

BRTA Northampton Forum and Public Meeting –

Saturday 9 November 2024 2pm - 4pm business,

Venue: The Emmeline Davis Room (upstairs), Northampton Quaker Meeting House, Wellington St, Northampton NN1 3AS
<https://northamptonshirequakers.org/> Note, parking is limited!

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. **Mike Reader MP, Northampton South**, a few words of introduction, being in government, transport, and local issues, followed by Q&A.
3. **Update on N2MH* by Professor Andrew N. Williams** followed by discussion and the next steps N2MH Project
4. **Local Plans (Simon Barber)** and what they said on rail generally and specifically.
5. Bedford-Northampton – is there any hope?
 - a. Ransome Road: Has development curtailed 25KV access to Northampton?
 - b. Do we agree the new-build route from Great Houghton-Stevington Walk via Yardley Hastings, A509/A428 Roundabout vicinity and tunnel under Lavendon/bypass it? It needs an updated study and collaboration with other councils and agencies. Does it make any sense to block the access into **Northampton Castle Station*** or to go south, change at Bletchley to come east to get to Bedford and Cambridge/East Anglia by rail, when Bedford-Northampton enables direct 35-minute transit to Bedford studies have shown. That is sustainable footfall for **Northampton/regeneration!**
6. Station Stall at Northampton plus other outlets/Umbrella Fair reports/volunteers/helpers needed.
7. Local Elections 2025
8. Roade Station scope
9. Any Other Business
10. Day, Date, Time, and Place of Next Meeting: Suggested 1st or 2nd Saturday in April 2025 at **Market Harborough Methodist Hall** with Cllr James? Maybe their local MP as a front-line speaker also and someone from the **Harborough District Council** plans?

Notes:

1. BRTA personnel will meet at The Cordwainer, The Ridings, Northampton, NN1 2AQ

Venue Website: <https://www.jdwetherspoon.com/pubs/all-pubs/england/northamptonshire/the-cordwainer-northampton>

Venue Phone: 01604 -609000 For lunch at 12 Noon, proceeding to set up the room at 1pm for a 2pm start.

2. No eating at the venue.

3. For further information please contact Simon Barber, 20 Fitzherbert House, Kingsmead, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6HT

Email address: simon4barber@gmail.com

Phone (landline): 020-8940-4399

Phone (mobile): 07522-374740

4. Please bring some cash to BRTA events and stalls so you can join, peruse our second-hand books and magazines, or donate.

5. *N2MH stands for Northampton to Market Harborough Rail Link Project! Northampton to Leicester/East Midlands and vice versa in just 35 minutes end-to-end time.

6. These timings are approximate and agenda subject to review.

7. BRTA wants political and council support as well as that of the public. These projects are not just a 'local' matter, they have regional significance.

8. **Northampton Castle Station** needs more tracks for through freight and platform access for more trains to call at Northampton. Say a 10-year time-frame, it needs planning now as per any additional satellite stations like North of Northampton and **Roads Parkway** for example. Latter has a new A508 bypass, but no rail access, despite being at the gateway to the 2 lines northwards merging going southwards! Milton Keynes is not a 10-minute drive, Northampton a costly, time-consuming drive to come south by rail! Development is going in without these infrastructures and the result is unsustainability on any front from air quality, public health, and socio-economic performance. These rail links would sustainably help!