

# **Sampford Courtenay Parish Council**

## **Dartmoor Line Working Group – Re-opening of Sampford Courtenay Station – Terms of Reference**

Working parties or 'task-and-finish' groups are occasionally set up for a short-term purpose. They are not subject to the strict rules that apply to formal council meetings and do not need to be held in public. A working party cannot make a decision on behalf of the council, but they can explore options and present these to the council for a decision. This is an excellent means of involving others, particularly young people, in council work.

### **Background:**

This working group will coordinate views and actions from councillors and parishioners of SC together with Councillors and members of the surrounding communities. The aim of the working group will be to ensure that the opportunity for Sampford Courtenay Station to reopen becomes a reality.

The Parish Council will review the terms of reference as necessary and, in any case, whenever the function and/or status of the working group changes.

The working group will undertake practical tasks and has the authority to recruit working group members beyond the Parish Council from within the local community. The group will meet at least bimonthly and at more regular intervals if progress necessitates it and provide a progress report to the next available Parish Council Meeting.

### **Suggested Terms of Group:**

1. To comply with the Parish Council's Standing Orders and Code of Conduct.
2. To bring together the work to date on and investigate/review further the reason why Sampford Courtenay Station will not be opened as part of Phase 1 of the Dartmoor Line re-opening
3. Establish and maintain meaningful engagement with the respective Government bodies, franchisees and other rail development organisations to ensure opportunity exists to apply and maintain strong pressure on our to ensure our local station is reopened as soon as possible, and that the service frequency and timings are useful and promotion and pricing issues (fares and even car parking) are effective and attractive
4. To undertake relevant consultation locally, (eg Public survey via Roundabout) to gather evidence and ascertain the number of passengers likely to use the rail service to and from SC Station). Engage with Local and County Council representatives and nationally to obtain views and increase knowledge of options and requirements to support our aim
5. that Work jointly with NWR to undertake a feasibility study for the opening of SC Station as part of the next phase to achieving regular and useful service stops

6. To gain a clear understanding of the project costs for up-grading the station to meet current national standards and Health & Safety Regulations and investigate where funding for this could be obtained.
7. To manage correspondence related to the station and to maintain records of action, correspondence and meetings of the working group.
8. Work with the local transport providers to ensure an increased public transport network is created that ties into the train schedules improving accessibility for those in rural area's as well as supporting the use of the Dartmoor Line.