

## WEARDALE RAILWAY TRUST

Minutes of the management committee meeting held at Bishop Auckland Station on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

The meeting started at 7:35 PM.

### **Those present**

David Scott – Chair  
Dr Mike Wood – Vice Chair  
Trevor Hewitt – Treasurer  
John Askwith  
John Hargreaves  
Gerry Mudd  
James Lynn – Secretary

### **1 Apologies for absence**

David Bullows, Ruth Carroll, Brian Cox, Clive Elsdon, Richard Maughan, Steve Raine

### **2 Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> October and this meeting will be held over for approval by the Directors until the next Trust Council meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012

### **3 Matters arising from the last meeting**

None

### **4 Identify other business.**

None

### **5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

None. (however see item 10)

### **6 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman, David Scott gave a verbal report:

**Vice President Wilf Hume** - The Chairman reported with great sadness that Wilf Hume had passed away on 12<sup>th</sup> November. Gerry is to advise the Directors about Wilf's funeral arrangements and the Directors agreed to hold a minutes silence for Wilf at the Trusts AGM.

**Volunteer roster organiser** – The Trust has been approached by a volunteer (Alison Philips) who wants to take over organising the roster on a 3 months trial to see how it works out. It was agreed to provide support for Alison and the Directors thanked the Alison for agreeing to undertake this work. The Chairman will approach WRCIC about arranging a mobile phone for the Alison's use and the Chairman will write to Alison to thank her for volunteering for this role.

**Don Heaths retirement** – The Chairman is to write to Don to thank him for all his work on the 'Weardale Railway project'. The Directors discussed a suitable gift and the Chairman will review the options.

**War on the Line** – The Chairman has handed over all the outstanding bills for this event to Graham Isom (which includes £100 owed to the Trust). The Chairman is awaiting a response from WRCIC.

**Lottery funding** – Arthur has been working with 2D (Phil Davis) about applying to the Heritage Lottery fund. Meeting may be held next week at Crook.

The Chairman's report was approved by the Directors

Proposed: Trevor Hewitt  
Seconded: Gerry Mudd

## **7 Treasurer's report**

The Treasurer had previously circulated an emailed report. He reported that income was £7600 (mostly from the sale of 2 Dogfish wagons). Expenditure amounted to circa £2000 (£1000 cost to transport Number 40s boiler).

Trevor reported that £64,000 has been transferred to Darlington Building Society to obtain a better interest rate.

Trevor reported that the Shark has also been sold for £3,000 – this will be shown in the next months accounts

The Treasurers report was approved by the Directors.

Proposed: Mike Wood

Seconded: John Askwith

## **8 Shop**

Trevor Hewitt gave a verbal report that the shop operations had made a net profit (since August) amounting to £1270.

Trevor also reported that some stock has been purchased in preparation for the Polar Express trains.

## **9 Secretary's report**

The Secretary reported on the finalised AGM agenda and the Trustees Annual Report copies of which had been circulated to all Directors for comments. To avoid complications the Directors agreed to have the Accounts and Trustees Report signed after the AGM (after approval by the members).

Response from HRA on volunteering by under 16s/16 to 18 year olds – The Secretary has received a response from the HRA which was discussed by the Trust Directors. Further work is needed by both WRCIC and WRT and meetings are planned to ensure both parties meet the legislative requirements. As the HRA may be publishing revised guidance next year the Trust may have to develop its own systems and paperwork to handle under 18s volunteering.

## **10 Number 40**

Trevor Hewitt gave a brief verbal report at the meeting. Due to delays in starting work the boiler is to be removed from LMS (tomorrow) and taken to Rail Restorations NE at Shildon (Dr Mike Wood has already declared a conflict of interest in this matter). Prindhams and Newtons are to be asked to quote for the firebox work.

## **11 Restoration activities**

### **11a Carriage & Wagon**

The brake coach is undergoing work and new ends have been fitted to make this vehicle structurally stable.

### **11b Infrastructure**

Sunday Gang has completed working on the 'North Pole' area. A total of 460 volunteer hours have been spent on this work.

## **12 Projects (Temporarily removed from the agenda)**

### **13 Volunteering**

Ruth is on holiday.

**CRB checks** – No discussions on this item.

## **Weardale Railways CIC Reports**

### **14a/14b Report from the Company Board meetings/ Report from Management Group meetings (Trust representatives)**

Gerry Mudd reported on the Board meeting which took place on October 23<sup>rd</sup> however the Management meeting was cancelled:

Finance – The Directors discussed confidential commercial information.  
Timetable for 2013 – No leaflet has been produced as no train times have been agreed – this needs to be sorted asap. However it was reported that event tie-ins are to be agreed with Locomotion at Shildon.  
Polar Express – Gerry gave an update on numbers of tickets sold and revenue predictions – the Directors discussed commercially confidential information.

**14c Report from the Marketing Group/Events Group**

See leaflet item in 14a/14b

**15 Other Reports from Trust Directors**

**15a Weekly Lottery/Fund raising (Arthur Temple)**

£444 raised ytd.

**15b Educational Activities/Talks/Publications/Magazine – (John Askwith)**

Talks

None planned.

Publications

RCTS “Railways of Weardale” – Update from RCTS – original book has gone for scanning in preparation for editing and adding additional text and photographs.

BTL

Contributions by 17<sup>th</sup> January 2013  
Dispatch 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013

John has received a complaint from a member about an advert in BTLs The Directors discussed the issues and decided to leave the advert in BTL as it had already been paid for.

**14c Membership Secretary’s Report (Frank Holmes/Trevor Hewitt)**

John Askwith reported that the Trust website still shows mince pie trains. David Scott will speak to Graham Isom to see if a special train will run.

Frank reported via Trevor that the Trust membership now stands at 727.

**15 Any other business.**

The Secretary was asked to write to the Bishop of Durham sending our best wishes on his new appointment and asking whether he wishes to stay on as our patron.

Gerry Mudd advised the meeting he will be unable to attend the next Trust meeting.

The meeting closed at 21:45PM

**Date/time of the next meeting will be on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 7:30PM Bishop Auckland Station.**