



### The Current Situation

Over 600 people have now signed up in support of the ASK campaign. The County Council still supports the station proposal. Our former MP, Andy King, was a strong supporter and our new MP, Jeremy Wright, is sympathetic. During the summer we had stalls at the Kenilworth Show, Lions Show and Leamington Peace Festival. The most frequent comments from the public were: "Where do I sign?" and "They should never have closed the old one".

The next stage? Waiting to see how the Department for Transport (DfT) decides to develop the rail network, once the Strategic Rail Authority (SRA) is wound up (see below).

### Supporters' Meeting

Please make every effort to attend the supporters' meeting, at the Waverley Day centre (Priory Road, Kenilworth), at **7:30pm on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September**. Jeremy Wright MP has kindly agreed to come to the meeting, to hear our case and to talk about his views on the station. We need to persuade him that he should get actively involved in promoting the case for the station with the DfT. A good turnout is essential, so we hope to see you there.

### What was the SRA?

The SRA, which is to be wound up "around the end of 2005", is currently responsible for co-ordinating the regulation and development of Britain's railways. At least, that's its own description of its role. "A to B" magazine recently observed that the SRA was "an organisation that was neither Rail-friendly nor Strategically-minded". The SRA's responsibilities are being transferred to the DfT and Network Rail (which manages the rail infrastructure).

The SRA's attitude to proposed new stations was summed up in its booklet "New Stations – a Guide for Promoters". When you extracted the main arguments, they boiled down to this:

- The SRA could not permit a new station that would attract current customers away from an existing station, because that might undermine the viability of the existing station.
- On the other hand, it could not permit a new station that would attract new rail users, because the network is already near capacity.
- Having said that, it couldn't permit a proposal for a station that was not able to demonstrate sufficient demand from prospective customers.

In other words, it wouldn't matter what sort of a business case you came up with, because you couldn't have a new station! Given that philosophy, it is hugely encouraging that the SRA has now gone on record that Kenilworth is one of five "prime" proposed sites for new stations in the west Midlands. When the SRA is finally wound up, its role will be taken over by the Department for Transport (DfT). We hope that the DfT will take notice of the comment in the Rail Utilisation Strategy and forget about the Station Promoter's Guide.

### The Case for the Station

ASK has produced a summary of the case for Kenilworth station. This essential document is available on the website at [www.kenilworthstation.org.uk](http://www.kenilworthstation.org.uk). (or contact us on the address above for a copy)

### Supporters' Updates

If you have received this update as a hand delivered printed copy, please do let us know if you have an email address we can use in the future – just email [info@kenilworthstation.org.uk](mailto:info@kenilworthstation.org.uk) and this will help us reduce the long task of printing and hand delivering them. Thanks.

### Sign Up New Supporters

In order to reinforce the case for a station, we need to be able to demonstrate the large number of people who support the proposal. We are aiming to get at least 1000 people signed up, and we are well on the way to that target. Please try to get new supporters to sign up. If you know someone who would like to support the campaign, they can complete the form below, or email [info@kenilworthstation.org.uk](mailto:info@kenilworthstation.org.uk).

✂.....  
Please tick as appropriate (this form is for new supporters only; there's no need for existing supporters to register again)

- In my opinion Kenilworth needs a station
- I live in Kenilworth
- I work outside Kenilworth
- I usually travel by car
- I sometimes travel by train
- Please keep me up to date with the campaign

Name:  
Address:  
  
email: