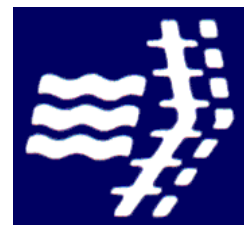


MARLOW - MAIDENHEAD PASSENGERS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter 186 February 2021

Newsletter Editor Robert Latham Email: newsletter@mmpa.org.uk



Introduction

Your Committee hopes this issue of the MMPA Newsletter finds you safe and well. These are still strange times forcing all of us to take steps to avoid being infected by the virus. Operation of the Committee is still restricted to meetings on line.

Elizabeth Smith 1937-2021

We are sorry to report the passing of one of our honorary life members and former member of the Rail Users Consultative Committee, Elizabeth Smith, on 20th January. We send our condolences to her family.

AGM Postponement

The AGM is scheduled for 26 March at the Bourne End Community Centre but as a result of the lockdown has been postponed. Our Constitution states that an AGM must be held "at least every calendar year". The alternatives are to set up an internet based meeting or to postpone it to a later date in the hope that the Centre will have re-opened by mid-summer. The latter option is preferred. This will be kept under review.

Membership Secretary

Richard Porter is standing down as Membership Secretary at the AGM after many years invaluable work keeping things in order. **MMPA therefore seeks a new Membership Secretary** to look after our 100 or so members to deal with annual renewals and new applications. If anyone is interested in this role please contact the Chairman, John Marsh at jmarsh6039@aol.com, or any Committee member.

Maidenhead Station Improvement Works

Improvement works on the forecourt of Maidenhead Station are underway. Work will be completed in two phases so that half the forecourt always remains open. Phase one concentrates on the northern half of the station's forecourt and should complete shortly. Phase two will see work being carried out on the southern half, in March and April.

During the work there will be some necessary changes to the area, including:

- all parking on the forecourt will move to the Stafferton Way multi-storey car park where GWR parking bays will be available for use on the ground floor (normal parking charges apply)
- additional set-down and pick-up zones will be available at Stafferton Way multi-storey car park

Throughout both phases of the works, disabled bays will still be available on the station forecourt and the ticket hall and entrance will remain open. Taxis will also still be able to operate from the station forecourt.

Bourne End Chord replacement

Despite several years in the planning Network Rail seem no closer to implementing the promised reconnection that would allow a half-hourly direct service through the day between Marlow and Maidenhead. The current issues still fall into two areas – track alignment and signalling.

Cookham

Network Rail have been carrying out vegetation clearance works on the Branch, which has upset the environmental lobby and the Tree Officer at RBWM. The recent high river water levels activated flood protection rules. Flooding closed several roads in the area but did not affect the railway.

Taplow

Transport for London, who now manage Taplow Station, are installing gatelines there. There might be access issues with entry from both North and South of the station provided. MMPA will monitor this situation.

High Wycombe

The project to install a signal repeater on platform 1 is still alive but no date given yet for implementation. This signal will allow drivers to set the train back closer to the station building cutting the time needed for passengers to transfer between platforms 1 and 3. New station CIS was being developed which would allow some interactivity. New hybrid trains are expected to arrive in the first half of 2021.

GWR

Please note GWR no longer issue paper timetables.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Arriva Buses	0344 800 44 11 arrivabus.co.uk	0800-1700 Mon-Fri
Chiltern Railways	03456 005165 chilternrailways.co.uk	0830-1730 Mon-Fri
Carousel Buses	01494 450151 carouselbuses.co.uk	
Courtney Buses	01189 733486 courtneybuses.com	
First Bus Berkshire	0345 6460707 firstgroup.com/berkshire-thames-valley	0900-1700 Mon-Fri
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950 nationalrail.co.uk	24 hours
Traveline	0871 200 2233 traveline.info	0800-2000 daily
Trainline	0333 202 2222 thetrainline.com	0800-1700 Mon-Fri
Transport for London & MTR Crossrail	0343 222 1234 tfl.gov.uk/tube-dlr-overground/status	24 hours
BBC Berkshire Travel	08459 311 333 bbc.co.uk/travelnews/berkshire/	
Car Parking (APCOA)	apcoa.co.uk/contact/	

Also see our web site www.mmpa.org.uk for links.

Contact MMPA

If you have any issues or comments regarding public transport in the area that you would like to raise please use the *Contact Us* links on the MMPA website www.mmpa.org.uk.

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