



## Tonbridge Redhill Reigate Line Steering Group meeting

**14 September 21 10am Via Microsoft Zoom**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Present:** Bob Howes, Laura Abbatangelo, Colin White, Rob Whitehead, Tim Barkley, Daniel Wright, Sharon Gray, Lewis Jackson, Richard Britain, Bruce Healey, Carrol Humphris

**Apologies:** Philip Ayres, Stephen Rolph, Tim Sparrow, Cath McDermott, John Reynolds, Liz Parker, Greg Thompson, Margot McArthur.

**Welcome from Chairman:** and housekeeping/virtual meeting protocol.

**Previous Minutes:** Agreed

**Matters Arising:** None

### **Partners Updates:**

**Leigh station:** Laura will chase water butt query.

**Rob:** There are some issues with installation, needs to be effective.

**Godstone:** Colin: the graffiti has been over-painted. A new bus shelter is needed as the old one was destroyed by a lorry.

**Lewis:** Parish Council is probably responsible. Grants are available from Surrey CC he will forward info. Possibly opportunity to install a real time screen. **Action Lewis**

**Redhill- Underpass** still an issue. Action Sharon to follow up with Greg New Partner is needed. (Sharon Did I read you have a partner now?)

**Reigate - Bruce:** Surrey County Council are not interested in a controlled crossing point at the level crossing. The letters are attached to these minutes for information. History project is going well.

**CRN Report:** Daniel: SCRP has received numerous shortlisting's for annual awards. The event is to be held in Southampton both virtual and in-person so will be steamed live.

**GTR Update:** Rob Whitehead: NDW posters, the existing template is being reworked. NDW is funding a larger project at the gateway stations. Permission has been granted by GTR for large wayfinding info at Merstham, Oxted and Dorking. The Ste-van is still not available for use at events but has not been forgotten. At Reigate the Commercial Team are looking into pop-up request. Working with the kick-start bike re-cycle campaign to bring abandoned bikes back into use. Accessibility – GTR has a training programme for all staff. PBF is winding down with a few projects left outstanding due to Covid delays.

Bruce: Access question, can Reigate have a ramp into the booking office?

Carrol: Not confirmed but will investigate.

Rob: Is working on a plan to allow chip/pizza vans access to rural station car parks out of hours.

**Questions:** (See note from Stephen Rolph attached).



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Bob Howes: has spoken to Paul Codd about the issue of Tonbridge trains travelling to the far end of platform before allowing passengers to disembark. Also, that the connection to Gatwick only allows for 3 minutes to travel to another platform which is not possible. He asked Rob to get a response from Paul Codd. **Action Rob Whitehead**

Carrol: The drivers have to use 'stop markings' and cannot stop short. GTR will look into this matter.

### **Officer's Report:**

Projects that were on hold/delayed are now bringing to be actioned.

**Reigate** The Station Gallery which has been funded by a grant from CRN is ready to be installed. SCRCP and station staff are planning an event to celebrate all that has been achieved at the station.

**Redhill** YMCA has resigned as station partners, they will look after planting at Redhill and offer support at Reigate and Earlswood.

**Godstone:** Nothing to report

**Nutfield:** Assisted PC with crossing fence query to NR.

**Edenbridge:** New welcome to Edenbridge posters being designed for Edenbridge stations.

**Penshurst Station:** ITV filmed and interviewed the waiting shelter artists (unfortunately this was shown same day and wasn't archived so unable to save a copy). We were able to support the walking trail during the Summer. Eden Valley Museum posters have been installed.

**Leigh:** Water Butt issue still being discussed with Southern.

**Tonbridge** Chosen as my destination for the Days Out Guide. Chosen station for CRN 'Green Week' event in partnership with SER Officer and Kent CRP.

**CRN Awards:** Joint submission by three officers 'working with the PBF during the pandemic has been shortlisted.

An Art Day event has been planned for members of the County Care group based in Horley.

**SCRCP Update:**The SCRCP has recently expanded with an extra line Reading/Ascot/Ashford (Middlesex) with SWR. We have employed a new Officer for the Seaford to Brighton line. The SCRCP is working hard to resolve funding challenges as a number of Train Company funding have to be renewed in March 2022 at the same time as the rail industry is going through major changes arising from the Williams-Shapps review

**AOB:** There was none, and the Chair thanked those present for their attendance and contributions to the meeting.



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**Dates of next meeting:** 1 October annual joint lines meeting Eden Centre, since postponed and re-arranged for 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

From Stephen Rolph sending Apologies for Absence

Since having a clear diary to join this meeting on the 14th I now have two 'invitations' from the NHS to be their guest on Tuesday morning at two different locations, with your meeting overlapping both.

A question each for Network Rail and for GTR Southern.

For Network Rail an update on the Croydon CARS scheme being implemented. Stories in the National press rather suggest that NR may be 'paused' by the DfT in driving forward some projects.

To date we have been told that CARS offers the way for trains from Tonbridge via Redhill getting through again to London.

For GTR Southern. Currently Southern are joining morning rush hour trains at Redhill using portions from Gatwick & Reigate. If this can be successfully operated why cannot trains from Tonbridge be similarly joined with other services; perhaps others from Reigate on their 2 trains/hour service.

The Reigate trains already have a path to London Victoria so adding on 3 or 4 coaches from Tonbridge will increase capacity at all stops served by this Reigate service.

I await the notes to read of the 'official' replies.

Note from Bruce Healey:

Dear Mr Healey,

Thank you for your letter regarding The Reigate Society's concerns about traffic congestion on the A217 due to the Reigate level crossing, and I must first apologise for the time it has taken me to respond.

Thank you for your suggestion to change the existing Zebra crossing on the A217 London Road, just north of the level crossing, to a traffic light controlled crossing. This suggestion has been raised on a number of occasions, most recently at the Reigate and Banstead Local Committee meeting held on 2nd November 2020. The response to this suggestion can be found on page 17 of the supplementary agenda for this meeting which can be found at the following link on Surrey County Council's website;



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<https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/documents/b25149/Supplementary%20Agenda%20Monday%202-Nov-2020%2014.00%20Reigate%20and%20Banstead%20Local%20Committee.pdf?T=9>

There are legitimate safety reasons why this crossing cannot be changed to a traffic light controlled crossing, these safety reasons will not change in the future and therefore this Zebra crossing cannot be changed into a traffic light controlled crossing.

Thank you for your suggestion to add Reigate level crossing to Surrey County Council's list of priorities for action in the near future. Any scheme required to address your concerns about congestion, pollution and delay due to the operation of the level crossing would require a major scheme proposal. I have therefore forwarded your letter on to Surrey County Council's Strategic Transport Group Manager to provide a response.

Once again thank you for contacting us.

Kind regards

Anne-Marie Hannam  
Senior Traffic Engineer  
Surrey Highways