

## Over a Hundred and Twenty at Railfuture Shrewsbury Meeting.



Railfuture West Midlands Branch hosted an Open Meeting at the Gateway Centre, Shrewsbury on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October to explore the question **“Shropshire Rail -the Forgotten County”** which was attended by over one hundred and twenty persons including, Peter Nutting, Leader of Shropshire Council, the Transport & Economy portfolio holders of Shropshire CC , Telford & Wrekin and Powys Councils and several other county, town and parish councillors, as well as all the rail user groups covering the lines radiating from Shrewsbury and various residents' and community groups

Recognising that Shrewsbury is the major interchange station for rail services to and from South, West and North Wales, Cheshire, the West Midlands and London Railfuture West Midlands had invited the following to speak: -  
Daniel Kawczynski - MP for Shrewsbury & Atcham,  
Lee Robinson – North Wales Development Director, Transport for Wales-Rail,  
Peter Sargent - Head of Rail Development, West Midlands Rail Executive and  
Ced Green - Secretary of North Cheshire Rail Users Association.

After hearing their short presentations there was a ninety minute Question and Answer session where passengers and rail user groups asked challenging questions of the speakers and Peter Nutting on future plans and services.

That day the Shropshire Star front page was on the changes to the first off peak service to Chester from Shrewsbury in December which would no longer stop at the second busiest station on the line and thus leave a two-hour gap in the service. Much concern not only on the changes but that there had been no promised consultation from Transport for Wales.

The event was so successful that requests were made for a repeat event in 2020.

A full report on the Event will be published online as soon as the Secretary Railfuture West Midlands has time to precis the three hours of discussions and presentations.