



West Somerset Railway Association

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

Present: Jack Baird (JB)
Geoff Garfield (GG)
John Glover (JSDG)
Nigel Power (NP)
Diana Ricketts-Tanner (DRT)
Robin White (RW)
Paul Whitehouse (PCW) (Chair)

Observer: Mark Smith (MaS)

In Attendance: Jacquie Green (JG)

Apologies Will Foster
Mike Lea
Mike Sherwood

B78/19 Conflicts of Interest

None were declared.

B79/19 Minutes of Meeting of 10 June 2019

We approve these Minutes.

B80/19 Matters Arising (not included elsewhere)

- a. **Peterborough Crescent Wagon Shed:** RW reported Chris Austin was writing to Network Rail.
- b. **Quantock House:** GG reported that MaS and he were progressing this.
- c. **Joint Boards Vision Statement:** GG reported that this awaited Plc Board approval.
- d. **Association Membership for Volunteers:** we discussed the Association's role in retaining volunteers who were unable to fill their chosen role. We asked the Volunteers Committee to consider. We agreed to appoint Diana Ricketts-Tanner as our second member that Committee.
- e. **Rolling Stock (was Hawksworth Saloon):** PCW reported that he had discussed this proposal with Jonathan Jones-Pratt and he agreed it was the right way forward. That would be formally approved at the next Plc Board Meeting. We appoint John Glover and Mike Sherwood to represent us on this Working Group, which will also include Bob Meanley and another Plc appointee.

Action JSDG, MiS

B81/19 General Manager's Report

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We agreed that fundraising progress on 4561 was sufficiently well advanced for a workplan to be needed. We asked Mike Sherwood to produce one.

We agreed that the railway urgently needed to know the total donations made so far for the Rail Renewal Appeal. The Association had so far raised over £32,000, but the figures for the Steam Trust and the Plc were not yet known.

JAG would be drawing up an organisational fundraising plan within which project plans can be sat, and a Cost of Fundraising Policy, both in consultation with Kate Williams.

We asked MaS, as a matter of urgency to ensure that the current outdated WSR Plc Legacy leaflet is withdrawn, so that we may replace it with a current one.

JAG reported that she had asked Catherine Dance to draft a volunteer role description for ambassadors on trains (who would handle envelopes, raffle tickets, membership enquiries, and point people to other opportunities (eg cream teas or the Quantock Belle).

Action JAG, MaS

B82/19 Norton Fields

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We agreed that we need to establish exactly what the hydraulic options and risks are, and authorised PCW to set up a meeting between the firm which had advised us in 2011 (Aardvark Environmental Services). He would try to arrange a meeting between them and the developer's experts. He would also ask John Gibbins whether he had any specialist knowledge in this area. DRT would enquire about a Williton resident she knew with substantial experience in this field.

Action PCW, DRT

B83/19 Redacted

B84/19 Community Engagement Manager's Report

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We were emphatically agreed that there would need to be one database for all volunteers, as well as donors and members. We asked MaS to request the Plc to adopt a policy of sharing data with us (just as we already have one with them). This will substantially reduce work in fundraising, and minimise the risk of error and duplication.

Action MaS

B85/19 Jack Baird

Jack Baird informed the meeting that he had been offered a Commission in the RAF, and did not feel he would be able to commit sufficiently to the Association at present, although he hoped to remain connected to the railway. We thanked him for his services and wished him well.

B86/19 Rally Raffle

GG reported that there would be, as usual, a Raffle in the Rally Bar, which this year would be for the Rail Renewal Fund.