

Notes from Isleworth Station Group meeting 26.11.2015 at Spring Grove House, West Thames College

Present: Kerry Sullivan (College Road), Matt Brace (Sidmouth Avenue), Patrick McMahon (St Johns Road), Richard Buchanan (Grove Road), Jerry Folkson (St Christophers Close), Danny Rybowski (The Drive and Spring Grove Residents Association), David Tannahill (Sidmouth Avenue), Richard Kempton (South West Trains), Cllr Tony Louki (Osterley & Spring Grove Ward)

- 1. Network Rail:** Following Cllr Steve Curran's (circulated) letter to Network Rail, Richard Kempton had conversation with the addressee John Halsall and the names of two Network Rail staff were given as liaison on Isleworth Station matters. A substantive response to Cllr Curran has not yet been received.
- 2. Station embankment fence to the car park:** Richard Kempton had visited the station with a Network Rail colleague to ascertain which company is responsible and will report back. The group is keen that this is progressed so that the current bench effect is removed to prevent al fresco drinkers loitering in the car park.
- 3. Reiterating the Controlled Drinking Zone:** Following SWT's removal of the ad hoc "no loitering" signs, Richard Kempton undertook to investigate a correct method of advising of the CDZ around the station. The group advised that the approach should not be unilateral but coordinated with Hounslow Council, Metropolitan Police, British Transport Police and South West Trains so that all understood how to manage the problem. Tony Louki would provide LBH and local police Safer Neighbourhood Team contacts details and advised that any new signage should not just be in English.
- 4. Draft LBH funded Station Accessibility Study:** The group welcomed the sharing of options for improved access to the station and will welcome further discussion when the report is ready. The group understands the resource implications of implementing a scheme and encourages the council to consider the application of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to contribute towards and match other funds such as the Department of Transport's Access for All programme when next called and Historic Stations Trust. The group asked that a case for both access and other improvement including facilities to offer potential for staffing as at Chiswick, Brentford and Hounslow Stations should be researched. This would support further justification any future application including Isleworth Station's accessibility and dilapidation ranking compared to other stations, more precise passenger use and footfall figures and safety implications of current access configuration. Richard Kempton undertook to gather and share data and its capture methodology as well as a map of accessible stations on the SWT network.
- 5. Station buildings survey:** The group welcomed SWT's invitation to the Association of Community Rail Partnerships' surveyor giving the station buildings a once over to ascertain whether a more detailed survey (on both sides of the station) would be of value. Tony Louki would also add a request for LBH s106 funding towards a proper assessment to understand the extent of community and or commercial use potential.

6. **Farmers Market initiative:** whilst the meeting did not consider this a priority, it did not disagree that SWT should not pursue operators to offer pilot testing of the idea.
7. **Station car park:** Richard Kempton undertook to arrange amended publicity to show that the car park use is free on Sundays.
8. **Platform canopies:** these would be welcomed sooner rather than later and should be of a sympathetic design rather than stock bus shelter style. Richard Kempton undertook to investigate and share.
9. **Routine maintenance schedules:** these were requested as were more litter receptacles along the embankment and car park fence.
10. **Car park northern boundary fence:** SWT and Network Rail are checking who is responsible for this and Richard Kempton will advise. The group has previously agreed that they would support a community clean up behind the shops in the new year in conjunction with traders, residents, the council and SWT.
11. **Better signs around the station and London Road:** Tony Louki undertook to make a request for LBH s106 funding towards this initiative.
12. **Station staffing:** It was noted that less used stations such as Chiswick had a part time SWT staff presence and the group sought threshold criteria. Richard Kempton undertook to provide this.
13. **Station building enhancement:** Tony Louki circulated an idea from local resident Bill Harry. The group agreed that there should be an arts competition supported by the Community Rail Partnership to seek designs to dress the station's windows spaces. The winning designs would be screened on laminate for easy installation and removal. Richard Kempton agreed to arrange the drafting and sharing of a competition brief and Tony Louki would bring a group of participants previously expressing support together to progress this.
14. **South Western Rail Franchise Stakeholder Consultation:** The group agreed that there should be a collective response as well as developing a method to encourage individual station users to comment before the 9.2.2016 deadline. This could include leafleting at the station as well as a public meeting in the new year.
15. **Christmas at the station:** SWT would welcome and help facilitate a carol singing event if it could be arranged by local people
16. **Next meeting:** Mid January 2016

TL 27.11.2015