

Minutes of the Corsham Railway Station Town Team meeting held on Friday 22 January 2021 via MS Teams

- Present**
- Councillor S Abbott (Chair - Corsham Town Council)
 - A Cudlipp (Resident and Volunteer)
 - M Donelan (MP)
 - L Eyles (MP's office)
 - Councillor R Hopkinson (Corsham Town Council and Wiltshire Council)
 - P Johnson (TransWilts)
 - R Murphy (Wiltshire Council)
 - Councillor H Prickett (Wiltshire Council)
 - D Phillips (Wiltshire Council)
 - P Pearson (Resident and Volunteer)
 - Councillor H Prickett (Wiltshire Council)
 - P Tapscott (Resident and Volunteer)
 - Councillor P Whalley (Wiltshire Council)
 - P Whalley (Resident and Volunteer)
- In attendance**
- Mrs K Gilby (Planning and Events Officer, Corsham Town Council)
 - D Martin (Chief Executive, Corsham Town Council)

TT 79 Apologies.

There were none.

TT 80 Minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2020.

The Minutes were approved as a true record.

TT 81 Matters Arising from the above Minutes.

There were none.

TT 82 Unsuccessful bid to Restoring Your Railway Ideas Fund – To discuss possible next steps.

M Donelan MP reported that the next round of funding applications for the Restoring Your Railway Ideas Fund (RYR) was expected to open very soon.

The feedback from the unsuccessful bid suggested the bid may be more suited to the Rail Network Enhancements Pipeline (RNEP). This route could be more complicated and require financial input.

Given the impact of the pandemic it was suggested that maybe the focus of the bid should shift to concentrate more on connecting communities and to include aspects such as a shift to less mainline commuting and levelling up rural communities.

Other suggestions included working with partners along the route, forming a consortium of local authorities, LEAs and sub-national transport groups.

Many strategies had been completed or were in the pipeline including the SWLEP Rail Strategy, the Sub-national Transport Body Strategy and the Western Gateway Rail Strategy. Wiltshire Council would be including a rail strategy as part of the Local Transport Plan 4.

It was suggested that the current bid could be updated in relation to the last three points of the Atkins Report.

ACTION: R Murphy to speak to DfT to clarify which funding route should be explored and whether the emphasis should be more on the station or the service. He would also ask whether the intention to form a consortium was enough or if it needed to already be established.

ACTION: M Donelan MP to speak to the Minister to clarify which funding route should be explored and whether the emphasis should be more on the station or the service. She would also ask whether the intention to form a consortium was enough or if it needed to already be established.

ACTION: M Donelan MP and R Murphy to discuss the responses received.

ACTION: To review the Terms of Reference for the Town Team following the upcoming elections. DM/KG

ACTION: DM to contact Devizes and Royal Wootton Bassett Town Councils for updates on their plans.

TT 83 Any other business

None.

TT 84 Date and Time of Next Meeting

1.30pm on Friday 5 March 2021 unless one is needed urgently.