

# Abingdon and District Model Railway Club

## Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 @ 19.30 On Line.

### 1 Opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and gave a brief rundown of the agenda before requesting that the meeting should be recorded for the benefit of the Secretary.

### 2 Trustees present and apologies

**Present:** P. Hunt, B. Marnane, C. Nutman, A. Skinner, T. Slaughter

**Apologies:** None

### 3 Committee Members present and apologies

**Present:** D. Roger, M. Taylor

**Apologies:** J. Barclay, F. Clarke, D. Hardisty, E. Young

### 4 Minutes of the previous meeting (4<sup>th</sup> Oct)

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

**Matters Arising:** The Secretary reported that the trees that were causing concern had now been pollarded, but there were still two trees where work had to be completed.

### Actions

- **Action N6** – Club night events – ongoing
- **Action July1-** Purchase and fitting of defibulator; The Secretary still had to speak with our neighbours re sharing the cost. – ongoing
- **Action July 2-** Private owner wagon; see item 10. – ongoing
- **Action July 3-** Marketing of above; The Secretary was tasked with finding a member who will be willing to take on the packaging and despatching of the first commissioned wagon. It was agreed that this was vital to the success of the project as potential customers giving poor reviews would do considerable harm to the club – ongoing - Secretary
- **Action July 9** – Domain registration; The Treasurer reported that this had been paid and completed - Closed

## 5 Treasurer's report

It was reported that the amount in the accounts is: Current acc. £6,078.13

Deposit acc. £11,782.71

Total. £17,860.84

Wagon stock £1000

The Treasurer also reported that the club insurance was £983.92 and that he was about to pay our annual subscription to the CMRA which was £40.00.

He continued by saying that he was hoping to send in our annual report to the Charities Commission before Christmas. **Action D1 - Treasurer**

## 6 Internal tidy-up and Cleanliness – see item 11

## 7 Working on Pentre Rd

An appeal had been received from the team working on this layout to bring it across into the main Building. This Layout has been in 'build mode' for thirty years and it was recognised that being where it was, was 'Out of sight -out of mind' It was agreed in principle to move it a section at a time into the meeting room where it could be worked on in comfort by the technical team. The plan would now be to move our stock of chairs from the meeting room into the building where Pentre Rd is currently, thus clearing space.

A decision was made to either give the chairs to a charity warehouse for re distribution, providing they were of a 'fire retardant material' or to dispose of them in another way.

Once Pentre Rd was complete and in a working state then it could be moved into the bunker room with space to accommodate it being made by moving the 7mm layout into the meeting room along one wall and turning the 2mm layout through 90' into the 7mm layout's current space. This would allow Pentre Rd to occupy space along the rear wall of the bunker room, while still giving members the opportunity to practice running Belgrave Rd as it is still on the Exhibition Circuit. It is anticipated that once Pentre Rd is positioned in the main building then more members would take an active interest in completing it.

## 8 Additional storage on Site

The small storage shed currently on the site is too small for its purpose and it is thought it should be replaced by a larger shed in the same position. When the weather improves, we should tidy it out and then assess what size of shed should replace it.

## 9 Stock on the Club Site

Concern has been expressed that there is a large amount of members' stock on the premises that is uninsured. If anything happened to the buildings then all that stock would be lost to the members. It was proposed that an inventory of that stock should be carried out and a price to insure it obtained **Action D2 – Treasurer**

## 10 Private Owner Wagon

One hundred five plank coal wagons, in the colours of 'Hudson's of Abingdon' a historical coal merchant in the town, have now been received from Dapol and we are extremely pleased with the finished article. We have received fifty in 'pristine condition' and fifty in 'weathered' condition. It was agreed that we should sell these

to members at £15 per wagon and to the general public at £18. It was also agreed that the Chairman would take one of each style to the Oxford Model Railway Club's meeting and offer them the opportunity to purchase them at the same cost as we were charging our own members. **Action D3 – Chairman** It is planned to make a big push to sell these wagons at our *Abrail 23* show in March. We now had permission from the Burnham Model railway club to use their art work for our second venture a brewery Van. It was hoped to commence work on this soon.

**11 Maintenance Programme Report** We have received a list of works still to be carried out from Chris Maycock who is responsible for our maintenance. Due to the late start of this year's programme, we had failed to get everything done we intended to with the new accessibility ramp for Pentre Rd almost complete. Work to clear gutters and weeds around the buildings had been completed, but no internal work had been done except for the renewal of the kitchen taps. A vote of thanks was given to Chris Maycock whose planning and guidance to carry out the work had been inspirational. To view the outstanding work programme, **please view attachment A.**

## **12 Exhibition Progress for *Abrail 23***

Prior to the meeting, Dominic had provided an updated list of the exhibits that he had confirmed, twenty four to date, and said there were a few more in the pipeline. Four speakers were also booked and he hoped to have timed slots for those speakers in the lecture theatre with people booking online to attend the lectures and demonstrations when they purchased their tickets.

During this discussion it was agreed that the Treasurer should purchase a further two card reading machines prior to the *Abrail 23* exhibition to avoid the hiccups that we had in the afternoon of the *Abrail 22* show. This would mean we could have two machines at the entrance to minimise queueing and also cover sales of the newly commissioned private owner wagon. – **Action D4 Treasurer**

The secretary added that currently we had eight traders confirmed, but a few had said they were now only attending two- day shows. He continued by saying that he was offering traders places at both the *Abrail 23* and *24* exhibitions as he felt it was easier to confirm both at the same time. He continued by confirming that he had booked the *Abrail* dates into the trade magazines exhibition diary sections. **Hornby, Railway Modeller and Model Rail.**

## **13 Exhibition progress for *Abrail 24***

Trevor reported that everything was progressing well and he was continuing to visit shows viewing potential exhibits.

## 14 A.O.B

1. It was proposed and agreed after a short discussion that all information collated by the Exhibition managers for both *Abraill* 23 and 24 should be stored on line in the event of someone needing to take over at short notice. **Action D5 Dominic and Trevor**
2. It was also proposed and agreed that the Chairman should send out to all members a regular newsletter keeping them updated with what was happening within the club.  
- **Action D6 Chairman**
3. It was proposed and agreed that in future all meeting minutes should be put on the website for members to view with a password for members to access them. **Action D7 Fraser and Secretary**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.05

Peter Hunt. Secretary.