



# West Somerset Railway Association

Minutes of the Board Meeting  
held at Bishops Lydeard  
on Monday 13 January 2020 at 1800

**Present:** Geoff Garfield (GG)  
Diana Ricketts-Tanner (DRT)  
Mike Sherwood (MS)  
Robin White (RW)  
Paul Whitehouse (PCW) (Chair)

**In Attendance:** Jacquie Green (JAG)

**Apologies** Will Foster, John Glover, Mike Lea, Nigel Power, Mark Smith

## **B001/20 Conflicts of Interest**

None were declared.

## **B002/20 Minutes of Meeting of 9 December 2019**

We approve these Minutes.

## **B003/20 Matters Arising (not included elsewhere)**

- a. **Peterborough Crescent Wagon Shed:** RW is now working with Chris Austin and Network Rail on a Heritage Significance Statement about this building, a necessary first step of the process.
- b. **Joint Boards Vision Statement:** Nothing to report.
- c. **Ford Farm (Norton Fields) Development:** GG reported that a tentative agreement had been reached but that a further survey had been conducted and there was once again the possibility of a new pond on the Association's land, which would require the reopening of negotiations.
- d. **Engagement Event with 9351 Donors:** We were unanimous that the idea and the execution were extremely effective and expressed our congratulations and thanks to all concerned. We agree that we should run a similar event for the Rail Renewal Appeal. DRT emphasised how important it was for the stewards to be able to inform donors and potential donors about the opportunities for legacy giving.
- e. **Funding Choices:** PCW reported that he had authorised expenditure of all but £10,000 of the Rail Renewal Appeal Fund.

## **B004/20 [Redacted]**

## **B005/20 General Manager's Report**

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We agreed that Rail Renewal 2020 should be set up on Just Giving with a holding paragraph while the detail is established. We discussed the Volunteer Recruitment Programme, and recognised that better communications are essential to its success. MS reported that discussions on the second phase of the Community Engagement Project continued.

**Action JAG**

## **B006/20 Dates of AGM and Future Board Meetings**

We considered this report (for original report please see the Minute Book). We agree that our Annual General Meeting should be held on Friday 10 July (a non-running day). We agree, subject to comment from those trustees not present that future Board meetings will

be held on Tuesday evenings as follows: 18 February, 17 March, 21 April, 19 May, 23 June and 21 July.

**Action ALL**

**B007/20 Train for Local Councillors**

RW explained how fruitful it had been in the past when the railway had engaged with local communities. She thought that this could usefully be reintroduced. We agree that an invitation to visit the railway should be extended to all parish councils and the District and County Councils. We thank RW and JAG for offering to arrange this.

**Action JAG, RW**

**B008/20 Hawksworth Saloon**

We agree that this should be under cover for the winter and authorise our Chairman to spend up to £5,000 for the purpose. We ask JAG to explore whether we can rent the space in Minehead Shed released by the departure of 44222, or failing that whether a poly-tunnel might be suitable.

**Action JAG**

**B009/20 AwayDay**

GG reminded us that the day would work best if everyone organised their thoughts and ideas on the way forward in advance. The Association will pay for lunch for everybody but gift aided donations will be welcome from those who wish to contribute to the cost.

**Action ALL**

**B010/20 Steam Trust Proposals for the Gauge Museum**

We considered this consultation document (for original please see the Minute Book). We were very encouraged by the proposals. We recognise that the signal box and the model railway provide more interest than the simple displays shown in the document but hope there could be more tactile items. We also hope that the displays will be of interest to the general public rather than just railway enthusiasts.

**B011/20 Date of Next Meeting**

We agree to meet again at 1800 on Tuesday 18 February 202.