

Thursday April 12th 2007 Green Dragon, Hereford, at 7.30pm

Present: Sue W, Gerald D, Becky R, Derek D, Janet C, Gillian B, Michael S, Nick J, Naomi B, Wai Man Y, Paul White (new member), Chris S

****Disabled access and Hereford Station.** Iris Corfield, Equality and Diversity Manager wrote to us regarding possible improvements. She was under a misapprehension that we represented the rail authorities. **Sue** is going to pursue the matter. At a minimum white lines on the stairs are needed and new lighting.

Michael Sullivan was nominated to go to the April 18th First GW customer meeting. He has sent a report of this meeting. He networked with other representatives, raised our usual point, dumping at Ledbury, on several occasions in the meeting. FGW have started a special file for Hereford. We would like an official policy on taxis for when trains are stopped. The aim (as ever) to be to change the fining system. He was also urged to pursue the zebra crossing issue at the station.

Gerald reported on his House of Lords visit regarding the doubling of the Paddington – Hereford line. What is proposed is doubling to Worc, but Gerald was able to speak out about Hereford and make sure it is not forgotten. Some improvements may be possible. The redoubling is now in the Railway Press. No-one from Herefordshire apart from Gerald went (no Cllrs or Council Officers).

****Action Point:** letter to Sebastian Coe regarding the para Olympics, twin tracking and other improvements. **Gerald** has drafted the letter.

****Nick** suggested we put leaflets in the Hereford Civic Society letter, and the Hereford and Worcester Chamber of Commerce literature. We should get members from these societies.

****Newsletter** was discussed, **Gillian** to find how much we could print for £500, the amount in the bank at the moment.

Chris spoke to the Listed Buildings Officer at H.C. regarding the pointing at Hereford Station which was (according to Gordon Wood, author) being done with concrete, to the detriment of the building. He did take it up and has issued orders that the correct mortar mix should be used in future. Well done Chris.

****Becky** spoke about the next Lottery bid, putting posters at Stations, leaflets, and speakers. She now has quotes for all the elements and can proceed.

****We** proposed speakers Gordon Wood at Cmas, Arriva Trains in July. **Janet** to follow up.

Next Meeting: May 10 2007; 7.30 p.m. Ian Baxter, Route Enhancement Team, Network Rail West. **Note: in All Saints Church.**