

WEARDALE RAILWAY TRUST

Minutes of the management committee meeting held in Bishop Auckland Station on Tuesday 9th February 2010

The meeting started at 7:35 PM.

Those present

David Scott - Chair
Dr Mike Wood – Vice Chair
Trevor Hewitt – Treasurer
John Askwith
David Bullows
Brian Cox
Kevin Hillary
Gerry Mudd
Peter Shields
Malcolm Simpson
Arthur Temple
Michael Wilkinson
James Lynn – Secretary

1 Apologies for absence

Dave Foxtton, Dave Million, Steve Raine Fred Ramshaw

2 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes from the 19th January 2009 were approved with corrections to item 7 £6000/year hire fees for Number 40, item 11 Munro, item 12c Budget 2009 set at 2008 levels + 25% special souvenir ticket only on 1st special train, item 12a/b corrections to company/job titles

Proposed – Arthur Temple
Seconded – Gerry Mudd

3 Matters arising from the last meeting

None

4 Identify other business.

3 items were identified by Kevin Hillary

5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Gerry declared an interest as a Shareholder of BARS.

6 Chairman's Report

The Chairman David Scott had previously emailed out his report. The Chairman commented on the HMRI inspection and the small list of things to do before Trevor Horner can declare the fit for use. The Directors discussed the implication of operating a community rail service, running a railway between 7:00 am and 9:00 pm and the need for a mix of volunteers, BARS and temporary contract staff. If train operations are to extend onto Network Rail drivers will need 30 hours of 'mainline' experience – options are being investigated. The Chairman announced the resignation of Graham Lord as a Director of WRT. The Chairman thanked Graham for all his hard work on behalf of the Trust.

The Chairman's report was approved by the Directors

Proposed: Kevin Hillary
Seconded: Gerry Mudd

7 Treasurer's report

Trevor Hewitt reviewed the January's expenditure Number 40 bearing machining fees and income of £800 from Santa raffles. Brian Cox asked about payment of Number 40s hire fees. Trevor commented that he had been in touch with BARS finance department half of the outstanding fees will be paid 26 Feb with the remainder in March (covers 4 months hire fees). Gerry remarked that this issue had been taken up with WRCIC at the board meeting and that this situation will be eased when investments are made into BARS by outside investors.

Sale of the generator – Alistair Gregory has been approached about this item.

Trust shop – The Directors reviewed Trevors email and discussed the issues raised. Kevin asked if we could sell our stock of old magazines and books at special events – an extra volunteer would be needed!! Mike Wood expressed concerns about any commercial conflicts.

The Treasurers report was approved by the Directors

Proposed: Brian Cox

Seconded Gerry Mudd

8 Secretary's report

No report was presented.

Correspondence – NCVO and Compact Voice survey.

9 Number 40

Malcolm reported on following Number 40 issues:

- Spring drawing not dimensioned (from Number 40s drawing CD). Owen Springs will make a new spring from an original old spring or from a dimensioned drawing (if available).
- Need to decide on whether to repair spring and purchase a new spring or just repair the original spring – need to obtain costs.
- Spring hanger renewal – again drawing not dimensioned will need to remove one and measure up to create a new drawing. Malcolm recommended the purchase of 12 (2/wheel) and these can be manufactured by Oct/Nov 2010.
- Annual inspection is set for 23rd March – cold inspection, 31st March – steam inspection.
- 2 new plugs have been received but were founded to have the wrong thread and returned. Steve Race is to re-lead the old plugs.
- Brick arch cement order (£300 cost) delivery Friday.

10 Restoration activities

No report

11 Volunteering (Dave Million)

See Dave Millions emailed report

Michael Wilkinson reported that 3 new members had been inducted and volunteers have been identified for both charter trains. Ian Gardner and Alistair Gregory are to resolve any other issues.

Weardale Railways CIC Reports

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

Gerry Mudd reported the following:

- Board meeting held on 25th January 2010.
- Loan agreement to be reviewed by DCC lawyers.
- New platform at Bishop Auckland will be designed for 4 coaches.
- Marquee (from War on the line event) Alistair Gregory to review payment.

12c Report from the Marketing Group meeting (John Askwith)

John Askwith reported:

- Awaiting decisions from WRCIC - Ian Gardener has emailed Alistair Gregory.
- Will attend Bolton travel show
- Event planning with risk assessments and licensing paperwork ongoing for 2010.

13 Other Reports from Trust Directors

13a Weekly Lottery/Fund raising (Arthur Temple)

On-going.

13b Major Projects and Funding Sub Group – (Gerry Mudd/Arthur Temple)

Gerry pursuing DCC on ownership of Wolsingham approach road – can be adopted if it is repaired.

13c Educational Activities/Talks/Publications/Magazine – (John Askwith)

John Askwith reported the following:-

Publications	Nothing new to report
BTL	BTL 66 – to be despatched.
Talks	As per last month

13d Membership Secretary's Report (Frank Holmes)

No report

13e New fund raising ideas

Footplate driving experience days – Mike reviewed the drivers experience days on various heritage railways. Mike is to draw up a menu of ideas for review by WRCIC. Peter Shileds commented that the best time to sell the packages is October/November for Christmas. He reported that NYMR had already sold out for this year.

14 Any other business.

- Kevin Hillary asked about the revenues from the on-line shopping links on the Trusts website – Trevor reported that this made about £30 – 40 per year.
- The Directors discussed Graham Lord resignation and whether to co-opt a new director. The Directors agreed not to co-opt a new director.
- Keyholders for Bishop Auckland Station – Kevin Hillary, John Askwith and Dave Scott (who holds 2 keys).

Meeting closed at 21:15.

15 Date/time of the next meeting is 9th March 2010 7:30PM at Bishop Auckland Station.