

REPORT TO SHEVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL POLICY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE APRIL 5th 2018

CHANGES TO THE RAIL TIMETABLE 2018-SOUTHPORT TO MANCHESTER

I have now received the following information from Ormskirk, Preston and Southport Travellers Association.(OPSTA)

Wigan-Southport

The current service is dreadful with consistently poor punctuality, many cancellations, short forming of trains and disruption of services for overrunning improvement works and as we feared the plan is to withdraw our Southport-Airport replaced with a Stalybridge-Wigan North Western -Alderley Edge service pattern.

There will be just two morning services from Southport, departing 06.17 and 7.17 to Alderley Edge via Piccadilly on 21/4/18 three return services in the evening ‘
-17.19 departure from Piccadilly will not call at Oxford Road but call at Deansgate.
-18.18 departure from Piccadilly will call at Oxford Road but will not call at Deansgate.
-21.27 departure from Piccadilly’

All other services will go through Victoria to and from Leeds and Blackburn. There will be two services from Southport to Victoria departing Southport between 06.30 and 07.00.

All services will call at Gathurst and Meols Cop.

On Sundays there will be one train per hour to/from Blackburn via Victoria.

There is no reason to withdraw our services this year.

But is this is what we get in May we have already made the case for restoration of a full 7 day Piccadilly service without detriment to the Victoria services.

The major concern is that even if we get DfT approval Northern promises further but have no concept of a way forward for our services and worse have no resource or capacity to develop a workable timetable which is undoubtedly feasible and arguably without additional trains.

Northern anticipate getting some bi-mode(769) trains in the Summer but don't know “given the technical” issues.

The full May timetable will be published online on and around April 7th.

RECOMMENDATION

That Northern are informed that the withdrawal of links to Piccadilly and the Airport in May are regretted and that we support OPSTA's case for the restoration of a full 7

Appendix B

day Piccadilly service. We also feel that any timetable changes should be postponed until at least December 2018.

Barry King
March 24th 2018