if they need a break in the middle. DW
- The event will cater for 150 children. CH
- CH will book Santa and Simon Le Barber.
- 27. Small events**
- No further matters.
- 28. Any other business.**
- DW raised the possibility of bike hire - storage would be a problem.
- A different types of cycle stand is being considered with wall fixed type Favoured using a metal post. CH
- It is hoped that the other sash windows in the kitchen will be freed and made openable soon. CH
- FHRS has been invited to speak to Neston Probus Ladies on 27th July about Hadlow Road Station that CH will deliver. CH
- CH advised that a 12 month lease for the kitchen has been signed with CWAC.  
NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 3RD APRIL 2017.