

## 21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF RAILFUTURE LTD

**Priory Rooms: 40 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF  
(held in Main Meeting Room) on Saturday 4 July 2026, starting at 11.00  
(Registration from 10.00, free refreshments from 10.30)**

Railfuture has chosen Birmingham for this year's AGM because the Camp Hill Line will be reopening to passengers in spring 2026 and this will be a chance for members to travel on it. The two extensions to the West Midlands Metro are delayed, unfortunately, with the route to Dudley opening in late August. The venue is a 10-minute walk from the Birmingham New Street station, and similar from Moor Street and Snow Hill stations. The Bull Street tram stop is immediately outside the entrance to the venue. A map (taken from Google Maps) of central Birmingham, showing the location of the venue is on page 3.

The Priory Rooms Meeting and Conference Centre has been used by Railfuture on several occasions, including our 2016 conference and the 2021 AGM. Tea and coffee are self-service and available throughout the day. Railfuture will not be offering lunch as there are plenty of places to eat and buy food nearby. Please do not consume your own food inside the venue.

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.

This year we aim to make the event less of a formal company business meeting and more like an interactive members' meeting. The morning session will include a discussion forum on how Railfuture can get more members involved to respond and adapt to a changing world, where the government has no spare money. This is a chance for you to share your opinions.

In the afternoon we will have a 'roving mike' question and answer session. This worked well at the 2022 AGM in Bristol so we would like to try it again, giving you the chance to put any question you like to directors, including on rail reform and Railfuture policy and campaigning.

There will also be one guest speaker in the afternoon. Phil Smart (pictured right), the Regional Policy Manager of the Rail Freight Group (and a member of Railfuture) will speak on the advantages of rail freight, what rail freight needs to grow, some of the things it is up against, a catch-up on 'rail reform', and other developments in the rail freight industry.



This will be followed by a discussion with Q&A led by Ian Brown CBE, the Railfuture Policy Director.

We are planning to provide remote viewing of the AGM via Zoom. This can be technically tricky to manage, and we cannot guarantee the quality; there is a very small risk of total failure. We expect there will be an opportunity for those watching remotely to submit questions (via chat). Although the Articles of Association now allow remote voting, it has not been arranged at the time of writing. It is important to use your proxy votes or attend in person if you wish to take an active part.

*The AGM is expensive to stage (both for room hire and complimentary refreshments). Please advise us of whether you will or will not attend. It is not binding, and you can change your mind, but it is helpful to know.*

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Twenty-First Annual General Meeting of **Railfuture Limited** will be held at **11.00** on **Saturday 4 July 2026** at **Priory Rooms, 40 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF**

**AGENDA (REVISED IN JUNE 2026 TO GIVE TIME FOR FOUR MOTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED)**

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

**11.00-12.20 AGM Formal Business** (currently paid-up members and proxies only)

1. Welcome (with apologies for absence)
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 read and approve the minutes of the 20th Annual General Meeting of Railfuture Limited held on Saturday 5 July 2025 in Newcastle — [www.railfuture.org.uk/display4287](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/display4287) (public version) or log into Self-Care on the website using your Railfuture number and PIN to view full version
4. Matters arising from the minutes
5. National Chair's report (Chris Page)
6. To receive the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2025 (Jerry Alderson, outgoing Director of Finance & IT and Barry Pierce, Management Accountant)  
The Independent Examiner's report is contained within the summarised and full accounts
7. Re-appointment of the Independent Examiner (Xeinadin, based in North Somerset)
8. To record that there was no ballot for Board Directors as the number of candidates matched the number of retiring directors
9. Appointment of Honorary President and Vice-Presidents
10. Motions from members – see [www.railfuture.org.uk/display4392](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/display4392)
11. Chair – review of the meeting and campaign priorities for the year ahead

By Order of the Board, Date 02/03/2026, Trevor Davies, Company Secretary

Correspondence address: 3 Chandos Court, Martlesham, Suffolk IP12 4SU

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

**12.10-12.20 Member of the Year 2025** – Award organised by Wendy Thorne subject to nominations having been received by 1 June (send to [wendy.thorne@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:wendy.thorne@railfuture.org.uk)).

**12.20-13.20 Lunch** — We are not providing lunch. Please make your own arrangements and consume your food outside the building.

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

1. Introduction by Christian Wolmar, Honorary President
2. Discussion forum, chaired by Ian Brown with roving mic questions and answers
3. Guest speaker:
  - o Phil Smart, Regional Policy Manager, Rail Freight Group

**15.10 Close**

Meet at Bull Street tram stop before 15.30 to take a tram to the Wednesbury Tram Depot for a guided tour, return by 18.00. Attendance strictly limited to 20 members – initially chosen by ballot, with some places not taken. Alternatively, some members may choose to travel on the Camp Hill line afterwards.

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Railfuture held a reception for MPs in the House of Commons on 5 February 2026 to launch our discussion paper 'A Growth Opportunity for Railways'. Great British Railways must be set up to achieve growth through long-term modal shift. See [www.railfuture.org.uk/article1925#threadId540](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/article1925#threadId540)

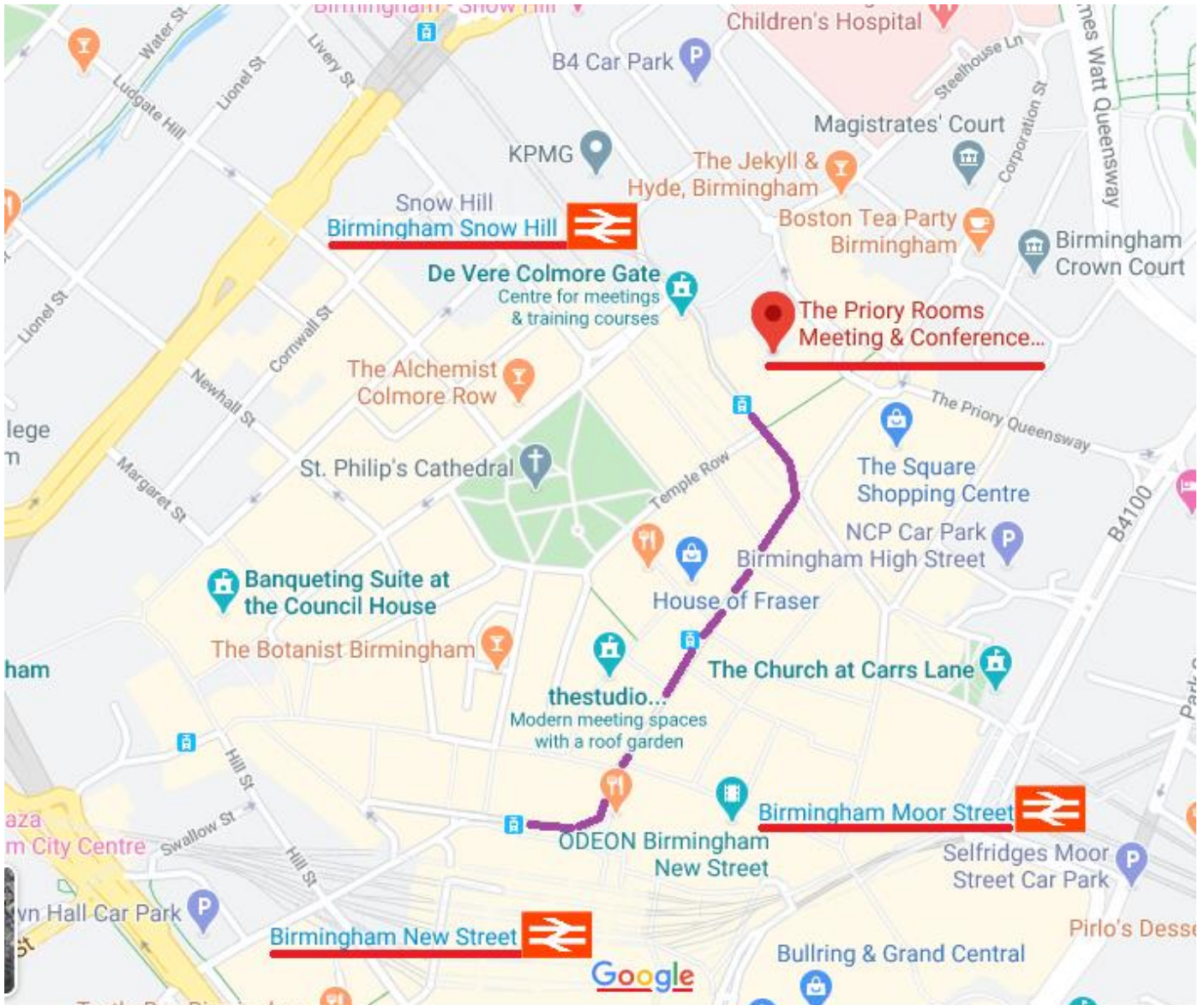
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*Our mission is to be the number one advocate for the railway and rail users*

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Registered Office: Edinburgh House, 1-5 Bellevue Road, Clevedon, North Somerset BS21 7NP (for legal correspondence only)  
All other correspondence to 3 Chandos Court, Martlesham, Suffolk IP12 4SU

## **Location of Priory Rooms: 40 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF**

The map below shows that the venue is close to the Bull Street tram stop. If walking from New Street station, it may be easiest just to following the tram line (heading in the Wolverhampton direction).



More information can be found at [www.railfuture.org.uk/conferences/](http://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 **3 Chandos Court, Martlesham, Suffolk IP12 4SU**

## **AGM PACK INCLUDED WITH RAILWATCH / SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS**

In addition to this four-page notice you should have received a two-page form including attendance response (page 1) and proxy voting form (page 2) – both can be completed online (you can repeat this if your intentions change). Please do register if you plan to attend (or to give your apologies).

The 2025 accounts have been prepared and are now with the Independent Examiner, after which the directors will approve them. If we have a valid email address for you, then we send the accounts by email, probably in May. Otherwise, you should receive the four-page summarised accounts in June with the July 2026 issue of Railwatch. From April the summarised accounts can be viewed on the website at [www.railfuture.org.uk/display4289](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/display4289) with the full 'statutory' accounts that are sent to Companies House at [www.railfuture.org.uk/display4290](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/display4290).

**Photographs:** Railfuture has an official AGM photographer 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. Anyone showing their face on Zoom is deemed to have given consent.

**Literature:** only literature from Railfuture (and invited guests) may be displayed in or around the venue.

# AGM MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS

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 the **Chair**, at [chris.page@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:chris.page@railfuture.org.uk) or by post to **Chris Page** at 'Clara Vale', Thibet Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 9AR to arrive by **20 June 2026** 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.

## ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD

The directors are disappointed that only two new candidates (including one previously co-opted) chose to stand for election this year. Only one (Owen O'Neill) of the three retiring directors has stood again this year. Jerry Alderson (after 21 years in office) and Pete Myers decided not to stand. With only three nominations there will not be an election this year. Members with suitable skills and experience are encouraged to consider standing next year (with possible co-option this 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.

In the interests of openness, the election statements of the three candidates who stood can be read on the website at <http://www.railfuture.org.uk/display4291>. This document lists the current directors and also explains their responsibilities.

## MISSING OUT ON RAILFUTURE NEWS? USE EMAIL?

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

## RAILFUTURE NEEDS YOUR 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 details 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).

## RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY DIRECT DEBIT

In 2022 Railfuture introduced direct debits (using GoCardless) to manage payments. It has been both successful and popular. More information about how it works can be read at [www.railfuture.org.uk/renewal/](http://www.railfuture.org.uk/renewal/). To switch please email Lloyd Butler at [renewals@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:renewals@railfuture.org.uk).