

22.1.2020 / extra notes for MRUG meeting

This at

<http://www.mrug.org.uk/news20200122.pdf>

All resources for 22.1.2020 meeting at

<http://www.mrug.org.uk/resources.html>

Melksham rail user group

Timetable, December 2019 to May 2020

Widely distributed

Report for 2019 / plans for 2020

Written, printed, distributed – low volume document.

Guide to using the train to and from Melksham

Work started

Passenger numbers (ticketed journeys)

14.1.20 - figures for year 4.2018 to 3.2019 published, 74534

10 year series:

10028 / 11046 / 11330 / 12080 / 23930 / 51858 / 60676 / 74666 / 74220 / 74534

Year headline:

exceptionally lost 50 days for Newbury diversions + 12 days Westbury closure.

So growth 0.3% on loss of 17% of days bussed.

Comparing - Pewsey down 10.4%, Bedwyh down 8.0%

We now have longer platform, longer train, so capacity issue sorted.

Service remains poor due to its infrequency. Needs hourly and late train.

For 2019, significant cancellation rate due to lack of drivers - over 7%, mostly short notice. Problems not unique to our line (three others) but we have been marginally the worst. Indications are that traffic (first six months) up 4.9% on TransWilts, other lines with problems showing losses.

The remarkably good figures can be explained by the hard core nature of the customer base who have no choice / put up with the thin service and the strong marketing in Melksham - thank you everyone who has helped.

Station briefing

14.1.20

Eddy Watts, John Hamley, Judith Gradwell, Graham Ellis safety briefed

We can now work at / lead others at public areas at station - e.g. Garden, clean, survey

We have direct contact routes to Duty Manager and staff room at Westbury

We know how to interact with operational staff / train crew

All four of us have signed off on GWR's safety sheet

** Arrange clean days

** Liaise Melksham in Bloom

ACoRP application

15.1.20

Application now completed for us to (re)join as a station adoption group

Awaiting an acknowledgement and (then) a welcome pack.

Allows access to resources, expertise and annual briefing.

Also to apply for some funding

Santa

Successful trip - THANK YOU everyone. 45 Adults / 45 children.

Single reported issue of child getting inappropriate age present at end
Messaged online via Facebook, no acknowledgment of my reply

£600 income / £300 spend - thank you to GWR for tickets

Excellent local publicity

Buses

Road works completed last Autumn, Train changes last month

Town Bridge one way until 5th May

Logic is change timetable and routes 10th May 2020

Draft Proposal to Wilts Council to reform local supported services

submitted 16.1.20; meeting with WC 31.1.20

* Considers all existing passengers and new potential

* Within budget

* Buses call at station to connect with trains

very local roads covered while train calls to provide both way connections

* Flat fare in Melksham area, monthly season option

Evaluation and tuning during February?

** Action – local meeting??

2020 program

In particular 35 years since re-opening

Saturday train to Weymouth and later train back.

Strong summer marketing again?

** get signoff

** award entries?

Performance

Fell apart ("teething troubles"?) 15th December to Christmas

Better thereafter

Buses on January Sundays

Failure to provide morning bus last Sunday. Taken up with GWR

Regional service Review 10.2.2020

Look forward to TransWilts developments

Hub latest I have

- Water works to be completed by 1.2.2020?

- Car parking charges starting 2.2020?

- Hub to open in May 2020

Unsure on staffing - look forward to TransWilts update

Membership

Need to establish for 'ownership' of group – too informal at present?

Report preparation and final presentation by Graham Ellis of MRUG – immediate queries via

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