



Sevenoaks Town Partnership

Minutes of the Meeting of Friends of Bat & Ball Station held at the Bat & Ball Station Building At 6.30 p.m. on 12th June 2019

Present:

Cllr Mrs Rachel Parry (Chairman)	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Paul Towell (Vice Chairman)	Local Resident	Present
Cllr Tony Clayton	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Linda Larter MBE, Town Clerk	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Derek Medhurst	Sevenoaks Camera Club	Present
Cllr Richard Parry	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Bonnie Tarling, Committee Clerk	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Linda Redden	Heritage Engagement Officer	Present
Gillian Paterson	Greatness Resident Association/Station User	Present
Cllr Marilyn Canet	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Byron Brown	Bradbourne Resident Association	Present
Cllr Andrew Eyre	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Cllr Irene Collins	Sevenoaks District Council	Present
Cllr Keith Bonin	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Austin Blackburn	Go Coach	Present
Cllr Diana Esler	Sevenoaks District Council	Present

1. Chairman

Cllr Mrs Rachel Parry was elected as Chairman

2. Vice Chairman

Mr Paul Towell was elected as Vice Chairman

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Margaret Crabtree, David Killingray, Alastair Boobyer, Richard Stringer, Roger Johnson and Cllr Nick Busvine OBE

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Friends of Bat & Ball Station held on 27th March 2019

The Minutes were received and agreed as a true record. It was noted that Sevenoaks School had won the RIBA South East Competition.

5. Station Matters

It was noted that the railway signs at the front of the building were scratched and starting to look tired. It was requested that the Town Clerk report this to the Railway company to ensure that they are replaced/repared as soon as possible.



It was requested that in the Caretaker do a regular check of the outside of the building and report any issues to the Town Clerk in order that they can be resolved in a timely manner.

Ramp access from trains – it was noted if someone required an access ramp to disembark from the train onto the platform at Bat & Ball Station this needed to be requested with the railway company in advance as the station is not currently manned.

Cllr Tony Clayton reported that the current franchise contract that Southeastern Railways was due to expire on 23rd June. Confirmation has been received on 13th June that South Eastern has been given another six/ten months extension.

6. Activity Plan Update

The report was received and noted.

Model Railway – the current construction of a miniature railway to be placed in the main booking hall was underway. However a working space area with wheelchair access was needed for the project to develop (5-6 months). The committee was asked to contact the Town Clerk if they had any suggestions of where the project could be worked on.

7. Victorian Garden Plans

The report was received and discussed. It was noted that volunteers would be needed to help with planting and anyone wishing to help was asked to contact the Heritage Engagement Officer.

8. Passenger Benefit Fund

The report was received and noted.

Govia Thameslink Passenger Benefit Fund

Sevenoaks	30,000
Swanley	50,000
Otford	50,000
Eynsford	80,000
Bat & Ball	80,000
Shoreham (Kent)	80,000
Edenbridge Town	30,000



Edenbridge	30,000
Cowden	30,000
Hever	30,000
Leigh (Kent)	30,000
Penshurst	30,000

It is believed that the funds could be used to deliver projects under the CRP, which is likely to be able to do this more economically than the rail authority.

	Passenger Benefit Fund Ideas	Bat & Ball Station	Sevenoaks
1	Fit solar panels to the station	Yes , but Listed Building	Yes
2	Living plant wall / bee garden	Plans being prepared for Victorian Garden (with bee plants)	Additional planting agreed to take place
3	Improvement to station toilets	Done	Done
4	Additional customer seating	Currently seeking additional heritage seating	
5	Additional waiting shelters	Customers requested waiting shelter on Platform 1 be refurbished to match Platform 2	
6	Canopies over ticket vending machines	Yes	Yes
7	Additional ticket vending machine	Will be needed on Platform 1 – STC currently installing infrastructure.	
8	Additional cycle parking facilities	Some installed, more being installed	
9	Increasing cycle security measures at stations.	CCTV installed to cover cycle racks at Platform 2, would be needed on Platform 1	
10	Additional customer information screens		
11	Restoration of Signal Box	Heritage Project	
12	Installation of Heritage Streetlighting	Request from public	

STC are not able to talk on behalf of other stations. However, aware that they have ideas including artwork trails, access ramp to Eynsford Station etc.



Sevenoaks Rail Travellers would be submitting further suggestions on how the money could be spent, upload suggestions to the GTR website and a link to voting would be communicated shortly.

9. Community Rail Partnership – Samuel Palmer Line

An update was received from the Town Clerk. Currently Sevenoaks Town Council and Sevenoaks District Council were working on the Business Plan and Terms of Reference for the CRP and meeting potential funders. It was hoped there would be a Steering Group meeting in July with the view to launching the CRP on 1st September 2019.

10. Access to Platform 1

An update was received from the Town Clerk. Works had been delayed due to the discovery of a High Voltage Cable that would need to be covered and partially diverted. The project was currently four weeks behind schedule due to this.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.25pm

Signed
Chairman

Dated