



PRESENT: Alison Cotterill (AC), Dave Dowbenko (DD), Cara Higgs (CH), Evelyn Donnadiou Emma McIntosh (EM), Rowley Osborn (RO), Mark Osborne (MO), Claire Sandys (CS), Rachel Selby (RS), Jacqui Storer (JS), Alexa Stott (AS), Luke Tinning (LT), Michael Willmot (MW) (Chair), (PW), Gill Westwood (GW), Natasha Wilkinson (NW), Peter McCready (PM), Yvonne Byatt (YB), Rowley Osborn (RO)

1.	Any Questions or Matters of Concern from Stakeholders	Action
	None	
2.	Apologies for absence Jody Ball, Brian Edwards, Rob Goulding, Neil Roberts, Paul Webster	
3.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting (18/01/24) & Matters Arising</p> <p>Kidsgrove station storeroom building high on NR priorities – new roof and fascia boards required. It is hoped this work can be carried out soon.</p> <p>Announcement expected on December timetable very soon. Will then be submitted for ratification by DfT NSCRP meeting with EMR timetable team when this becomes available</p> <p>LNR is aware of Stone residents’ dissatisfaction of current ‘Stafford shuttle’ arrangement. Also noted that Penkridge service reduced to hourly except at peak travel times when there is a well spaced half hourly service. CH agreed to ask WMT Customer Relations if there’s been a response to the petitions and comments submitted by NSCRP and other organisations earlier in the year.</p> <p>Stone Open Day on March 13th was very successful with over 100 people attending</p>	
4.	<p>Update on CRPO appointment</p> <p>MW reported that the post has been re-advertised and this has resulted in a number of candidates worthy of interview. These are now planned for May 9th.</p>	
5	<p>CRPOs report on previous year’s Action Plan</p> <p>Previous year’s action plan. Report on outstanding items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poetry wall on Crewe overpass and poetry booklet, sponsored by AWC now completed • History panel and new planters in place at Stone Station. Community Open Day held on 13th March and well attended. • Pigeon mitigation measures at Longton should be completed this week • Longport. Permission to cover up old window and door boards with new ones printed on dibond for durability. These are now in hand and should be installed shortly. • Derby Garden project – in conjunction with Derwent Valley CRP and team of Tracsis volunteers/ Completion hoped for by May 2024. <p>This year’s Action Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Crewe, plans to move the large planting bed currently on platform 5 • Hope to develop stronger links with East Staffs Council contact, Yvonne Byatt, Relevant to Tutbury & Hatton and Uttoxeter Stations. • Two local cub scout groups – Tutbury & Hatton and Stramshall – will be working with NSCRP, EMR and station volunteers to complete the new Platforms for Change badge 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CS asked for advice on a community request to restore original features of the Tutbury Signal Box. AS thought not possible to work on an operational signal box. DJ: Three Rivers CRP completed similar project at (Walstone?) RHT can apply pressure on NR for such a project if appropriate. 	
6.	<p>CRN items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was recently announced by CRN that Paul Webster has been promoted to Regions Support manager – leading the location based support officers. In minuting congratulations, the meeting noted that it was good news that Paul would remain as our CRN contact. 	
7	<p>EMR items (a full report is provided alongside these minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding letters will be sent out shortly - £200k funding pot. Note that once again community and charity groups can apply Virtual tours of stations: to assist with journey planning particularly for those who feel anxious or have disabilities. The tours currently include Derby, Sheffield, Nottingham, Lincoln and Kettering. More stations to follow Auto-announcements: added to its regional fleet to help improve the level of information it provides to customers This includes information about accessibility and improved awareness of large steps or gaps at stations, as well as advice to customers about how best to complete their journey if it requires a connection. The auto-announcements should allow Senior Conductors more time to support customers face-to-face. DfT funding for CRPs has been confirmed and letters and POs are going out to CRPs today (18th April). The EMR's Community Fund for the April 2024-March 2025 funding year will be open shortly with £200k available The footbridge at Uttoxeter has had a deep clean recently June timetable: No changes for the North Staffs route but a submission has been made to the DfT for December 2024 including the reinstatement of the full hourly service, especially on Saturdays. New programme designed to promote rail safety for both primary and secondary level. The Rail Safety Pathway, which is being run in partnership with Network Rail, is a comprehensive three-tiered tool kit aimed at equipping schools with the resources they need to effectively promote rail safety in their communities. New platform shelter to be installed at Alsager platform 1 in June 	
8	<p>LNR items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No information on core funding yet. Victoria Harris is working on a new school's project including rail safety and careers and will be in touch shortly Regular station adopters on-line meetings have proved successful. These will be continued monthly by region In May a revised station adopter's toolkit will be issued New linked charity for the forthcoming year: White Ribbon - engaging men and boys to end violence against women and girls [www.whiteribbon.org.uk] <p>The Your Community Your Fund has now closed. One application has come from Penkridge.</p>	
9	<p>CrossCountry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for the new financial year is not yet announced 60 extra carriages in XC fleet = 12, 5 car voyagers Reading – Newcastle through service will be reinstated from next May XC is keen to support 'Meet the Manager' events at all stations that it serves Aslef rolling industrial action continues 	
10.	<p>Avanti West Coast (A few PowerPoint slides are provided alongside these minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driver recruitment means now highest number of drivers ever is engaged – should improve service reliability Pendolino refurbishment near completion & Hitachi trains, now over half delivered 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance; steady improvement from last year 	
11	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DJ: Midland Connect meeting is to launch intermodal work along rail corridors including Derby-Stoke-Crewe. CS to attend meeting in Derby on 30th April. RO: Staffs CC has no control over commercial bus companies. At Kidsgrove D&G operate just 3 days a week. First service is part of a very long route. • It was noted that this was likely to be Claire’s last meeting. On behalf of all stakeholders, the Chair thanks her for her outstanding service over 6 years. He noted the messages of warm appreciation from volunteers from stations along the line for all her help and support. All wished CS well in her retirement. 	
	<p>Dates & Times of Next Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 25th July at 10.00 by Teams • Thursday 17th October at 15.00 (face-to-face and on MS Teams, followed by AGM @ 17.00) 	

MFW
22/04/24