

## ***Held at:***

7.30 pm, Walkden Gateway Centre

## ***Attendees:***

Vicky Cropper (VC, Northern, Central Region Manager for Community and Sustainability)  
Owain Roberts (OR, TfGM Rail Development Officer)  
Mark Mennell (MM)  
Andy Barlow (AB, Chair)  
Neil Stapleton (NS, Minutes)  
Angela Critchley (AC)  
Alexander Davidson (AD, Friends of Hindley Station)  
Keith Ingram (KI)  
Nina Keshishian (NK, Friends of Patricroft Station)  
Fay Flatt (Salford City Council Neighbourhood Development Officer)  
Michael Potts (MP)  
Jennifer Reynolds (JR)  
Dennis Reynolds (DR)  
Harry Merrick (HM)  
David Lindley (DL)  
Peter Alexander (PA)  
Cllr Iain Lindley (IL)  
Paul Burgess (PB)  
Caroline Worstenholme

## ***Apologies:***

Cllr Richard Critchley  
Kathy Knowles  
Preva Crossley (Bolton Rail User Group)  
Mike Corless (MC)  
Frank Bridge (FB)  
Elizabeth Charnley (EC, Friends of Eccles Station)  
Mark Charnley (MCh, Friends of Eccles Station)  
Sheila Davidson (SD, Friends of Hindley Station)  
Stephen Freeborn (SF, Friends of Westhoughton Station)

Item	Subject
1	<p><b>Chair's Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> Apologies received from the people listed above.</p>
2	<p><b>Guest Speaker: Vicky Cropper, Community and Sustainability Manager, Central Region, Northern</b></p> <p>VC presented an overview of Arriva Northern's status and plans for community involvement and rail services in the new franchise, including the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £1bn of investment including 98 new trains and "as-new" refurbishments</li> <li>• £60m of investment in stations</li> <li>• Northern have appointed 4 regional Community and Sustainability Managers to work with Friends and CRP groups</li> <li>• Lots of funding schemes are available: VC can help groups access them</li> <li>• VC reports into Matthew Worman who has a more strategic role</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>TfGM Update: Owain Roberts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Station Car Park: the designs for a Park &amp; Ride site are complete including 100 space car park with spaces for disabled customers, and a cycle hub. TfGM and Salford City Council are seeking funds to commence the development phase. Detail design is in progress.</li> <li>• Step Free Station Access: Walkden remains a high priority for TfGM. Detailed designs have been produced by funding has not been found. OR to send details of the chosen scheme to NS.</li> </ul> <p>AB &amp; NS thanked Owain for TfGM's support this year, particularly in regard to the innovative partnership with SCC over the station car park.</p>
4	<p><b>Art Update: Mark Mennell and Fay Flatt</b></p> <p>MM has found a way to make the pieces robust and portable in case they need to be moved in future. This also cut costs as it removes need for a backing plate. MM is trying to make the budget stretch to cover as much of the wall expanse as possible.</p> <p>Plan to install 8 laser cut discs approx. 1m diameter to the stairway walls plus 2 rectangular pieces at the top of the steps. Northern and Carillion have agreed to do the installation.</p> <p>Attempted to contact Ambrose Barlow School several times but could not get time with the relevant teachers. Salford City College Art &amp; Design students came up with templates in January that MM has elaborated into complementary set of designs.</p> <p>The college are keen to have a display at the station. VC offered to put in an order for a new poster case for FoWS use which could be used for this.</p> <p>PB suggested an RHS feature would be a nice reference to the future of Walkden. MM agreed and said would try to include in remaining designs.</p>
5	<p><b>Review of the Year</b></p> <p>NS recapped highlights of the previous 12 months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Car Park</b> scheme (covered by Owain above)</li> <li>• <b>Art Project</b> (covered by Mark above)</li> <li>• <b>Consultations:</b> AB has been very busy responding to several consultation exercises and vigorously promoting "Walkden Hub" proposal. We hope these efforts will pay dividends in long term planning. FoWS responses can be accessed on our website:</li> </ul>

Item	Subject																								
	<p><a href="http://www.walkdenstation.org.uk/FOWSpublishations.shtml">http://www.walkdenstation.org.uk/FOWSpublishations.shtml</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Passenger Survey:</b> for first time we saw a major drop in passenger numbers, almost certainly due to the popularity of the new busway.</li> <li>• In May last year <b>Marion Bainbridge</b> passed away suddenly. VC offered to help fund a small memorial such as a plaque on a bench if FoWS think it is appropriate.</li> </ul>																								
6	<p><b>Election of Officers.</b></p> <p>The current officers were re-elected unopposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair (Andy Barlow)</li> <li>• Secretary (Neil Stapleton)</li> <li>• Treasurer (Angela Critchley)</li> </ul> <p>NS and AB appealed to members to consider ways to broaden membership and consider joining the committee.</p>																								
7	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>AC:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary of Financial Position from 09/03/16 to 15/03/17</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="432 902 1243 1227"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total Funds at AGM 09/03/2016 <i>Bank Account ... £847.27</i> <i>Petty Cash ..... £40.74</i></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£888.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Income during year</td> <td style="text-align: right;">+ £1234.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Expenditure during year</td> <td style="text-align: right;">- £104.22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Funds at AGM 15/03/2017 <i>Bank Account... £1976.32</i> <i>Petty Cash ..... £41.47</i></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2017.79</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Breakdown of Income from 09/03/16 to 15/03/17</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="432 1357 1243 1554"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Membership (£34 collected at AGM)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£34.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donations</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant from Salford City Council</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£1234.00</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Breakdown of Expenditure from 09/03/16 to 15/03/17</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="427 1684 1248 1881"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Website hosting*</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Renewal of domain name</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£8.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gardening</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£95.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£104.22</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to David Lindley for hosting the FOWS website at no cost to FOWS</li> <li>• £1000 has been paid directly from SCC Recycle &amp; Reward Scheme to Mark Mennell towards Art project. A further £1000 has been awarded by northern but not yet received.</li> </ul>	Total Funds at AGM 09/03/2016 <i>Bank Account ... £847.27</i> <i>Petty Cash ..... £40.74</i>	£888.01	Total Income during year	+ £1234.00	Total Expenditure during year	- £104.22	Total Funds at AGM 15/03/2017 <i>Bank Account... £1976.32</i> <i>Petty Cash ..... £41.47</i>	£2017.79	Membership (£34 collected at AGM)	£34.00	Donations	£0.00	Grant from Salford City Council	£1200.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>£1234.00</b>	Website hosting*	£0.00	Renewal of domain name	£8.39	Gardening	£95.83	<b>Total</b>	<b>£104.22</b>
Total Funds at AGM 09/03/2016 <i>Bank Account ... £847.27</i> <i>Petty Cash ..... £40.74</i>	£888.01																								
Total Income during year	+ £1234.00																								
Total Expenditure during year	- £104.22																								
Total Funds at AGM 15/03/2017 <i>Bank Account... £1976.32</i> <i>Petty Cash ..... £41.47</i>	£2017.79																								
Membership (£34 collected at AGM)	£34.00																								
Donations	£0.00																								
Grant from Salford City Council	£1200.00																								
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1234.00</b>																								
Website hosting*	£0.00																								
Renewal of domain name	£8.39																								
Gardening	£95.83																								
<b>Total</b>	<b>£104.22</b>																								

<b>Item</b>	<b>Subject</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thanks to Jennifer Reynolds for auditing the accounts at no cost to FOWS</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Appointment of auditor</b></p> <p>The meeting approved the re-appointment of Jennifer Reynolds as auditor of accounts for the forthcoming year.</p>
9	<p><b>Gardening Update</b></p> <p>No major schemes undertaken or planned. £95.83 has been spent on new plants during the year.</p> <p>Will do a refresh of planters in the spring, focusing on the troughs in particular.</p>
10	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AB – Our Facebook pages now has 222 likes</li> <li>AB – Salford Rail Strategy update – a shuttle bus between Walkden station and the RHS garden is under discussion, as is a Community Rail Partnership for Salford stations. Some FoWS ideas are now being looked at as part of the strategy.</li> <li>AB – we continue to engage with Urban Vision regarding improvements to the street area around the station.</li> <li>AB – Rail Service Changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most improvements have been deferred from Dec 17 (franchise target) to May 18</li> <li>Improved Sunday services at Walkden will start Dec 17 with 2 tph from 8am to 6pm and hourly service until 10pm</li> <li>In May 2018 all other services changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 tph daytime, 2 tph evening</li> <li>All services will continue to serve Victoria</li> <li>Daytime services include 1 tph Southport to Leeds via Brighouse, 1 Southport to Burnley/Blackburn via Todmorden, and 1 Kirkby-Rochdale</li> </ul> </li> <li>By end 2019 all Pacers should have been withdrawn from service and all northern trains will either be new or refurbished.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

*There being no further business, the chair thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.*

### **Actions**

1	Owain Roberts	Send details of step-free access design to NS
2	Vicky Cropper	Order a new poster case for FoWS use at the station
3	Mark Mennell	Send electronic copies of artwork designs to FoWS (via Fay) for members to review