

## WEARDALE RAILWAY TRUST

Minutes of the management committee meeting held at Bishop Auckland Station on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2011

The meeting started at 7:38 PM.

### **Those present**

David Scott-Chair  
Dr Mike Wood – Vice Chair  
Trevor Hewitt – Treasurer  
John Askwith  
Brian Cox  
David Bullows  
Clive Elsdon  
Steve Raine  
Malcolm Simpson  
Michael Wilkinson  
James Lynn – Secretary

Ruth Carroll, Richard Maughan – Invited guests of the Trust Council

### **1 Apologises for absence**

Gerry Mudd

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

The minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2011 were approved with one correction to item 14 Brian Cox suggested not proposed

The minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2011 were approved by the Directors

Proposed Brian Cox  
Seconded David Bullows

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

None.

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

None.

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

None.

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

The Chairman commented on his previously emailed report:

Number 40 – The Chairman thanked Steve Race, Trevor Hewitt, Richard Maughan and his father for all their hard work getting Number 40 running for the holiday week.

Volunteering – The Chairman welcomed Ruth Carroll to the meeting in her role as Volunteer Co-ordinator. 2 Trust members (Peter Baker, Paul Walton) passed out as guards during the months.

Bishop Auckland Station Trust – The Chairman met with Michael O'Neill Chairman of the Station Trust to discuss working with each other. The Chairman handed out copies of the Station Trust Constitution.

The Chairman's report was approved by the Directors.

Proposed Trevor Hewitt.  
Seconded Clive Elsdon.

## **8 Treasurer's report**

The Treasurer gave a verbal summary of the financial activity in April. Income being £2560, the major part of which (£1300) consisted of membership subscription. Expenditure was £2500, Number 40 works and materials accounting for £1600.

The Treasurer then expressed his concern about the overdue payment of Number 40s hire fees amounting to £2250. The Directors discussed this issue and asked Trevor to contact Kevin Busath to clarify the situation.

The Treasurers report was approved by the Directors.

Proposed: David Bullows

Seconded: Clive Elsdon

## **8 Secretary's report**

The new Bishop of Durham has been appointed. The Secretary was asked to contact his chaplain/secretary to ask if he wishes to become the Trusts patron.

## **9 Number 40**

A repair report written by Richard Maughan for Number 40 was distributed to the Directors. The Directors thanked Richard and his father for their efforts in re-tubing Number 40 and the Directors agreed to co-opt Richard Maughan onto the Trust Council.

Proposed: Brian Cox

Seconded: Mike Wood

The Directors approved the co-option of Richard Maughan.

The Directors agreed to approach WRCIC to request that Number 40 be taken out of service for 3 weeks from 22<sup>nd</sup> June to allow repairs to the injector, cleaning out of the water tanks, replace 3 studs in the back plate, wash out the boiler and paint the smoke box (Trevor Hewitt agreed to order the paint).

Don Heath has again asked that the Trust purchase a combined vacuum/steam brake (similar to a Dreadnought ejector/injector) at a cost of £3500. Malcolm suggested purchasing a new 'standard' valve from the Standard Locomotive Owners Group (Martin Ashworth). This valve can be fitted to Number 40 during its 10 year rebuild. A new blow down valve (cost £300-£400) could also be purchased or Richard Campbell could supply a copy of the original one (cost to be established) and fitted to Number 40 (when available) at the next boiler washout.

## **.10 Restoration activities**

### **Carriage & Wagon**

Junior club coach – Roof needs fibre glassing and both end doors need to be sealed.

### **Infrastructure**

It was reported that some speed restriction signs are missing. It was agreed to form a gang of volunteers to fix stop and speed restriction signs at the appropriate locations. This work will start after Trevor Horner returns from holiday.

Witton-le-Wear platform – costs £12 - £15k and the new platform is to be located at its original position. Shelter location to be determined.

Witton Park – ongoing depends on new housing development.

Bishop Auckland Station - £30k grant from DCC to provide a link between Bishop Auckland West and Bishop Auckland Network Rail Station.

## **11 Volunteering**

**Volunteering-** Ruth Carroll gave a oral presentation based on her written report.

**Training Courses update** -no report

**CRB checks**- no report

### **Weardale Railways CIC Reports**

#### **12a/12b Report from the Company Board meetings/ Report from Management Group meetings (Trust representatives)**

A board meeting was held at 15:00PM today. Steve Raine updated the Trust Directors on confidential financial and operating information. Steve reported that it was planned to operate 5 coal trains every 14 days. The Directors discussed the Community Train Service ticket pricing and associated issues. The H&S inspection by the Railway Inspectorate has given the railway a clean review. The Directors discussed damage at the depot and the possibility of WRCIC using its prosecutorial powers under the associated Railway/Transport and Light Railway order legislation.

#### **12c Report from the Marketing Group**

No specific report received from Andrea.

John Askwith reported that the next event (in August) will be the Morris Minor/Charity Day.

#### **13 Other Reports from Trust Directors**

##### **13a Weekly Lottery/Fund raising (Arthur Temple)**

See Treasurers financial summary report.

##### **13b Educational Activities/Talks/Publications/Magazine – (John Askwith)**

John Askwith reported the following: -

Events:-

During July and August the Trust will have an information display in Crown Street Library Darlington.

Talks: -

- a) 15<sup>th</sup> July SE Northumberland Rail Users Group.

Publications: -

- a) "Railways of Weardale" first draft completed.
- b) BTL72, Contributions by 21<sup>st</sup> July please, despatch 5<sup>th</sup> August to include notification of AGM in November (provisionally booked for the 12<sup>th</sup> November) and outline agenda.

##### **13c Membership Secretary's Report (Frank Holmes/Trevor Hewitt)**

No report

##### **13d New fund raising ideas**

To be removed from the agenda

##### **13e Role of the Trust**

David Scott to present ideas to WRCIC.

#### **14 Any other business.**

Completed coach hire document not returned by WRCIC

The Meeting closed at 21:50

#### **15 Date/time of the next meeting is 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at 7:30PM at Bishop Auckland Station.**