



East Anglia Branch Annual General Meeting

Friends Meeting House,
St. John's Street, Bury St. Edmunds
Saturday 26th February 2022

Railfuture - Campaigning for a bigger and better railway in Britain

www.railfuture.org.uk

Twitter: @Railfuture / @RailfutureEA

info@railfuture.org.uk
eastanglia@railfuture.org.uk

Railfuture East Anglia AGM 26.02.2022

railfuture

2022 East Anglia Branch AGM - Agenda

1. Chair to welcome attendees
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of 2021 AGM (and any matters arising not covered elsewhere)
4. Branch Annual Report from the Chair
5. Branch Financial Report
6. Railfuture National Update
7. Election of Branch officers and Committee
8. Other items of Business notified to the Secretary
9. Date and venue of 2023 AGM and next meetings
10. (following break) Presentation by visiting speaker

Note: as the branch is part of Railfuture Ltd, which is the legal entity, branch AGMs are primarily to inform members of branch activities and to elect the committee to serve them.

Item 3. Minutes of AGM 25th July 2021

1. *Nick Dibben welcomed members to the meeting*
2. *Chair (ND) referred to the 50th anniversary of the branch which would focus on using a grant from National funds to commission a study on Future Railway Development in East Anglia*
3. *National Report given by Jerry Alderson who referred to the national review of fare structure and 'flexible' season tickets*
4. *Treasurers Report (read out by JA) was accepted and treasurer given approval to re-appoint an examiner (if required)*
5. *Update on main branch activities. ND covered East West Rail, Soham, Haverhill, Wisbech, Long Stratton, timetable changes and Station improvements.*
6. *Apologies from P Hollinghurst, P Smart and M Farahar*
7. *Presentation by Alan Neville of Greater Anglia*
8. *Minutes of 2020 AGM were approved*

Item 3. Minutes of AGM 25th July 2021 cont.

9. *Election of Branch Officers from July 2021 to February 2022.*

Chair: Nick Dibben

Vice Chairs: Peter Wakefield & Chris Burton

Secretary: Paul Hollinghurst,

Treasurer: Mike Farahar,

Membership: Peter Bayless,

Committee: messers Alderson, Chivall, Cooper, Couzens, Henderson, Mayes, Smart & Walsh

10. *Next Railfuture East Anglia branch AGM set for 26th February 2022*

Item 4. Annual Report from the Branch Chair

Nick Dibben

Difficult to define 2021 – impact of Covid during the year and long term is still unclear. Patronage was coming back – then Omicron variant set back. Despite Covid – there were plenty of positive developments, although many had caveats:

1. Soham station opened in December last year – a long-term Railfuture campaign – concerns over the cost
2. Cost is also affecting progress on the Wisbech re-opening – need to scale back the £200m to something similar to the Oakhampton re-opening (£40m)
3. Next new station – that at Cambridge South – public examination held during February 2022 – no outright opposition – local details to be agreed
4. East-West progress – construction started on the Bicester – Bletchley section – new stations at Winslow and Bletchley flyover well underway. Branch also involved in consultation on the Bedford to Cambridge section. Hope Government will continue to fund the scheme. Only disappointment is the lack of electrification
5. The change in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) Mayor last May saw the immediate cancellation of the Cambridge Autonomous Metro – opportunity for rail options to be considered – Branch has put in a Restore Your Railway bid for the Haverhill re-opening. Although not accepted in current funding bit it has not been rejected. DfT made suggestions for taking it forward
6. Moving forward – little progress on Great British Railways (GBR) set up, uncertain funding – climate change and the need for modal shift unchanged
7. However, passenger numbers have been increasing and there are several new freight flows around the country, including short runs showing from ports

Item 7. Railfuture East Anglia Committee

2022/23

Position (current)

Chair	Nick Dibben	Committee	Peter Chivall
Vice Chair	Chris Burton	“	Martin Cooper
Vice Chair	Peter Wakefield	“	Ian Couzens
Secretary	Paul Hollinghurst	“	Peter Feeney
Treasurer	Post no longer required	“	Alan Mayes
Committee	Jerry Alderson	“	Phil Smart
“	Peter Bayless	“	Ben Walsh

Item 9. Next Railfuture East Anglia Meetings

25 June 2022 at 14:00

St. Mary at Stoke Church Hall
Stoke Street
Ipswich IP2 8BX

Speaker: TBA

24 Sept 2022 at 14:00

Friends Meeting House
Upper Goat Lane
Norwich NR2 1EW

Speaker: TBA

See www.railfuture.org.uk/east/meetings/ for meeting flier

Item 9. Date of East Anglia Branch 2023 AGM

Saturday 25th February 14:00

Friends Meeting House
St John's Street
Bury St. Edmunds
IP33 1SJ



10. The East Anglia Rail Strategy

A Railfuture-JRC
collaboration

Jonathan Roberts
of JR Consulting
www.jrc.org.uk



Jonathan has been commissioned by Railfuture East Anglia to conduct research into the transport needs over the next 30 years, and identify where rail would be strongest. This will enable Railfuture to feed evidence into public consultations to call for improvements in rail services and upgrades to rail infrastructure.

He will complete his work by August 2022. He gave a presentation of his interim results.

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