

## 16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF RAILFUTURE LTD

Thank you to everyone who completed the online survey – 135 responses were received and of those interested in the AGM, 51 were willing to attend a physical meeting. Some would only attend a virtual meeting, but people prepared to attend either format overwhelmingly preferred to meet face-to-face. The government has allowed emergency legislation to lapse, which would make it difficult to hold a virtual-only AGM and fulfil the full agenda. In accordance with the latest government announcements and following the venue's COVID-secure rules, the directors have decided to hold the AGM in Birmingham as planned:

**Priory Rooms, Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF  
on Saturday 17 July 2021, starting at 11.00**

**(Registration from 10.00, free refreshments from 10.30 – held in the Main Meeting House)**

The Priory Rooms Meeting and Conference Centre has been used by Railfuture on several occasions, including our 2016 conference, and was the intended venue for the 2020 AGM. Railfuture is able to go ahead with the meeting providing that social distancing is enforced. Our room holds 210 people but will be limited to 63 by COVID-19 restrictions. The room will be arranged to provide the maximum space between seats. It is important that Railfuture knows how many people are likely to be in the room. A person who arrives without prior notification will be put into a 'standby queue'. Anyone planning to attend is *strongly urged* to register in advance – see attendance form, which also has details of how to do so via the website at [www.raillfuture.org.uk/member/](http://www.raillfuture.org.uk/member/) (you will need your Railfuture Number and PIN – a reminder can be sent by email; or complete and return the form). Please see [www.raillfuture.org.uk/Coronavirus+COVID-19](http://www.raillfuture.org.uk/Coronavirus+COVID-19) for COVID-19 advice. Please bring a face covering to wear it (unless exempt). Late changes to the AGM will be on the [www.raillfuture.org.uk/conferences](http://www.raillfuture.org.uk/conferences) page. NHS Test & Trace data will be collected by the venue.

The Bull Street tram stop is immediately outside the entrance gate to the centre, and it is two tram stops (or 10 minutes' walk) from Birmingham New Street station. It is just five minutes' walk from Snow Hill Station. A map (taken from Google Maps) of central Birmingham, showing the location of the venue is on page 3.

The formal Annual General Meeting (AGM), which will be held prior to lunch, is open to fully paid-up members or the proxy that they have registered at least 48 hours before the event. There will be no admission for members whose subscription is not current, and no payments will be taken on the door.

Refreshments will be provided. However, this year there will not be a buffet lunch. It will be necessary to go out for lunch prior to the afternoon session, when we will have two guest speakers, **Malcolm Holmes**, Executive Director (West Midlands Rail Executive) and Director of Rail (Transport for West Midlands), and **Karen Heppenstall**, Head of Rail at Midlands Connect.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sixteenth Annual General Meeting of **Railfuture Limited** will be held at **11.00** on **Saturday 17 July 2021** at **Priory Rooms, Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF**

**AGENDA**

**10.00-11.00 Registration** (Tea and coffee available from 10.30)

**11.00 Morning session** (currently paid-up members and proxies only)

1. Welcome (with apologies for absence)  
Video recorded for Railfuture AGM by Andy Street, Mayor, West Midlands Combined Authority
2. Remind attendees of the standing orders adopted at the 2016 AGM.  
These will be available from reception or can be viewed at [www.railfuture.org.uk/display1216](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/display1216)
3. To hear an individual's appeal
4. To read and approve the minutes of the 15th Annual General Meeting of Railfuture Limited held on Saturday 18 May 2019 in Cardiff - [www.railfuture.org.uk/display2279](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/display2279)
5. Matters arising from the minutes
6. Honorary President's address (Christian Wolmar – invited and will attend if he is available)
7. National Chair's report (Chris Page)
8. To receive the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the 12-month periods ending 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2020 (Jerry Alderson, Director of Finance & IT and/or Trevor Davies, Company Accountant)  
The Independent Examiner's report is contained within the summarised and full accounts
9. Re-appointment of the Independent Examiner (Newsham Hanson, based in North Somerset)
10. Results of the election for Directors
11. Appointment of Honorary President and Vice-presidents
12. Motions
13. 'Campaigner of the Year' Presentation
14. Chair – review of the meeting and looking forward to the year ahead

By Order of the Board,

Date 07/06/2021, Trevor Davies, Company Secretary

Correspondence address: 14 Ghent Field Circle, Thurston, Suffolk IP31 3UP

Registered office: Edinburgh House, 1-5 Bellevue Road, Clevedon, North Somerset BS21 7NP (legal correspondence only)

**12.45 – 13.30 Lunch** Please go out for lunch. Eating your own lunch inside is not permitted.

**13.30 Afternoon Session** (open to the public)

1. Welcome
2. First speaker - Karen Heppenstall, Head of Rail at Midlands Connect
3. Second speaker - Malcolm Holmes, Executive Director (West Midlands Rail Executive) and Director of Rail (Transport for the West Midlands)

**15.30 Thanks and closing remarks**

**AGM PACK INCLUDED WITH RAILWATCH / SUMMARY ACCOUNTS**

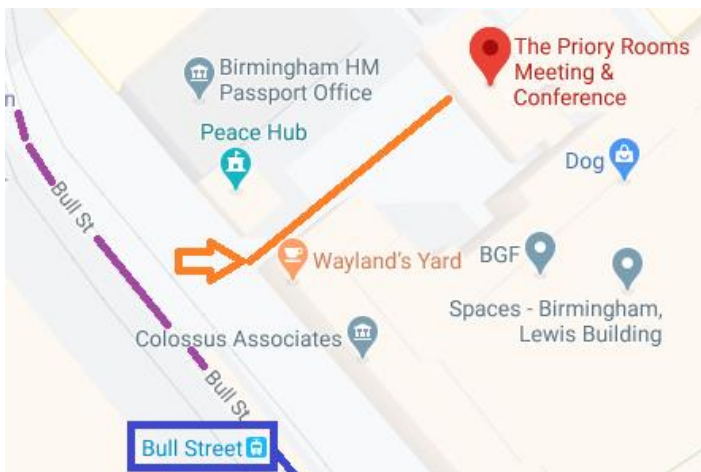
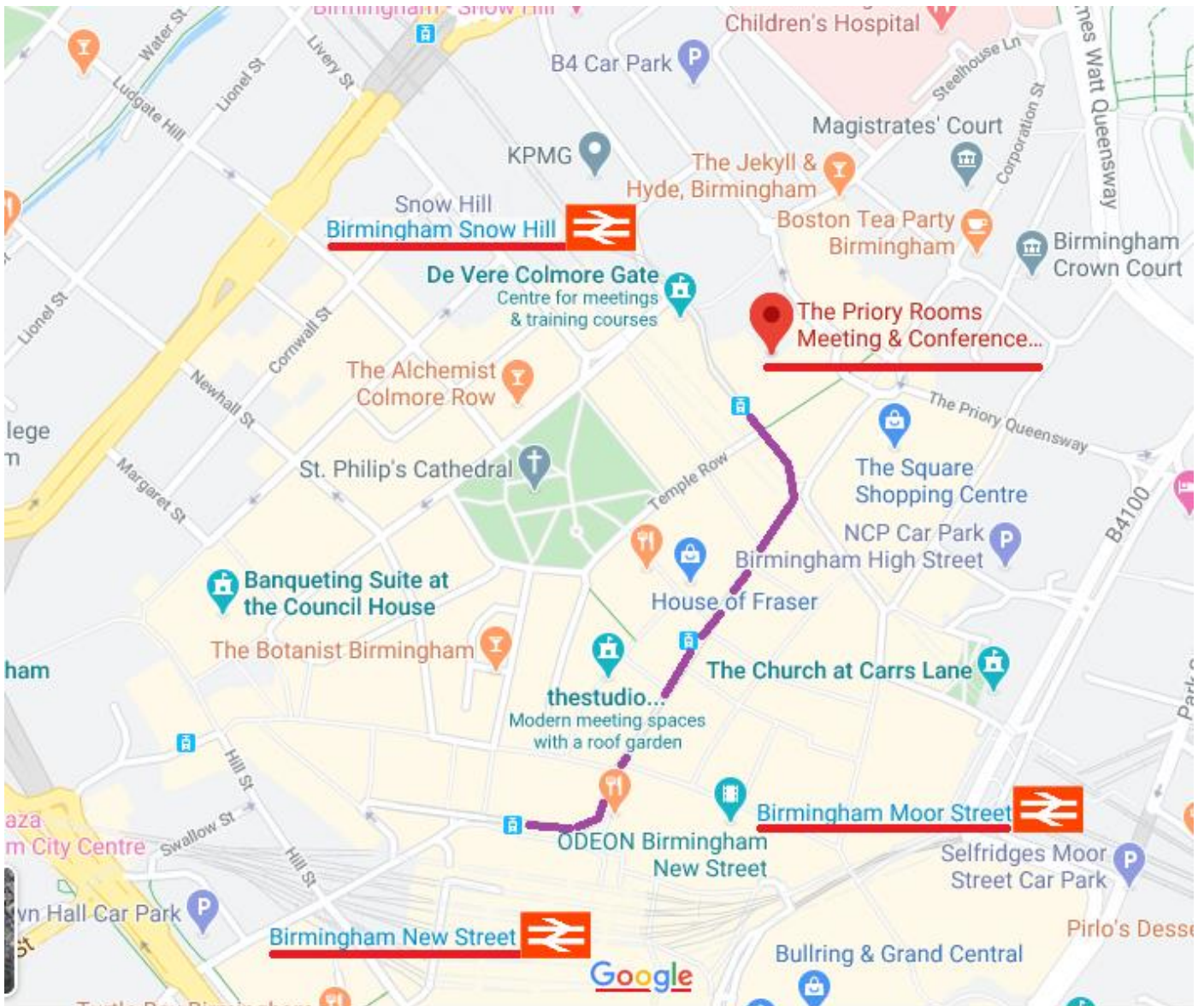
In addition to this four-page notice you should have received a two-page feedback form including proxy voting (page 1) and attendance form (page 2) – both can be completed online (you can repeat this if your intentions change). Please complete this if you plan to attend - it is important this year more than ever.

You should also receive the four-page summary accounts for 2020. The 2019 summary accounts were sent a year ago. Both are on the website along with the full versions: "www.railfuture.org.uk/display/NNNN" - change NNNN as follows: 2675=full 2020, 2676=summary 2020, 2282=full 2019, 2281=summary 2019.

**ELECTIONS**

The results of the elections to the board of directors will be announced at the AGM. The candidates' election statements are on the website at [www.railfuture.org.uk/display2558](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/display2558). Members with suitable skills and experience are encouraged to consider standing next year and enquire via the national Chair, Chris Page – see [www.railfuture.org.uk/elections](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/elections) for more about the election process.

# LOCATION OF PRIORY ROOMS MEETING AND CONFERENCE CENTRE



The large map above shows the location of the Priory Rooms in relation to Birmingham's three main railway stations. The thick line between New Street station and the Priory Rooms is the tram line.

The map on the left shows that the entrance gate for the Priory Rooms is opposite the Bull Street tram stop. Walk through the internal courtyard to the front entrance.

An off-peak day ticket (all day on Saturdays) for the entire tram network costs just **£4.80**.

More information can be found at <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/conferences/>

If you have any queries, where the answer cannot be found on the website, please contact Lloyd Butler by email at [lloyd.butler@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:lloyd.butler@railfuture.org.uk) or at **14 Ghent Field Circle, Thurston, Suffolk IP31 3UP**

Photographs: Railfuture has an official photographer for the AGM and will publish photos of attendees only with their consent. No other photographs should be taken on the premises without approval in advance and individuals should be asked for permission before being photographed.

Literature: only Railfuture's own literature is to be displayed in or around the AGM venue.

# AGM MOTIONS

The AGM is an opportunity to discuss and assess what we have done over the past 12 months, focusing on Railfuture's *policy, strategy and organisation*, and to look ahead and guide our rail campaigning over the coming year.

Motions for possible discussion must be sent to **Chris Page, Chair**, [chris.page@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:chris.page@railfuture.org.uk) or by post to 'Clara Vale', Thibet Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 9AR to arrive by **3 July 2021** with the signature of the proposer and seconder, who must both be current members. They should be in typed format. Motions sent to a different recipient cannot be considered.

Amendments to motions should be sent in writing or by email, with proposer's and seconder's name, before the day of the meeting. At the Chair's discretion, further written amendments may be accepted by 10:45 on the day. You should also check Railfuture's current campaigns on our website, which set out our existing policies – see [www.railfuture.org.uk/campaigns](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/campaigns).

The Chair has the right to send, before the meeting, copies of any motion(s) to any branch, group or officer whose work it may affect. Motions on local issues should normally be debated at branch AGMs but may also, in exceptional cases, be put to the national AGM. Emergency motions may be put to the meeting at the Chair's discretion. To allow PowerPoint slides to be produced containing the emergency motion they should arrive at least three days before the AGM.

Motions should be CONCISE (preferably not more than 100 words). A motion will be considered only if the proposer or seconder attends the AGM in person to speak on them (three minutes is allowed) and/or answer questions. Motions without a seconder will not be accepted. Any member proposing two or more motions must indicate order of priority (motions other than his/her first one will be put only if time allows).

A Motions Committee will review all motions received prior to the AGM. If the substance of the motion can be achieved to the proposer and seconder's satisfaction, then it will not be discussed at the AGM. A statement from the Motions Committee will be read out at the AGM detailing the decisions reached.

## HELP TO KEEP COSTS DOWN – USE EMAIL

We would appreciate knowing your email address - please email [renewals@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:renewals@railfuture.org.uk).

Most members receive Railwatch by post. If you prefer to read it online, please send an email to the above address (or change your preference using [www.railfuture.org.uk/selfcare](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/selfcare)) and you will be sent a link to the Railwatch website as the same time as it arrives through letter boxes. The email will also include attachments, such as this AGM notice.

## WE NEED HELP

We need more active volunteers both within Railfuture's 14 branches (see map, campaigns and other details at [www.railfuture.org.uk/branches](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/branches)) and at national level. There is plenty that we would like to do but do not have enough volunteers. We need help with social media, event management, finance, marketing, editorial/design, video making, IT (PowerPoint and PhotoShop) and much more. Contact detail can be found at [www.railfuture.org.uk/Contact+Us](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/Contact+Us)

## ENCOURAGE FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO JOIN

It is important that Railfuture has a large and diverse a membership as possible. Please encourage others to join. Details at [www.railfuture.org.uk/join](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/join).

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*Our mission is to be the number one advocate for the railway and rail users*