

WEST SOMERSET RAILWAY HERITAGE TRUST

Minutes of the meeting of Board of Trustees held on Thursday 20th May 2021 at 5.30pm by Zoom video conference

Present: Steve Williams (Chairman) (SW) Geoff Evens (GE) Mike Thompson (MT)
Ian Coleby (IC) Don Fraser (DF) Matt Jackson (MJ)
Helen Anson (HA) Alan Smithers(AS) Mike Lee(ML)

548. Welcome and Apologies

No apologies received

Action

549. Conflicts of Interest

No new conflicts of interest were reported.

550. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th March 2021

All agreed

551. Matters Arising

Website Management – MT pleased with the look of the proposed front page. SW asked ML to prepare a Safety Management section when ready.

ML

SW will write to Matt Sutton.

Anticipate that the new site will be running by the end of June.

Gauge Museum Project – AV hardware has been installed in the museum. Content is being developed. Training has been given to the Stewards on how to operate correctly.

552. Railway reopening.

SW and MT updated the Board. There are problems with the MD end of the line. It is possible that the full reopening may not happen until September. The Railway will run to Dunster with a bus replacement service to/from Minehead.

553. MRG update

MJ advised that refresher training had been carried out and the Railway is ready to open on Saturday. The MRG will need further storage in the near future. MJ will formulate a proposition.

MJ

GE also advised that the Museum will also be ready to open on Saturday.

AS advised that work is still ongoing on the Blue Anchor museum.

554. Proposed new Article of Association.

SW asked the Board to review the proposals from Gerry Morrison and advise him on later than Monday of any queries.

ALL

555. Arrangements for EGM.

Notice of EGM must be issued no later than 9th June.

EGM will be a single issue meeting just for the approval of the new Articles of Association.

SW will make any final adjustments and send details to the Board.

SW

It will be a zoom meeting.

EGM will be on 23rd July at 1730.

556. AGM 2021

Draft Directors report – DF asked for any comments on the report asap.

SW will need any final issues on the report by Tuesday.

SW

Discussions need to be held regarding the methods of voting etc if we have a zoom Meeting.

557. Heritage Carriages Project.

Restoration of 3639 was agreed pending a full review of the fleet. Due to Covid the review had been delayed.

Andrew Forster has been asked to quote on the work required.

SW will distribute the review when received

SW

558. BL Compound coach

Chris Austin has circulated a report.hursday It may be attractive to the Trust for spares etc. but not a total purchase.

Given the work programme and funding required for the existing carriage fleet within the Trust, Trustees agreed that to take on an additional vehicle at this time would not be sensible. SW to write accordingly to Jacquie Green.

SW

559. Culture Recovery Fund

Report had been circulated to the Board.

Ongoing – 90% of funds have been received by DF

Training of volunteers – ongoing. IC has loaded items onto the laptop in the Museum.
GE and IC to liaise regarding need to purchase additional training

GR/IC

Website Development – MT advised that the project will be within the budget allocated.

Promotional Materials - IC will follow up regarding reprinting all the leaflets.

IC

Resource Packs – HA advised that these have been completed. Schools have been contacted.

560. Finance report

DF had distributed the report.

2 new applications for membership. Mike Lee and Ian Harrison. Both approved by the Board.

There have been 2 further grants received from the Council.

561. Chairmanship – update

SW has circulated his report

The Board agreed with the report unanimously.

Martin Brown will be invited to become a Trustee.

Mike Thompson will become Chairman from the AGM.

562. Any other business

HA advised that planning is still ongoing regarding any Community Events.

SW advised that the PLC appeal will be started next week

563. Next Board Meeting

Thursday 22nd July 2021 at 5.30pm.