



West Somerset Railway Association

**Minutes of the Board Meeting
held at Bishops Lydeard
on Monday 8 April 2019 at 1800**

Present: Jack Baird (JB)
Will Foster (WF)
Geoff Garfield (GG)
John Glover (JSDG)
Mike Lea (ML)
Nigel Power (NP)
Mike Sherwood (MiS)
Robin White (RW)
Paul Whitehouse (PCW) (Chair)

Observer: Mark Smith (MaS)

In Attendance: Jacquie Green

B42/19 Conflicts of Interest

None were declared.

B43/19 Minutes of Meeting of 11 March 2019

We approve these Minutes.

B44/19 Matters Arising (not included elsewhere)

- a. **Norton Fields:** GG reported that a meeting is planned for 10 April.
- b. **Peterborough Crescent Wagon Shed:** RW reported that as the Steam Trust and the Association have approved progressing this she and Chris Austin would be writing a letter to the Plc to seek their approval as well.
- c. **Benefits for Members**
MaS reported that there had been difficulties on these with his colleagues for which he apologised.
- d. **Home Counties Group:** WF reported that he was still waiting to hear from Keith Smith, who had just undergone a kidney transplant.
- e. **Annual Review:** GG reported that this was nearly complete and he hoped to publish it in May.
- f. **[Redacted]**
- g. **Lloyds Bank:** We note that Lloyds Bank has been refusing to accept cheques where the payee is not the full name of the Association. The following Resolution was passed:
The Chairman explained to the meeting the arrangements which had been made with the Company's bankers, Lloyds Bank plc (the "Bank"), whereby the Bank be instructed to collect any credit to any account of the Company credits of whatever nature payable to any of the payees (or their respective trading

names) listed in Section 1 and the Continuation sheet (if applicable). A draft of the indemnity to the Bank was produced to the meeting and approved. It was resolved that any two directors be authorised to sign the indemnity and to advise the Bank of any payee to be added to or deleted from the indemnity from time to time.

B45/19 General Manager's Report

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We hope to introduce envelopes on to trains in the near future. MaS undertook to take the envelope to the next Plc Board meeting for approval. He noted that staff on trains will need to be informed of what the purpose of the collection is, and that the provision of a laminated sheet would greatly assist.

- a. **Conservation Policy:** We confirm the Chairman's decision to approve this policy and adopt it accordingly.
- b. **AGM Arrangements:** We agree that we should run a collection towards infrastructure, as the greatest need and decided to specify bullhead rails. MaS undertook to provide a list of what different donations would purchase (eg, £22 buys a sleeper).

Action MaS(2)

B46/19 Actions against Former Trustees: Shares Claim

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We authorised the Chairman to proceed.

Action PCW

B47/19 Joint Working Progress

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book).

- a. **Quantock House:** We agree to take up the lease on the terms proposed. The Plc has spare cash from giving up its lease and may be able to contribute. MaS also reported that the planning application for change of use will be pursued so that commercial may move. We recognise the substantial reputational risk, MaS and PCW will pursue this with the Steam Trust.

Action PCW & MaS

- b. **Proposed Joint Boards Meeting:** We note that all colleagues hope to attend this meeting on 4 May. We note JDSG's point that the Plc's website contains too much emphasis on fundraising. We ask GG and JB to work on the production of a one page document. We agree to pay for the hire of the hall, provide modest refreshments and request a donation from those attending.

Action GG & JB

B48/19 Requests for Support from Plc

We agreed that identifiable, properly costed projects, on which progress could be regularly reported, were essential to success. We recognised that there may have to be several running at once to allow for the different constituencies of donors (eg those who support locos rather than carriages etc).

B49/19 Community Engagement Officer's Report

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We asked the Future Staffing WG to consider how we could provide a volunteer manager.

We are determined to give our full support to the newly formed Learning and Engagement Committee, and that Robin Wichard needs to be recognised as a significant actor in this

area. We hope that the Boards of the PLC and Steam Trust will do likewise and ask for it to be included in the Agenda for our meeting on 4 May.

Action GG, JSDG, RW

B50/19 Fundraiser's Report

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We agree to exit the Dunster Project gracefully and ask Kate Williams to assist us in this. We note the importance of the Coastal Community Fund and the need for Kate to concentrate on the railway's immediate need for grants which will assist with infrastructure.

Action JB, JAG