

CROWBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

To all Members of the **ENVIRONMENT** Committee (with copies to all other Members for information).

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT** Committee to be held at the Town Hall, The Broadway, Crowborough on Tuesday 27th May 2014 at 7.30 pm when it is proposed to transact the following business:-

Town Clerk
20th May 2014

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Questions from members of the public (15 minutes maximum)

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
3. **MINUTES**
 - 3.1. **Minutes – 25th March 2014**
 - 3.2. **Minutes – 13th May 2014**
 - 3.3. **Matters Outstanding (including reports on updates)**
 - 3.3.1 **Pedestrian crossing at Beacon Academy**
Work is progressing on this scheme.
 - 3.3.2 **Planting at Clokes Corner (7023)**
Flowering shrubs have been planted. Other areas have been cleared in preparation for summer planting. The hanging basket trees have been made and are being painted.
 - 3.3.3 **Grazing at Palesgate Lane Meadow (7071)**
Fencing has been installed. The ponies are expected within the next few weeks.
 - 3.3.4 **Bus shelter at Croft Road**
The shelter has been installed
4. **RAILWAY REPORT**
Report from John Coleman.
5. **HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT**
 - 5.1 **To note report from the Wealdlink Forum (North Wealden Community Transport)**

- 6. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**
 - 6.1 To consider a request to install a dog waste bin in Blackness Road**
 - 6.2 Litter clearance**
 - 6.3 Report on role of Tree Warden**
- 7. CROWBOROUGH'S NATURAL HABITATS**
 - 7.1 To review report of tasks completed against Management Plans**
 - 7.2 To review the Health and Safety Statement Policy for Volunteer Workers**
 - 7.3 To review the Tree Inspection Policy**
- 8. POLICE**
 - 8.1 To review CCTV in Crowborough**
- 9. FINANCE**
 - 9.1 Management Account Reports to 31st March and 30th April 2014 (the reports at 31st March are noted subject to year end adjustments)**
- 10. URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING and/or INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA**

RAIL REPORT for the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 27th MAY 2014

MEETINGS ATTENDED

There have been no meetings that I should normally attend since my last report for the March Environment Committee Meeting. The next meeting of the Community Rail Partnership Stakeholders is on the 20th May and that of the Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee is on the 21st May.

I should be able to provide briefings of both at the Environment Meeting on 27th May.

Network Rail

The Network Rail work plan for Control Period 5, which runs from April 2014 to March 2019, does include platform lengthening for the Uckfield Line and this almost certainly will include at Crowborough station.

The DfT have published the Network Rail document "Brighton Main Line Emerging Capacity Strategy for CP6 Pre-Route Study report for the DfT" and their letter of agreement with its findings.

The report essentially describes the capacity problems of the Brighton Main Line and in particular those of the flat junctions and lack of platforms at the major stations from Coulsdon northwards through East Croydon to Victoria and London Bridge.

The report provides information of possible schemes for overcoming these problems in the period 2019 to 2024. These schemes are all likely to be difficult and expensive to carry out. If implemented they will only boost marginally the number of trains on the existing main line but they would significantly improve reliability. The report goes on to say that because of these London area route problems, re-instatement of the Lewes – Uckfield line would not provide any real answers to them in the short to medium term and would not enable additional trains be run through to London. The findings of the 2008 Re-instatement Study (that there was an insufficient business case) also remain valid. The new report does support the existing long-term protection of the line formation along the route and the DfT has agreed with all of this..

The report does include the platform lengthening mentioned earlier and the use of more carriages.

The draft of the full Sussex Route Study will be published later this year and the DfT have since confirmed that Network Rail will be considering the BML2 proposals in that study.

The New Franchise

It is understood that the new TGN&S franchise operator now may not be announced until June 2014.

J N Coleman 19th March 2014