



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 18th September 2019

Present:

Cllr Mrs Rachel Parry (Chairman)	Sevenoaks Town Council	Apologies
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
Steph Harrison, Committee Clerk	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Linda Redden	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Cllr Marilyn Canet	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Byron Brown	Bradbourne Resident Association	Present
Cllr Andrew Eyre	Sevenoaks Town Council	Present
Austin Blackburn	Go Coach	Present
Roger Johnston	Sevenoaks Rail Travellers Association	Present

Also attending: Cllr Simon Raikes.

Friends of Bat & Ball would like to wish Cllr Rachel Parry a full and speedy recovery.

Linda Larter thanked Roger Johnson for his wonderful presentation on Thomas Crampton which took place prior to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received as noted above, as well as from Cllr Margaret Crabtree and Cllr Victoria Granville-Baxter.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Friends of Bat & Ball Station held on 12th June 2019

The Minutes were received and agreed as a true record.

3. Station Matters

It was noted that there had been a small group of young people making noise late at night, and measures were in place to monitor this. At the present time it was not impacting on local residents.



4. Activity Plan Update

- i. It was noted that archive recordings of the oral history of the station would be homed at Sevenoaks Library.
- ii. Heritage Day would take place on Saturday 21st September with many events taking place at the station and a fleet of vintage buses running every 30 minutes. The Number 7 will be returning to Knole. The day's events start at 10am and finish at 4pm. All buses will start from Vestry Estate. Previous volunteers from No 7 bus have returned for the day.
- iii. Artwork and a memorial plaque will be installed this week.
- iv. Visits from local schools have been so successful that requests from further afield have been made, showing just how popular the venue has become.
- v. The film 'Bat & Ball' a film based on Bat & Ball Station will be showing at the Stag Cinema this Sunday at 5.30 pm.
- vi. The Heritage Engagement Officer's contract has been extended by 3 months. Friends of Bat & Ball would like to thank Linda Redden for the hard work and dedication she has shown to the project.
- vii. The Heritage Lottery Fund had stated that they were happy with the progress of the Activity Plan and no longer needed to visit formally, however had offered their services as volunteers.

5. Garden Plans

The work on the exterior had started, with turf being laid and preparations for planting in place. Several volunteers had come forward to help and Linda Redden has arranged a Health and Safety Course for all concerned.

6. Govia Thameslink Passenger Benefit Fund

Friends of Bat & Ball were hoping to have more information in September regarding submissions for the improvements to the shelters, ticket machines etc.

7. Community Rail Partnership – Darenth Valley Line

It was noted that Linda Larter had been made Chairman of the Community Rail Partnership. Station Manager Elliott Waters was keen to make improvements and continue to improve the partnership. It was suggested that the Shoreham Aircraft Museum be added to the visitor information as a point of interest. A draft action plan was planned for next meeting.



8. Access to Platform 1

Ramp access to the station should be completed by the 27th September. National Rail would be visiting on that date to hopefully sign-off on the project, after which time an official opening would be arranged. Despite building work to the new community centre there would be continued access via the new ramp to the platform.

Byron Brown informed the committee that work was continuing with the model railway, however work was slow due to losing helpers. Byron to contact Linda in regards sizing of plans.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.20 pm

Signed
Chairman

Dated