

Passenger Counting Boating Station and Bathampton

Background

Currently if passengers board or are discharged at these locations the number lost or gained is recorded by telephone to the Boating Station or a message left on the answering machine there. This system is cumbersome, expensive and potentially unreliable. It could also be difficult to get an exact count of passengers in the event of an emergency.

It is proposed to test an improved system in 2016 using a text message to a special number. The existing paper slip system at the start of each trip at Pulteney Weir will be retained but if the text message system proves satisfactory it could be extended to this location in the future.

Message Recording

The special telephone number for text messages is <+447797801313>. This should be set up and retained in each driver's mobile phone.

When passengers are discharged or added at each of the two locations a message should be sent in the form <BBspaceSSspace99ON99OFF>.

BB is boat code <AM> = Avon Monarch <S2> = Scenic 2 and <SW> = Sir William Pulteney

SS is Site Code <BS> = Boating Station <BH> = Bathampton.

99 = numbers off or on the vessel.

Example <S2 BS 2ON 3OFF> (Scenic2 at Boating Station 2 on and 3 Off)

No time is necessary as each message is timestamped by the SMS system.

Message Recovery

Messages can be recovered via any Internet connected device such as a PC or Mobile phone at the following website:

<http://www.lavistest.com/LevelSystem/SMSEdit.php>

This link will display approximately the last days messages although approximately more than one months messages are stored on the host system and may be downloaded by other means.

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