

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

The 15th Annual General Meeting of
Raillfuture Limited
will be held at

**Sport Wales National Centre, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff CF11 9SW
on Saturday 18 May 2019, starting at 11.00**

(Registration and free refreshments from 10.00 onwards – we are in the Bute Suite)

Sport Wales National Centre <http://www.sportwales-nationalcentre.org.uk> phone 0300 300 3123 (for general enquiries) in Cardiff is approximately a 20-minute walk along the riverside from Cardiff Central railway station. A walking route map is shown on page 2. The venue has a café and restaurant as well as bedrooms available on a bed & breakfast basis (please contact Denise Nicholas on 029 2033 8231).

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 lapsed members and no payments taken on the door.

A buffet lunch will be provided in the Sophia Suite. This must be booked and paid for in advance.

AFTERNOON GUEST SPEAKERS



Raillfuture is pleased to welcome two speakers for the afternoon session, which will be open to the public.

LEFT: **Colin Lea**, Commercial and Customer Experience Director, Transport for Wales Rail (the new franchise operator in Wales)

RIGHT: **Professor Mark Barry**, Professor of Practice in Connectivity at Cardiff University



AGM AND BOARD ELECTION INSERTS INCLUDED WITH RAILWATCH

In addition to this four-page notice you should have received the following:

- Two-page feedback form including proxy voting (page 1) and attendance form (page 2) – both can be completed online
- Four-page election statements – there are six candidates standing for the Board of Directors
- Two-page ballot paper – first page explains how to complete it. Voting can be completed online instead
- Four-page summarised Annual Accounts for 2018. This contains most of the information that is in the longer accounts sent to Companies House (a link to this is provided in the summarised accounts).

Please note: the election is managed by the Electoral Returning Officer, Chris Bates. He should only be sent election correspondence. All other correspondence should go to the Company Secretary, Lloyd Butler, at **24 Chedworth Place, Tattingstone, Suffolk IP9 2ND** or lloyd.butler@raillfuture.org.uk.

Photographs: Raillfuture 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 Raillfuture's own literature is to be displayed in or around the AGM venue.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fifteenth Annual General Meeting of **Railfuture Limited** will be held at **11.00** on **Saturday 18 May 2019** at **Sport Wales National Centre, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff CF11 9SW**

AGENDA

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

11.00 Morning session (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 downloaded at www.railfuture.org.uk/DL1216
3. To read and approve the minutes of the 14th Annual General Meeting of Railfuture Limited held on Saturday 12 May 2018 - www.railfuture.org.uk/DL1722
4. Matters arising from the minutes
5. Honorary President's address (Christian Wolmar)
6. National Chair's report (Chris Page)
7. To receive the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2018 (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
8. Re-appointment of the Independent Examiner (Newsham Hanson, based in North Somerset)
9. To note the results of the election ballot for Directors (Chris Bates, Electoral Returning Officer)
10. Thanks to those retiring from office and welcome to those taking office
11. Appointment of Honorary President and Vice-presidents
12. Motion proposed by the Board of Directors to increase membership subscription fees, followed by other motions received or statement from Motions Committee
13. Chair – review of the meeting and looking forward to the year ahead.
14. Railfuture presentation – Membership Director (Wendy Thorne)
15. Presentation of 'Campaigner of the Year' Award by Honorary President Christian Wolmar

By Order of the Board,

Date 04/03/2019, Lloyd Butler, Company Secretary
24 Chedworth Place, Tattingstone, Suffolk IP9 2ND

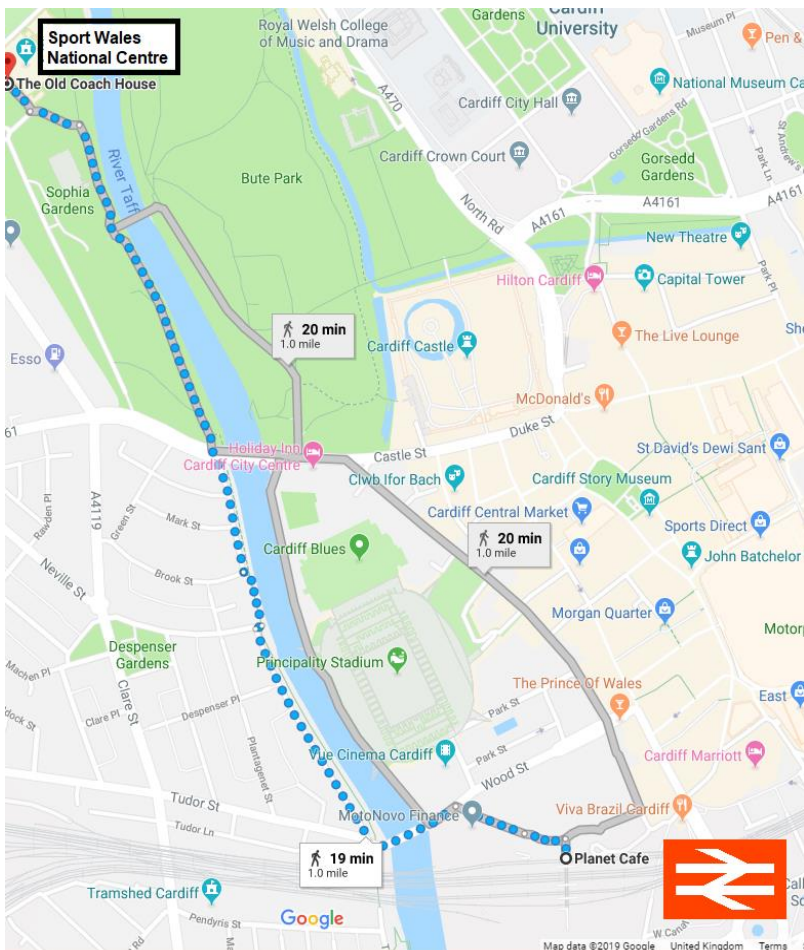
12.45 – 13.30 Lunch A pre-paid buffet lunch will be served in the Sophia Suite

13.30 Afternoon Session (open to the public)

1. Welcome
2. Presentation by Colin Lea, Commercial and Customer Experience Director, Transport for Wales Rail (the new franchise operator in Wales) covering the franchise procurement from both Transport for Wales and the successful bidder's point of view.
3. Presentation by Professor Mark Barry, Professor of Practice in Connectivity at Cardiff University covering how to develop an urban conurbation transport strategy with a significant rail element.
4. Member participation workshop sessions – delegates will be split into groups to discuss lessons learned from the process used in Wales for awarding the franchise and how these might be used for future campaigning in England and Scotland. The groups may cover topics such as:
 - Affordable electrification (taking a cue from the proposals for the Core Valleys network)
 - Vertical integration (of trains and infrastructure): pros and cons: again the Core Valleys franchise proposal provides the starting point
 - Developing an urban conurbation transport rail strategy
 - Influencing franchise bids.

A feedback session will round off the day.

15.30 Thanks and closing remarks



DIRECTIONS

The dotted route on the map shows the simplest walking route between Cardiff Central Station and Sport Wales (ignore references to Planet Café and The Old Coach House). It is one mile long and takes about twenty minutes.

Leaving the station, turn left and walk between buildings marked 'One Central Square' on the left and 'Cardiff University' on the right. At Wood Street (not signed here) turn left and cross the River Taff. Immediately turn right, crossing Wood Street at the signalled crossing onto the path between the river and Fitzhamon Embankment (not signed here). There is a brown sign before the crossing showing 'Taff Tail (8)'. Note that the rest of the route is also a cycle path. Follow this path with the river on your right (the Millennium Stadium can be seen across the river). When the road turns away left at the Nos Da hostel, continue following the path alongside the river.

At Brook Street (signed), continue to follow the river on the footway with a wall on your right. Do NOT take the path on the other side of the wall - this can be extremely muddy further on. Coldstream Terrace (not signed at this point) is the road on your left.

At the end of Coldstream Terrace, cross the dual Carriageway - Cowbridge Road East (signed) at the signalled crossing and follow the path into the park, still staying alongside the river. There is a sign, among other things pointing to the Institute of Sport, your destination.

Pass a cream and red bridge (there is a café just over this bridge) staying on the path, with the river to the right. After about 170 yards take the path down a slope to the left. This is signed to Victoria Park and Fairwater but is partly obscured by paint. At the end of the path go straight on with the building to your right. This is Sport Wales, your destination.

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

MOTION FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Railfuture's membership subscription rates have not increased for 12 years despite rising costs. In this time membership numbers have declined and the majority of members now pay the pensioner concessionary rate of £14. This rate barely covers the costs of printing and postage to the member. The company makes an operational loss each year. Campaigning has been funded by donations and some substantial legacies. However, there were no legacies in 2018, during which the company made a loss of around £6 per member. Although cash reserves are currently healthy these are being used up and will continue to be at an increasing rate as the membership ages; with fewer members volunteering more of our work must be paid for. This is unsustainable.

The directors ask members to approve (either at the AGM or using the enclosed proxy form) an increase in the individual member rates to **£20**. (£22 joint) with Rail User Groups (and similar) rising to £25. We need young members so the student rate will remain at £14 but widened to anyone under 26. Rates would increase on 1 July 2019 but anyone who renews up to 30 June 2020 can do so at the existing rate if they pay for the second year at the same time. Part of the extra income will be used to make improvements to our magazine Railwatch.

AGM MOTIONS

The AGM is an opportunity to discuss and assess what we have done over the past 12 months. You may therefore comment on, or raise questions about, the reports submitted. If the question is a very detailed one, it would be best to submit it in advance, in writing.

The AGM is also an occasion 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 or by post to **Clara Vale, Thibet Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 9AR**. to arrive by **4 May 2019** with the signature of the proposer and seconder, who must both be current members. They should be in typed format. For legal reasons 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 11:00 on the day. You should also check the policy folders on our website, which set out our existing policies – see <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Policy>.

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Visit www.railfuture.org.uk/conferences for details of Railfuture's upcoming Annual National Conference and to book online using your credit/debit card or PayPal account using PayPal's payment service. More than 60% of attendees at Railfuture's conferences now book online.

A regional conference will be held in Darlington on Saturday 22 June 2019. **£12.50** 'early bird' for members if booked by 30 April, otherwise £15. This includes lunch and refreshments – a bargain!

Railfuture will be holding its first Annual National Conference on Saturday 21 September 2019 at St Michaels Church Venue, Stoke Gifford, Bristol. Book for **£20** 'early bird' (by 31 July - £25 after).

WE NEED HELP

We need more active volunteers. We need help with social media, event management, finance, marketing, editorial/design, video making, IT (PowerPoint and PhotoShop) and much more. We would like someone to take over the Monthly Lottery from Lloyd Butler – it is simple to manage.

Lloyd Butler manages our skills register – if you can help in any way then please email him: lloyd.butler@railfuture.org.uk or to discuss in more detail email our Membership Director Wendy Thorne: wendy.thorne@railfuture.org.uk

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