

# BEDFORD COMMUTERS ASSOCIATION

## BCA COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 10 January 2005

Present: Arthur Taylor Jim Allwood  
Mark Spurgeon Christine Fellner

Apology: Dan Levene (last-minute emergency)  
John MacLeod (on round-the-world trip)

### 1. Minutes of Meeting on 25 October 2004

These were accepted.

### 2. Matters arising

\* The new Bedford train depot had been opened. AT would arrange a trip for the committee

\* AT had written to Tony McNulty, with copies to Patrick Hall, Jonathan Sayeed and Alistair Burt, about fitting out the Thameslink Midland Road station box. His reply had been uninformative. Jonathan Sayeed had (misleadingly, we thought) claimed credit for the West Hampstead stop from 12 December. The Newsletter should make clear that the "box" would not be fitted out.

### 3. Correspondence

\* There was to be a C6 overhaul for the 319s – doors, corrosion, toilets.

\* MML was not to get the Leeds service to use its 9-car Meridians

\* The Bedfordshire rep on LTUC, John Smith, had not been reappointed, nor had the St Albans rep

\* Car park charges: the peak and off-peak daily rates had not increased, but weekly had gone up by £1, monthly by £3, quarterly by £10 and yearly by £35.

\* Chris Hudson had asked for a TL meeting for a progress update, and AT was going to meet him on 12 January at 12 30 at Bedford station. MS observed that on Sunday morning he had not been able to get a connection to Gatwick

\* Pre-qualifiers for the 9-year franchises would emerge in the spring

\* The activities of Richard Pill had again attracted attention

\* Various periodicals had been received

### 4. Treasurer's Report

Mary Pope was no longer with Moore Stephens. The accounts had been sent on to her. Income stood at £604.02, expenditure at £491.49. Email sending of the Newsletter seemed well received. The BCA notice board at Bedford station was, it was hoped, being repaired.

### 5. Communications

The latest Newsletter was noted

## 6. Performance

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2004, MML had 85.6% punctuality, as opposed to 62.9% for the same quarter the previous year. For the same quarter, TL's all-day figure was 81.6 (over 68.6) and peak figure 79.2 (over 68.3).

## 7. Blockade

This was proving rather a good thing for those north of London. The works were still on course for a May finish, indeed it might be earlier; the contractors had been doing a lot of work they had thought could not be done because of sparing local people.

## 8. Summer Timetable

\* TL now had the West Hampstead stop. We are hoping for an enhanced timetable from June, but have seen nothing yet.

\* MML proposed reinstatement of the 16 14, 16 30 and 18 00 trains, and a new 18 15. The 23 40 would be retimed to 23 15. JA and CF regretted this.

## 9. 2005 AGM

This was intended to be at Dom Polski. CF would try to book for 15 March, if this could not be done, then 22 March. There would be no food this time.

## 10. TL2000

There would be another Consortium meeting on Thursday 13 January at the Guildhall.

## 11. Website

MS would update. It was decided that the Newsletter would not be put on the website, even after a lead time, though the minutes would continue. There was as yet no hit counter.

## 12. Bedford matters

There was a new local transport plan for Bedfordshire

## 13. Flitwick matters

The coffee at the new kiosk was very good. The bridge was not. JA suggested a Freedom of Information Act request for a copy of the latest structural survey. There had been car parking meetings.

## 14. AOB

There was none.

Next meeting: Monday 28 February 2005 at 7 45 at CF's.