



### North Notts and Lincs Community Rail Partnership News December 2016

Since the workshop in May the creation of the community rail partnership (CRP) has progressed.

The eleven stations in the CRP are shared among the four groups thus:-  
 Shireoaks, Worksop, Retford - Bassetlaw Area, chair Rick Brand  
 Gainsborough stations, Saxilby, Market Rasen - West Linsey group, chair Barry Coward  
 Lincoln - Lincoln Area, chair to be elected early 2017  
 Kirton in Lindsey, Brigg, Barnetby - North Lincs Area, group yet to be formed.

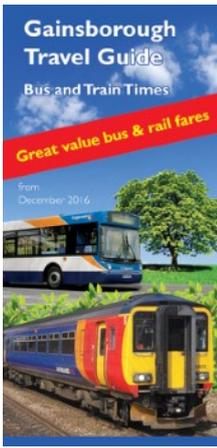
Once the four area groups have met and elected their chairs then the first meeting of the CRP Board will take place.

At the first meeting of the CRP board the constitution, based on a draft approved by the areas, will be approved, including agreeing the name for the partnership.  
 See attached "Should we be an Integrated Transport Partnership?"

The CRP Board will also consider the funding, terms of reference and appointment of an officer. The Board will be recommended to join the Association of Community Rail Partnerships, an organisation that will be able to assist with matters such as the appointment of an officer.

As well as the four area chairs the CRP Board will have representation from councils, train operating companies, Network Rail and Stagecoach East Midlands (bus operator). It may also consider inviting representation from the DfT.

During the process of forming Areas involvement from community organisations has been welcomed. As the CRP progresses we expect to increase community involvement, without which a CRP cannot properly function. To achieve this the CRP will need to use all channels of communication. For example half page columns in the Gainsborough Standard have already been agreed with the paper for January 19, February 23, April 6 and 29.



Last summer GRaB produced, with help from Stagecoach East Midlands, the first ever Gainsborough Travel Guide. On one side are bus services and on the reverse side are rail services. They were distributed widely including to homes in the town. They proved very popular and, although it is too early to analyse numbers, anecdotal evidence suggests increase use of both buses and trains.

This month GRaB printed a revised edition showing trains to and from Meadowhall, a major traffic objective for townfolk.

Whether there will be a third edition in May 2017 will be a matter for the CRP Board as the current edition is the last to be published by GRaB.

Publicity via poster panels is available at all 11 stations served by the CRP. In addition panels exist at Sheffield, Meadowhall (shared with the Penistone Line Partnership), Grimsby and Cleethorpes. They are maintained by volunteers.

Station adoption volunteers exist at most of the stations within the CRP area.



The long established group at Market Rasen has experienced difficulties with accommodation this year due to the sale of the station house. Had the CRP been operational at the time support to resolve their difficulties could have been given.

The Gainsborough Lea Road group continue to improve the appearance of this mess of a station. The addition of a "Welcome to Gainsborough" sign at the exit is a small step to improving this gateway to the town.

For 2017 there are plans to make the former platform 8 at Lincoln, now disused, a welcome gateway to the city. Using the photo archives of the Lincolnshire Echo, Lincoln Rotary intend to mount a display along the back wall of this platform.

These are just examples of some of the activities that the CRP can support.

Progression in the creation of the CRP has been helped by a range of people and organisations. We would like to thank Bassetlaw and West Lindsey District Councils for their practical support. Stagecoach in the form of East Midland Trains, Virgin Trains East Coast and Stagecoach East Midlands have given valuable help and support.

A special thank you must go to station adopters who make stations pleasant gateways to their communities and GRaB volunteers who pounded the streets of Gainsborough, Kirton in Lindsey and Brigg delivering leaflets.