



West Somerset Railway Association

**Minutes of the Board Meeting
held via TEAMS remote meeting
on Tuesday 17 March 2020 at 1700**

Present: Geoff Garfield (GG)
John Glover (JSDG)
Nigel Power (NP)
Diana Ricketts-Tanner (DRT)
Mike Sherwood (MiS)
Robin White (RW)

In Attendance: Jacquie Green (JAG)
Martin Brown (WSR PLC) joined the meeting at 17:40

B023/20 Conflicts of Interest

None were declared.

B024/20 Minutes of Meeting of 18 February 2020

Trustees approved these Minutes as a true record.

B025/20 Matters Arising (not included elsewhere)

- a. Redacted
- b. **Ford Farm (Norton Fields) Development:** GG reported no further action at this time.
- c. **Train for Local Councillors** No further action due to current circumstances.
- d. Redacted

B026/20 Redacted

B027/20 Relations with the PLC

The joint meeting with the PLC is postponed not cancelled. It should be face to face and as soon as practically possible. MB advised the Trustees that the PLC has taken the decision not to open for at least the next two weeks and to cancel the SSG. The likelihood is that the WSR will not open before the end of April. MB outlined the actions the PLC is planning to take to mitigate the financial implications. Trustees offered to fundraise to extend the winter works during the extended closure if that proves to be a viable proposition.

B028/20 Budget

JAG stated that the previously target of £400,000 for fundraising is not looking achievable in the current climate. The Trustees agreed to form a Finance Group with the GM to bring forward budget recommendations to the full board. Group to consist of JAG, KSMS, GG, DRT and JG and tasked to come up with a revised budget for the next board meeting. The board confirmed that JAG is authorised to make expenditure as necessary to keep the organisation running. The financial regulations remain in place.

B029/20 VAT Review

It was agreed that the finance group would look at this in more detail. At the same time JAG and MS will pursue hire agreements with the PLC for QB, saloon and other rolling stock. RW offered to request financial assistance from her sister, which offer was accepted by the board.

B030/20 General Manager's Report

There is no full GM report as JAG had concentrated her time on the finances for the sale of Promotions and also Volunteering.

B031/20 Fundraiser's Report

KW had asked GG to give a talk to MD rotary club for a donation and he agreed. Nothing further to report.

B032/20 Volunteer Recruitment

DRT reported that a volunteer recruitment procedure had been agreed between WSRA, PLC and WSSRT, together with an application form and a volunteer journey document. They have been really good meetings and more are planned to discuss the way forward. MB expressed the PLC's thanks for all the work put into this by various Trustees.

B033/20 Community Engagement

This is difficult at the moment. JAG reported that she and CD have a meeting booked for next week with Val Bishop. Ideas for maintaining community engagement were raised and it was agreed to explore these outside of the meeting.

B034/20 AOB

1. DRT raised the issue of a phone for CD. MS reminded that CD has been offered office space at BL and MD, where there was phone provision. Further discussion ensued and it was agreed to take this back to the volunteer recruitment cttee.
2. Rally – GG reported that current plans are for the rally to continue, but organising team meetings are suspended at the moment.
3. DONM – Tuesday 21st April at 17:00hrs.

The meeting finished at 19:00.