

## Hadlow Road Station Review

### 1. Background/Context

A number of residents of Willaston who are forming a Friends of Hadlow Road station group visited Hadlow Road station on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2015 to identify what improvements are required to the external fabric of the building and immediate surrounding area within the station boundaries and were supported by Tim Lloyd one of the CWaC Rangers.

It was noted that Simon Wood is the nominated CWaC representative Ranger at this point in time but Simon is recovering from a medical condition and so all communication will be with Laura Shakeshaft until the Friends Group are advised otherwise.

No internal review of the private areas of the building or of the signal box were undertaken.

### 2. Key Findings

The following aspects were identified for improvement:

- The level crossing gates and white fence to the side need a clean to remove the moss, etc.
- The level crossing metal gate hinges need re-painting.
- A half-moon sign is missing from one of the level crossing gates and needs replacing.
- The signal needs re-painting.
- The ladder restricting climbing up the signal needs extending as it is immediately next to the fence that separates the Wirral Way from the railway track and this fence can be used to climb above the metal plate. (H&S).
- The ladder is no longer fixed at the bottom and swings about so needs to be fixed (e.g. to a concrete block). (H&S).
- The path/gate from Hadlow road into the station through the kissing gate has different levels that needs to have a single level access. (H&S).
- The large Hadlow Road station sign is in a state of disrepair. The timber posts and the plywood backing to the name sign need replacing. (H&S as may be blown over onto individuals stood close by)
- The ivy that is overgrowing various areas needs to be removed.
- The hypericum bush by Hadlow Road station sign needs cutting and shaping.
- Replacement milk churns need to be obtained for the ones that were stolen and affixed to the trolley.
- The trolley timber base needs wood preservative applying.
- A number of 'missing' bricks need to be affixed to the small retaining wall.
- The tree stump to the side of the building by the side kissing gate needs removing.
- The side kissing gate and wooden panels are insecure and need fixing/replacing. (H&S).
- The outside light box on the wall needs repainting.
- Both fixed waste bins need repainting.
- The metal plaque by the waiting room door needs re-painting.
- The various external advertising signs including Bovril and Hudson need re-painting or replacing.
- Re-painting of bricks by the side (staff) door as quite a few are loose. (H&S).

- The perspex on the outside light needs replacing.
- The external building brickwork is in need of re-pointing maintenance.
- Both hanging brackets needs re-painting or replacing.
- Two glass lamps are required for the outside upright lights.
- A couple of the tiles in the toilets are cracked and need replacing.
- The building that is a passenger waiting area opposite the station building has a crack in the middle of the wall that goes from top to bottom with daylight visible through it and needs to be checked for safety and repaired (as a matter of urgency?) (H&S).
- Railway lines need leaves clearing and weeds killed.
- peeling paintwork in the vestibule between the waiting room and the toilets the paint indicating damp and a fairly large crack and black spots of mould appearing.

### **3. Assumptions**

- The major signal box repairs will be undertaken Q2 2015 when CWAC 2015/16 funding is released.
- All repairs/updates will be undertaken to maintain an authentic 1950s look and feel.
- This list will form the basis of a discussion by the Friends Group on prioritisation of the items on this list at the next meeting.
- CWaC will address the items on the list that are fall into the Health & safety category as a matter of priority (identified as H&S in the list).
- Other plants around the site may be of value and these will be identified separately.

### **4. Additional ideas**

- Provide an interpretation board for visitors to the station.
- 'piped' train sounds to be provided in the waiting room.
- The brick building down at Hooton station may add value to Hadlow Road station if it can be relocated although an inspection is required followed by an assessment of where it may be located to increase the aesthetics of Hadlow Road station.

Chris Hampshire

21<sup>st</sup> January 2015

### **The next meeting of this Friends Group**

7.30pm in the Memorial Hall committee room on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The agenda will include:

- Agreeing a constitution for the Friends of Hadlow Road Station Association.
- Electing Officers for the committee positions.
- Prioritising the list of remedial/improvement work identified.
- Agreeing an annual contribution fee.
- AOB

**Anyone with an interest in the Friends of Hadlow Road Station Group is welcome!**