



**West Somerset Railway Association
Minutes of the Board Meeting
held at Bishops Lydeard
on Monday 13 May 2019 at 1800**

Present:	Jack Baird (JB) Will Foster (WF) Geoff Garfield (GG) John Glover (JSDG) Mike Sherwood (MikeS) Robin White (RW) Paul Whitehouse (PCW) (Chair)
By Invitation:	Diana Ricketts-Tanner (DRT)
In Attendance:	Jacquie Green (JAG)
Apologies:	Mark Lea Nigel Power Mark Smith

B51/19 Appointment of New Trustee

We agree to co-opt Jack Baird as a Trustee with effect from Saturday 13 April 2019.

B52/19 Conflicts of Interest

None were declared.

B53/19 Minutes of Meeting of 8 April 2019

We approve these Minutes.

B54/19 Matters Arising (not included elsewhere)

- a. **Norton Fields:** GG had yet to meet the developer. JAG and he would work with John Luffman on the planning application to continue the stone trains.
- b. **Peterborough Crescent Wagon Shed:** RW reported that the Plc and Steam Trust have now endorsed the project.
- c. **Home Counties Group:** WF reported that he had now made contact with both remaining members of the group. They had agreed to transfer the balance of their bank account to us on the basis that it would be restricted to their use. We agree to accept this offer. We note that while they do not accept that they are a branch of the Association they use the Association's VAT number on their correspondence.

Action WF

B55/19 Joint Working Progress

- a. **Redacted**
- b. **Joint Boards Meeting – Vision Statement:** We noted this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). GG informed us that SW had agreed his proposed

mission statement with a few tweaks, but that he had not yet heard from Mark Smith:

“WSR: we work together to provide all visitors with an enjoyable experience on a journey celebrating our great railway heritage enabled by the passion of our volunteers.”

We thank DRT for offering to wordsmith this taking account of RW’s comment on community involvement.

Action DRT

[JB joined the meeting]

c. **Volunteer Recruitment:** We noted these reports (for original reports please see the Minute Book).

- ◆ We note that we need formal approval from the Plc Board of our role as the recruiter of volunteers to all parts of the railway.
- ◆ We request that the Plc Board should require all new volunteers to become members of the Association, and actively encourage existing volunteers to join.
- ◆ We ask our chairman to remind the Plc Board of the absolute need for them to arrange for potential volunteers to be welcomed and mentored in every department.
- ◆ In view of the current problems in this area we agree that we shall need to carry out regular audits.
- ◆ We note that Keith Sandford will be able to handle the administrative work associated with this task within his existing hours.
- ◆ We agree to increase Catherine Dance’s hours by 15 hours per week for the next 12 months at an estimated total cost of £11,000.
- ◆ We accept Ian Harrison’s offer to be the strategic lead on this project.

Action JAG, PCW

B56/19 Annual Review

We thanked GG for producing this this excellent production, which will be a substantial aid in our fundraising efforts.

B57/19 Proposed Fundraising Event (Race the Train)

We welcomed this proposal (for original report please see the Minute Book). We welcome this proposal and authorise JB to proceed, although he may need to return for approval of expenditure.

Action JB

B58/19 Representation at Plc Board meetings

By Minute B55/18 we nominated Mike Sherwood as our appointed director on the Plc. He had attended several meetings as an observer, until March 2019 when as he was on leave our Chairman had attended. He had subsequently attended the April 2019 meeting as well. The Chairman of the Plc had requested that our Chairman should continue to attend and we agree that he should so in future.

B59/19 Redacted

B60/19 Quantock Belle Agreement

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We ask MS to progress this as soon as possible and bring a proposal in respect of the Hawksworth Saloon at our next meeting.

Action MS

B61/19 Requests for Support from Plc

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We agree to pay the invoice for the supply of the switch at Blue Anchor directly and note that we shall need to decide whether or not to capitalise this expenditure (as for our assistance with the track pad at Bishops Lydeard). We note that we need to ensure that our educational purpose is achieved by involving the Plc in explaining about bullhead rail to groups of visitors.

B62/19 Community Engagement Manager's Report

We congratulated Catherine Dance on the success of Somerset Day.

B63/19 Fundraiser's Report

We were pleased to note that Kate Williams had been successful in obtaining a grant from the Foyle Foundation for the Dunster Project. The offer required acceptance within two week, and expenditure within two years. We agree that much may have changed in that time and that we should therefore accept it. Should the project not go ahead we shall be able to report that fact before drawing it down.

B66/19 Redacted

B67/19 Appointment of New Trustee

We heard from DRT on why she would like to be appointed a Trustee, and were unanimous in our wish to co-opt her.