

# Abingdon and District Model Railway Club

## Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022 @ 19.30 On Line.

Prior to opening the meeting, the Chairman informed those present of the sudden passing of a family member of Chris Nutman and offered the committee's deepest sympathy to the family

### 1 Opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and gave a synopsis of the agenda. He requested that the meeting be recorded on behalf of the Secretary.

### 2 Trustees present and apologies

**Present:** P. Hunt, B. Marnane, T. Slaughter,

**Apologies:** C. Nutman, A. Skinner

### 3 Committee Members present and apologies

**Present:** J. Barclay, F. Clarke, D. Roger, M. Taylor.

**Apologies:** D. Hardisty, E. Young

### 4 Co-option of Mr David Rodger to the committee

Mr D. Roger was co-opted onto the committee.

**Proposed By:** J. Barclay and seconded by: M. Taylor

His co-option was accepted unanimously.

### 5 Minutes of the previous meeting (7<sup>th</sup> June)

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

### Matters Arising

- **Action S2** Postal Address – **ongoing** our address now appeared on the area postcode list, and the Chairman reported he had sent a test letter to the club earlier today to check the delivery status.
- **Action N5** – Whiteboard for listing layouts **-ongoing** The Board has now been purchased but had yet to be assembled and fitted at the club.
- **Action N6** – Club night events – **ongoing** These are in hand with a number of events planned over the winter months.

## 6 External work proposal

- **New maintenance & building schedule:** A new Schedule had been produced and work days have to be put in place. The majority of the work is ground clearance, with one major project being planned, the erection of an entry ramp and a canopy above the entrance to Pentre Rd.
- **Damaged fence at rear of Pentre Rd.** The Secretary had been in touch with the Land agents, but as yet had not received a reply.

## 7 Treasurer's report

The Treasurer reported that the amounts currently held by the club are:

**Current Account:** £4,600.38 **Deposit Account:** £13,724.66 **Total:** £18,325.04

## 8 Proposed purchase & fitting of a defibulator

After a discussion re the cost and requirement it was agreed that the Secretary would write to our neighbours – *Mackenzie transport* and *Framework roofing*, to see if they would be willing to purchase one on a three - way split. One of the issues was the VAT oncost and it was thought that if this was purchased by one of the companies that share the site then as a VAT registered company it would save a substantial amount of money and would benefit all those sharing the site. **Action July 1 - Secretary**

## 9 Private owner wagon

Trevor Slaughter had proposed the idea of the Club commissioning a Model of a local Abingdon private owner company railway wagon. He had been in touch with *Dapol* the manufacturer to establish cost and viability. This would be an item that we the club could sell both at exhibitions and on-line, something other clubs and companies have done in the past. It was agreed by the committee to go ahead with this project and Trevor was given the go-ahead to make it happen. It was agreed to initially purchase 100 wagons in the livery of 'Hudson's Coal & Coke' merchants. **Action July 2 – Trevor Slaughter**

Fraser Clarke will look at how best to market and sell this wagon, using the Club's website, and E-bay. It was also suggested an e-bay site could be used to sell items from our second hand stock. **Action July 3 – Fraser Clarke**

## 10 Didcot 'A' layout

This is a layout which has proved popular on the exhibition circuit and is currently held and exhibited by the club. The layout is supposed to eventually be donated to the town of Didcot and is currently in our care until the Great Western society can find space for it.

It is now in need of renovation and the club is reluctant to spend the money if it is to be moved to its designated owners. However, there is a view that the Great Western Society have no real interest in taking it on in the short term.

It was agreed that the Secretary would write to the Chairman of the Society and inform him that the Club intended to keep the layout in our care, refurbish it and continue to exhibit it

around the country for a minimum of four years. After that we would again offer it to the Great Western Society to be on permanent display on their site. The Secretary will write to the Society Chairman informing him of this decision. The Secretary will also ask the members if there is interest in being part of the renovation team. **Action July 4 - Secretary**

## 11 Exhibition progress for *Abrail 23*

Dominic, the exhibition manager, was unavailable for this meeting, but did say that there was a number of layouts under consideration for the exhibition. The secretary is also in touch with traders re their willingness to attend.

- **Millets Farm** – Had recently been in touch with Dominic re a transport themed event on the August bank holiday weekend re the possibility of the club attending with a layout. Dominic had asked for further details and was awaiting a reply, but the thinking is it would be good to have a presence for at least one day over the weekend. It was suggested that we could take the Thomas layout and a Lego layout supplied by Dominic, but a site visit to check viability would be a good idea. Dominic has arranged for a local “live steam” group to attend as part of our contribution. We could also bring along publicity leaflets and our Club Publicity Stand. If we were to go ahead, then we would ideally require a minimum of ten members, in two shifts, to cover anything we intended to do. In the meantime, the Chairman will appeal for volunteers. **Action July 5 – Chairman and Dominic**

## 12 Exhibition progress for *Abrail 24*

Trevor, the exhibition manager, for this event said that he had been in touch with the college again, and they had suggested that a site visit, to clarify the areas available, would be in order and they suggested that we should do this before the students return and the end of the summer break. – Trevor to organise this. **Action July 6 – Trevor Slaughter**

## 13 A.O.B

- **Workshop, Machinery and Tools** – This was in need of clearing of unneeded, unusable tools and machinery. There was also a vast number of jars containing old screws and nails that needed removing. We need a member to take responsibility for the workshop and put together a plan for the future. The Secretary to appeal to the membership for a volunteer. **Action July 7 - Secretary**
- **Work days and BBQ** – We now have a work plan and the Secretary will make it known to the members that we are recommencing Tuesday work days and also organise a few weekends work days culminating in a work cum - social day with a BBQ. **Action July 8 - Secretary**
- **Domain Registration** – Andrew Skinner had received the notification that our subscription was due. As he is no longer the Treasurer it is important that we have new named members to validate the registration and make sure that payment is made. Fraser has been made aware. **Action July 9 – Andrew & Fraser**

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.10**

**Peter Hunt - Secretary**