



The Abbey Flyer Newsletter

The Abbey Flyer Users' Group.

Abfly/CRP to 'green' the Abbey

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Following discussions, Abfly and the CRP agreed to work towards a scheme to 'green' the Abbey station forecourt.

So we set to work, meeting on site, clearing the forecourt of excess litter, and drawing up plans for improving the station approaches and arranging estimates, etc.



The full scheme may take up to 3 years, but is phased, low cost and low maintenance, using small conifers to line the approaches.

The dead bramble will gradually be removed to create a simple remembrance garden, and footpaths and screen planting added, to help offset the carbon emissions of cars using the station.

If successful, it could be used as a model for other CRP stations in due course.

Breaking News

A new type of bus service will start on 2nd April, linking Watford, Watford Junction, Asda, Garston station and Leavesden.

The new 346 service will run half hourly weekdays, with low floor midibuses, and be run by Metroline. This will provide new links in the area, to and from Asda, but won't serve Watford North. The service will also run on Good Friday.

Abfly meets the Franchisees

Abfly and the Community Rail Partnership have now held initial meetings with the 2 potential franchisees of the West Midlands Franchise.

The final decision will be announced in July and the new franchise will start on 11th November 2007.

We will keep you updated on progress in forthcoming issues, and upon plans for the new franchise.

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The Abfly Annual General Meeting will be held at the St. Stephens Parish Centre on Tuesday the 1st May at 7pm for 7.30pm start. The meeting will feature a presentation from James Carter of Herts Highways on the Watford Junction station redevelopment. James Elliot of Silverlink and Alisha Ede, the new CRP officer, will also be in attendance.

General News Round Up



Emergency health services are being moved to Watford, affecting future healthcare in St. Albans and Hemel.

An exhibition was held at Clarendon Road in January for the Watford Junction redevelopment, and Abfly members attended.

The model rail exhibition was held in St. Albans on the 13/14th January, but affected by city centre road closures.

The DfT plans to limit main line stops at Watford Junction by late 2008. Consultation continues, but this would affect Virgin connections.

Network Rail have cut back foliage along the line recently after several trees were blown down by storms.

The 'Easter Egg-press' will be running again this Easter Saturday – see local station posters for full details.