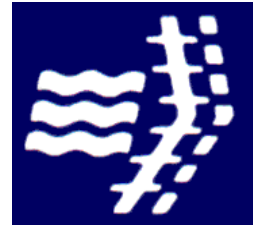


MARLOW - MAIDENHEAD PASSENGERS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter 173 March 2017

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



47th Annual General Meeting – Agenda

Meet the senior managers from GWR and Chiltern Railways, Crossrail and Network Rail (subject to confirmation) at our AGM Friday 31 March, 2017 7.45 pm at the Bourne End Community Centre.

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence:
3. Approval of 2016 AGM Minutes
4. Reports

Committee

Accounts for year end 31 December 2016

5. Election of Officers

The current & proposed Committee members standing for election are:

John Marsh (Chairman and Honorary Treasurer)

Richard Porter (Webmaster and Membership Secretary)

Robert Latham (Newsletter Editor)

Mike Cooper

John Fowler

Martin Coker

Nick Hodder

Nigel Phillips

We have the capacity for up to 4 more committee members and would welcome the participation of members, particularly commuters.

If you are interested please contact John Marsh at jmarsh6039@aol.com.

6. Presentation by Great Western Railway
7. Questions to our visitors
8. Any other business

Membership Matters

It's that time again! Membership subscriptions are due on 1st April but will be very welcome in advance or at our AGM on Friday 31st March. A membership reminder is enclosed or attached. The fees are £5 for individuals and families and £10 for businesses. Cheques should be payable to "MMPA" and sent to MMPA Membership, 23 Switchback Road North, Maidenhead, SL6 7UF. If you wish to pay by internet banking please email me first so that I can give you the necessary information. Data Protection Act - members' names and addresses, inc email addresses if applicable, are held on computer and we will not pass them to third parties unless we are required to do so by law.

Richard Porter – Membership Secretary

Heathrow Disconnect

The current timetable continues the disconnect between the FGW off-peak trains connecting with the Branch services and Connect services to Heathrow at Hayes & Harlington. It is quicker and cheaper to catch the 140 bus from Hayes to the airport. If travelling to Terminal 5 catch the 77 bus from Slough.

Cookham

GWR intend to start charging £2 per day to park at Cookham. The hope is that this will enable more rail users to find a space.

Taplow Station Issues

Following the closure of the old heritage footbridge, down services (towards Reading) were stopping at the Reading end of the station leaving passengers with a long walk to the temporary footbridge. MMPA approached Great Western Railway and requested a review of the stopping position to be nearer the temporary footbridge and we understand this has now been implemented.

MMPA has requested and agreed with GWR the provision of a notice board for Taplow Station for displaying copies of newsletters and other local information but so far it has not been provided.

We believe that there is now a commitment to provide lifts at Taplow, Iver and Langley. At Taplow this is likely to mean a new footbridge with lifts connecting platform 4 to platforms 2 and 3 only. There will be no step-free access to or from the south car park.

Marlow Branch Non-Electrification

Don't forget if you use the through services from the Branch to Paddington these have been all but removed from the current timetable. From the summer timetable the one each way remaining now will also go as the electric services start.

The proposal to improve Branch services to half-hourly is still 'being looked at' while a financial package is sought.

Crossrail

MMPA still considers the omission of toilets from the design of Crossrail trains is a retrograde step and is continuing to raise the issue with local MPs and the Crossrail organisation. The more messages people can send to their MPs and Crossrail it increases the pressure on them to reverse the decision.

Public Address on the Branch

MMPA is aware of the issues with the public address system and Customer Information System displays (CIS) on the Branch.. We have been pressing FGW/ GWR for resolution of the problems for some time and the problem with Bourne End PA system now seems to have been resolved. Anyone experiencing problems with CIS please report to MMPA.

High Wycombe

Our main issue with Chiltern has been, and continues to be, the inordinate length of time required to change from platform 1 to platform 3 to catch the stopping service towards London. We are continuing to press Chiltern and Network Rail to come up with a sensible solution.

Other issues

Members will hopefully hear at the AGM that some of the other outstanding issues – notably the installation of long-promised ticket machines – may soon be realised.

Easter Travel

If you plan to travel between Reading and Paddington during the Easter period we are advised that there will be changes to services so please make sure of train times and connections before you travel. Unfortunately we have no details of the changes yet.

Western Rail Link to Heathrow

Network Rail is now actively considering a scheme to build a new line from Heathrow Terminal 5 passing over the GW Main Line on a flyover to join the Relief Lines between Iver and Langley. This is not likely to materialise before 2024!

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
Great Western Railway:	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.

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.