

WEST SOMERSET RAILWAY HERITAGE TRUST

Minutes of the meeting of Board of Trustees held on Thursday 20th January 2022 at 5.30pm by Zoom video conference

Present: Steve Williams (SW) Geoff Evens (GE) Mike Thompson(Chairman) (MT)
Don Fraser (DF) Matt Jackson (MJ) Martin Brown (MB)
Helen Anson (HA) Mike Lee (ML)

618. Apologies

Action

Received from Ian Coleby.

619. Conflicts of Interest

No new conflicts of interest were reported. It was noted that Mike Lee is carrying out voluntary Work for the PLC.

620. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th November 2021

All agreed

621. Matters Arising

i) **Gauge Museum Formal Launch Event** – MT has asked Ian Camp to take the lead on the project. Discussions as to whether we should have a separate event or a joint venture with the PLC on their opening weekend.

ii) **Model Railway acquisition** – MJ advised that the original plan was on hold at the moment. MB has passed details of a new contact to MJ

iii) **Heritage Carriages Implementation Plan** – MB is putting dates on the original plan. MB
Accurate measurements are being prepared by the Architect.
MT noted that we will have to provide improved facilities for the carriage restorers at Williton. MT
MJ raised the usage of 6705.

iv) **Leaning & Education Officer contract** – Discussions have been agreed with HA. She is now working to new contract.

622. Proposed Developments at Bishops Lydeard

LHC Consultants have been appointed. Board agreed the appointment and expenditure.

Station House – MT has now received the quotation for the roof repair. It will probably need re-felting and tiling with a cost up to £20k.

Board felt that if we invest this amount a longer lease would be required. It was generally felt that the lease should be for at least 10 years. Further discussion will be held before a formal approach is made to the PLC.

Output from Project Group – work in ongoing and a further meeting will be convened.

623. Finance Report

The Treasurer's Report was received. DF aims to circulate the annual accounts before the end of March.

DF will be updating the bank mandate to add MT as chairman.

DF

624. Blue Anchor Museum.

MT reported on the state of the museum. Board agreed to keep museum closed for the 2022 season.

HA has visited the site with the Curator Ian Camp. Her preference would be for an unmanned facility which could be opened by the BA Station Staff.

The Board agreed that any valuable items should be moved to BL.

Ian Camp/HA

625. Review of Formal Agreement for use of Museums & Williton.

Further discussions need to be held by the Board.

MT asked for any additional items that need to be added to be sent to him.

MT

626. Model Railway Group.

There will be a review of the older models used. The Board agreed that MJ can spend up to £250 on renewal of running stock.

MJ

627. Draft Business Plan

Plan was circulated by SW. Board agreed to the general document.

SW requested that all responses should be sent to him within a week.

ALL

628. WSR Heritage Committee

The report prepared by Ian Coleby has been circulated to the Board. The proposals were supported for implementation.

IC

629. SW Museums Green Grant.

GE has withdrawn from this project and MB will take the role.

630. Education and Learning Programme

HA advised that all the boxes have been prepared and are ready for distribution.

Inquiries are starting to be received from schools for visits.

631. PLC update.

2022 timetable will be approved in the next few days.

Various works are on schedule.

PLC has now appointed a new Safety & Compliance Officer who will start work on 24th January.

On-train catering review will commence shortly.

Any other business

632. Replacement Power Tool

The Board agreed that the Restoration Team be allowed to bid for a replacement power tool that was being advertised on EBay.

633. Matt Jackson

MJ informed the board that his personal circumstances are going to be changing later in the year preventing him from being as involved on site in the Gauge Museum. MJ has reviewed the potential impact with the MRG team and other team members are going to take on extra roles and duties to make sure the MRG still runs as normal.

MJ

634. Date and time of next meeting

Thursday, 17th March 2022 at 5:30 PM