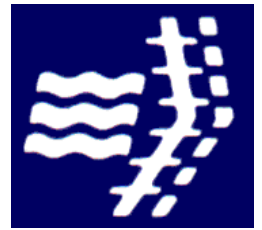


MARLOW - MAIDENHEAD PASSENGERS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter 166 May 2015

Newsletter Editor Robert Latham *Email: newsletter@mmpa.org.uk*



MMPA covers transport aspects in Maidenhead - Marlow, Taplow and High Wycombe

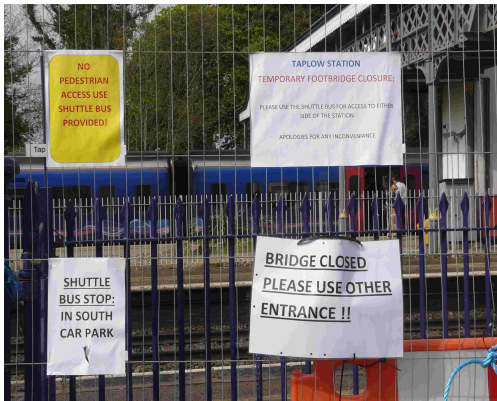
Timetables

With this issue, we are distributing, where you have indicated a requirement ("opt-in"), the summer timetables appropriate to your location. These operate from Sunday 17 May and include an extra through service Paddington to Bourne End at 16:42.

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Taplow footbridge

The Taplow Station footbridge from the South Car Park to the platforms has been damaged during construction work. The notice at the Car Park refers to a shuttle bus to take passengers round to the northern station entrance.



The damage appears to be fairly slight as main line services are still running underneath. We have enquired as to the likely timescale to the reopening but without response so far.

* * *

Branch electrification

Although several Government statements have advised the electrification of the Branch is included with the main Great Western programme it seems some insurmountable technical issue will now prevent it taking place as expected and the Turbos will continue to operate on the Branch only as far as Maidenhead. MMPA will press for early resolution of the 'technical issues' and electrification of the Branch.

* * *

Marlow Station housing proposal

The proposals to build housing on the site of the old coal yard next to Marlow Station have been rejected by High Wycombe Council following objections from MMPA, Network Rail and FGW. We understand the developer has appealed this decision. We will of course continue to monitor this proposal and where necessary submit our views.

* * *

Bourne End housing proposal

A similar situation is arising at Bourne End with a proposal to build housing next to the station (related to Astor House). This is likely to cause significant parking issues at the station; MMPA has submitted an objection to the proposal.

AGM outcome

Those of the retiring Committee who offered to stand were duly elected. Since the AGM two additional recruits have stepped forward and been co-opted.

Having been awarded a non-competitive four year franchise FGW were at pains to stress their improved performance and improvements they plan to carry out during the franchise

including:

- New electric train fleet offering increased capacity
- Ticket machine at Marlow
- Improved services Marlow to Maidenhead

* * *

Changes at High Wycombe

Chiltern Railways have informed MMPA::

"As you are no doubt aware, in order to meet the requirements for increased passengers and support nine car train operation at High Wycombe, the down platform requires an extension. The benefits to passengers are increased capacity with longer trains. In order to do this, the existing subway will need to be closed, as its land take is required for the longer platform. The subway will be replaced by a footbridge and lifts, meaning the station will be fully Disability Discrimination Act compliant. The subway is due to be closed from the beginning of June to December 2015. A temporary footbridge will be made available for this full duration. However the temporary bridge will not have lifts and those with accessibility needs will be offered a complimentary shuttle service between platforms 2 and 3." Also the Chiltern Railways Oxford Parkway to London Marylebone line will open on Monday 26th October. This will also bring the opening of Bicester Village station, which will provide Bicester with more trains to London in addition to those currently running from Bicester North.

* * *

Membership Renewals

Many thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership for 2015. If you haven't you'll receive a reminder with this newsletter or in the covering email message. If you returned the renewal form you'll note that sending timetables by post is optional because some members prefer to use mobile apps or to download the timetables from the web. If you didn't tick the box you won't get the paper timetables. Everyone else in our area will continue to get the relevant printed timetables unless you have told me you don't want them. In either case if I got it wrong please let me know.

Richard Porter (membership@mmpa.org.uk)

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TRAVEL INFORMATION

BBC Radio Berkshire:	95.4, 104.1 FM, DAB, or 08459 - 311333
National Rail enquiries:	08457 - 484950 (24 hrs) or www.nationalrail.co.uk or text
First Great Western:	08457-000125 (0700-2200 daily)
Chiltern Railways:	08456 - 005165 (08.30 - 17.30)
Arriva Bus:	0844 8004411 (0900 - 1700 Mon - Fri)
First Berks Buses:	01753 524144
Carousel Buses:	01494 533436
Traveline:	0871 2002233 (0700 - 2200) 10p/min on BT landline
RBWM helpline	01628 796666

Also see our web site www.mmpa.org.uk for links.

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Contact MMPA

If you have any issues or comments regarding public transport in the area that you would like to raise please use the *Contact Us* links on the MMPA website www.mmpa.org.uk.

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