

Abingdon and District Model Railway Club

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 7th June 2022 @ 19.30 On Line.

1 Opening remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting, thanking Mike for organizing the *Zoom* connection and after a brief summary of the agenda went on to say that the preparations for the new security gate on the lane leading to the club appeared to be well underway. He also reminded those present that the meeting would be recorded to assist the Secretary with the minutes.

2 Trustees present and apologies

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

Apologies: C. Nutman, E. Young

3 Committee Members present and apologies

Present: J. Barclay, D. Hardisty, M. Taylor

Apologies: F. Clarke, D. Lloyd

4 Minutes of previous meeting (19th April)

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

Matters Arising

- Action S2 Postal Address – ongoing. After numerous communications with the post office this was still not resolved.
- Action N5 – Whiteboard for listing layouts - Closed
- Action N6 – Club night events – ongoing with monthly sessions to be organised from September
- Action M1 - Accounts approval C.N. & Treasurer- Have now been certified and approved
- Action M2/M3 - Venue for AGM A.S. & Chairman – Northcourt community centre booked
- Action M4 - Date for A-brail 23 –D.H. – Has now been set as 4th March 2023
- Action M5 - Support for Oxford club's Exhibition –Chairman - Bill had a meeting with John Simms, the chair of the Oxford Model railway club and stewarding support had been offered.

5 External work proposal

- Landscaping outside Pentre Rd – see below
- **Action June 1** - Pentre Rd building canopy and entry ramp – The Chairman to speak with Chris Maycock re commencement of all the above.
- **Action June 2** - Damaged fence at rear of Pentre Rd – The secretary has sent pictures and details to the land agent and is awaiting a response.

6 Treasurer's report

The Treasurer reported that the financial report has now been prepared for the AGM and the financial statement will be sent to the Secretary for him to send out to the membership along with the other reports prior to the AGM. – **Action June 3 Treasurer**

The amounts currently in the bank are:

Current Account	£9,100.05
Deposit Account	£9,855.66
Total	£18,955.71

The Treasurer went on to say he was satisfied that the financial situation of the club was now on a more secure footing, but warned of complacency in the future.

He continued by saying that he thought we were now in a position where we could reinstate the 50 -50 financing agreement for club layouts.

The Chairman thanked him for his diligence and hard work getting the finances back on a secure footing.

7 Exhibition progress

Prior to this meeting the Chairman and the two potential exhibition Managers visited the Abingdon College venue to see what space and dates could be offered and they were favourably impressed by the college's willingness to make the venue available.

Abrail 23

This will, as with previous shows be a one- day event. The invitations for layouts to attend was well in hand and a list of potential traders has been provided to the secretary, who had written to our regular traders intimating the date change. It is hoped that we will be able to expand on the number of layouts to be exhibited and traders to be invited. This exhibition will hopefully demonstrate that we can expand our show into a much larger space in preparation for a bigger show in 2024.

- Date for *Abrail 23* has been confirmed as the 4th March 2023

The committee unanimously elected Dominic Hardisty as the exhibition manager for 2023

It was also agreed to start the advertising of the show from October with handbills available to hand out at the Oxford Club's exhibition. One idea is to 'Pulse' information out in weekly statements online, re what layouts will be on show and what Traders will be present. This way we hope to raise anticipation of the event amongst visitors thus raising the potential footfall.

8 Exhibition progress for *Abrail* 24

It is hoped that this will be a two- day event to mark the 50th Anniversary of the club. The committee agreed to present a proposal to the membership 'That we the committee favour a two-day exhibition'. Trevor Slaughter was unanimously elected as the Exhibition manager for this show and he shared some of his ideas with the committee at the meeting.

At the moment we cannot progress the expansion of the show until after the AGM when it is hoped to gain a mandate from the membership for a two- day show. Trevor will give a short presentation on the feasibility of a two- day event at the AGM prior to a proposal being voted on.

One thing that Trevor asked the committee to consider was a 'Birthday party' at the club's premises on the Saturday evening of the show weekend which would provide a meal and entertainment for Exhibitors, and members along with their partners.

9 Proposals for AGM

It was agreed to table a proposal re the 2024 exhibition to be voted on at the AGM.

'That in our 50th Anniversary year we should host a two- day *Abrail* show the first weekend in March 2024'

10 A.O.B

1. It was suggested that we needed to encourage members when visiting other exhibitions, to get details of Layouts and Traders that they think are worth inviting to an *Abrail* exhibition and pass these details on to our exhibition managers.
2. The Secretary will ensure that prior to a committee meeting the agenda will be sent out to all members, giving them the opportunity to raise items to be discussed during A.O.B. – Action June 4 Secretary
3. When visitors come to the club, they should be issued with a visitor badge for the evening. The Secretary will provide badge holders and lanyards for this purpose – Action June 5 Secretary

There being no further business the meeting closed at: 20.38

Peter Hunt,
Secretary 11-06-22