



# East Anglia Branch Summer Meeting

**St. Mary at Stoke Church Hall**

**Stoke Street, Ipswich**

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

# Guest Speaker

**Roger  
Blake**

**Railfuture Director**  
Responsible for its  
Infrastructure &  
Networks Group



## The 'need for rail' in meeting housing growth in Essex



# Railfuture East Anglia Branch “Easy Stations” Survey 2019

## An update on progress

# Railfuture's "Easy Stations" Survey

- 86 stations covered so far – aim to do 100
  - Station lists shown on next slides are sample list
- Criteria
  - Getting to the station
  - Station and platforms
  - Staffed station facilities
  - Additional features
- Not just a railway tick box survey
  - Includes gardens and public art
- Total scores calculated using a formula
  - Work has shown that newest stations not necessary the best!
  - Worrying as implies passengers not the priority when designing

# Large stations in East Anglia branch area

Railfuture's definition: Over 1m passengers per year

- Audley End
  - Cambridge
  - Ely
  - Huntingdon
  - Ipswich
  - King's Lynn
  - Letchworth
- This list will increase over time e.g. Cambridge North's predicted 800,000 annual figure will be exceeded by 2021

# Medium stations in East Anglia branch area

## Staffed stations

- Bury St Edmunds
- Cambridge North
- Downham Market
- Elsenham
- March
- Marks Tey
- Sandy

# Smaller stations in East Anglia branch area

## Unstaffed/minimally staffed stations

- Beccles
- Frinton
- Halesworth
- Harwich International
- Lingwood
- Newmarket
- Wickham Market

# “Easy Stations” Survey - Next steps

## ■ Fill in gaps

- ☐ Arlesey
- ☐ Hythe
- ☐ Stansted Airport
- ☐ Sheringham
- ☐ North Walsham

## ■ Verify results

## ■ Write report – autumn 2019

- ☐ Will be sent to stakeholders – train operators and local authorities
- ☐ Available on Railfuture website; article in RAIL EAST (Nov 2019)

## ■ Announce awards – 7 December 2019

- ☐ Presented to train operators at Railfuture meeting in Cambridge





# Update on rail schemes in East Anglia

- ☐ Felixstowe Line upgrade (Phil Smart)
- ☐ East West Rail (Phil Smart)

# Felixstowe line - Trimley loop in March 2019

New track laid. New crossover not yet connected



# Trimley Loop June 2019

## ■ New Line Opened

- ❑ One track for freight (left)
- ❑ One track for passenger (right)
- ❑ Old Crossover dismantled
- ❑ Second crossover in distance
- ❑ Ability to refuge a second train





# Trimley Loop June 2019

New Footbridge replaces user worked crossings





# Westerfield June 2019





# Westerfield – ‘Hostile Stations’ nomination?



# East West Rail Update

- Consortium met on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- Western Section (Bicester to Bletchley on to Bedford)
  - TWA inspector's report submission to Sec of State end July 2019
  - Compounds set up 2020 (to 2026)
  - Construction should be complete 2024
- Central Section (Bedford to Cambridge)
  - Approx. 3,000 responses to route consultation – still under consideration (responses to be published by yr. end)
  - Much discussion in railway press about Electrification of East West
  - £500k per single-track km (c£50m) only 2.5% of cost
  - Route option cost range of £2.0bn to £3.4bn only becomes £2.05bn to £3.49bn! Decision 'by end of 2019'
- Freight study (Jacobs) to be published in July 2019

# Railfuture diary 2019/2020

## ■ Dates of future East Anglia branch meetings

❑ **28<sup>th</sup> September 2019** – Norwich

- Guest speaker: HUW EDWARDS, NETWORK RAIL

❑ **7<sup>th</sup> December 2019** – Cambridge

❑ **29<sup>th</sup> February 2020** – AGM Bury St Edmunds

❑ **20<sup>th</sup> June 2020** – Ipswich

❑ **26<sup>th</sup> September 2020** – Norwich

## ■ Railfuture National Events

❑ Railfuture Ltd AGM - 27<sup>th</sup> June 2020 - Birmingham