



## Sevenoaks Town Partnership

### Minutes of the Friends of Bat & Ball Station held at the Town Council Chamber At 6.30 p.m. on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018

**Present:**

Cllr Paul Towell, Chairman	Sevenoaks Town Council	Apologies
Cllr Tony Clayton, Vice Chairman	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Linda Larter, Town Clerk	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Cllr Marilyn Canet	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Cllr Andrew Eyre	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Cllr Roderick Hogarth	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Cllr Rachel Parry	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Cllr Richard Parry	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Dr Geoff Brown	Local Resident	Present
Cllr Elizabeth Purves	Local Resident	Apologies
Derek Medhurst	Sevenoaks Camera Club	Present
Roger Johnson	Sevenoaks Rail Travellers Assoc.	Apologies
Byron Brown	Bradbourne Residents Assoc.	Present
Steve Armstrong	Local Resident	Present
Gill Patterson	Local Resident	Present
Alistair Boobyer	Local Resident	Present
Stephanie Harrison	Sevenoaks Community Website	Present
Bonnie Tarling, Committee Clerk	Sevenoaks Town Council	Apologies

**1. Apologies for Absence**

As noted above.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Friends of Bat & Ball Station held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

The Minutes were received and agreed as a true record.

**3. Station Matters**

Concerns continued to be expressed regarding changes to train timetables, new poor connections and ‘skipping’ of stations. It was noted that Eynsford was particularly impacted by these changes.

A productive meeting had recently been held with the Darent Valley Group regarding a proposal to establish a Community Rail Partnership which would be complimentary to the Groups plans. It was agreed that Sevenoaks District Council would arrange a further meeting with interested parties and consideration to branding the proposal the Samuel Palmer Line.

**4. Refurbishment Project**

The railway permissions for work to begin were still being finalised. Extensive research was being undertaken regarding the drains services for the building.

Planning Permission and Permitted Development Rights for the new opening and ramp access were due to be submitted imminently.

## 5. Activity Plan & Volunteers

The Activity Plan was discussed noting the additional points:

### i) Information Boards

The following had been completed, these would be proof read by Cllr Rachel Parry and asked for facts to be validated by Roger Johnson and Edwin Thompson.

- History of the Station – Timeline
- HLF Restoration Project
- Thomas Crampton

Further information (bullet points) was needed for the Social History information board and assistance would be sought from David Killingray and Cllr Elizabeth Purves's book. Gill Patterson requested that the Watercress industry be mentioned.

### ii) Heritage Engagement Officer

It was noted that a Heritage Engagement Officer had been recruited and employment contracts etc were being completed.

### iii) Website

The specification for the website had previously been circulated to the Friends. It was currently being created and was hoped that information would be able to be uploaded in the near future.

### iv) Opening Event

Steve Armstrong stated that he was currently working on the refurbishment of Rolling Chassis Engine and this could be made available for a couple of days to coincide with the opening of the stations. It would be kept on a low loader on the Community Centre side of the station.

Byron Brown also mentioned that he contacts to potentially borrow an engine.

Details of transport requirements and related costs would be brought forward to the next meeting.

### v) Memorabilia

It was noted that the following memorabilia had been obtained since the previous meeting:



- Station Clock from Dartford
- Station Clock from Ashford
- Train Whistle

Funding towards the purchases had been provided from the Railway Heritage Trust.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed .....  
Chairman

Dated .....