

Abingdon and District Model Railway Club

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 28th March 2023 @ 19.30 On Line.

1 Opening remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking the members for their attendance, he continued by saying how pleased he was at the membership's response to the ABrail show at the post show meeting and noted that there were few issues to think about for future shows. He then gave a brief rundown of the agenda for this meeting

2 Trustees present and apologies

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

Apologies: A. Skinner

3 Committee Members present and apologies

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

Apologies: F, Clarke,

It was noted that D. Hardisty had chosen to resign from the committee after the completion of the ABrail23 show. Saying he wished now to concentrate on his modelling, but did say he would be willing to assist and support where necessary.

The Chairman asked that our thanks to Dominic for organising an excellent show should be minuted.

4 Minutes of the previous meeting (24th Jan)

Matters Arising

Actions

- Action N6 – Club night events – ongoing
- Action July 1 Purchase and fitting of defibulator– ongoing
- Action July 2 Private owner wagon– ongoing
- Action July 3 Marketing of above – A. Pierce has agreed to package and post any sales requests
- Action Dec 2 Members Stock on site inventory- Treasurer

- Action Dec 3 Club wagon sales – 70 of the 120 wagons have now been sold with a 20% /80% split in favour of the pristine ones. Fraser will put an advert on the web site, but the next real opportunity for sales will be when the club attends Millets Farm later in the year.
- Action March 1 – Treasurer to organise club debit cards and Money Laundering regs.
- Action March 2- Secretary to add the above items to the next meeting agenda
- Action March 3 – Secretary to write to Cheltenham, Squires and Osbournes re show invitation.
- Action March 4 – Trevor to invite members to join the ABrail 24 subcommittee
- Action March 5 – Chairman to continue to make members aware of the working day dates

5 Treasurer's report

The treasurer reported that he had some small adjustments to make to the final ABrail23 accounts, and that at the start of April he intended to begin preparing the club accounts for the A.G.M. He also hoped to be able to give the necessary information to Chris Nutman so he could prepare the annual claim to the revenue office for the 'Gift Aid' rebate.

The current account stands at: £4,075.43

The Deposit account stands at: £14,636.68

The total balance is currently: £18,712.11

He also requested the Secretary to add two items to the next meeting agenda.

- Club Debit cards – Action Treasurer
- Anti-money laundering regulations – Action Treasurer

6 Club refurbishment and making good

The chairman reported that as yet he had received no further feedback from the insurance assessors re when they were hoping to start the refurbishment work. In the meantime, good progress had been made by the members on the weekend workday to start a tidy up of the premises and create a pile of waste in preparation of a skip being brought on site.

The old chairs from the meeting room have now been stacked in the Pentre Rd area and information re their possible sale on E-bay is awaited from Alan Pierce. If they cannot be sold then it was agreed that the majority would be added to the skip with a few of the better ones being kept.

The pipes above and around 'Bishop's Hill' have also been boxed in making the area look a lot tidier, and the store room has been tidied out. The Thomas layout has been moved to the Pentre Rd cabin, and the meeting room has been cleared, this will allow work to be progressed on projects in that area. There is still a lot of clutter around Carlisle Canal and the Bishop's Hill layout to be cleared by their respective modellers.

7 Feedback from *Abrail 23*

The general feeling was that it was a very successful show, with many people commenting on the quality and number of layouts. The Traders were also unanimously favourable with their comments and all have requested to return next year. There were a few teething issues with the expansion into a second building, but this was a good 'trial run' for next year's proposed two day show and we have learnt some valuable lessons. Thanks were expressed to Dominic for his choice of quality layouts, planning and organisation.

8 Exhibition progress for *Abrail 24*

- Plan for 2024 – Trevor reported that the sourcing of layouts was well in hand and was working currently on the planning and costings of the show to present to the members at the AGM. He said that it would be advantageous to ensure that all members were aware of the show dates from an early stage so they could keep the weekend clear. The secretary will write to Cheltenham Model centre, Squires and Osbourne models inviting them to attend with trade stands, these companies previously making us aware that they now have a policy of attending only two day shows. – Action Secretary
- Proposed subcommittee – It was proposed by Trevor that a sub committee should be formed to organise and oversee the planning of *Abrail24*, he felt that doing this would take the pressure off the main club committee who had enough to do running the affairs of the club. He will be looking for volunteers within the membership to work with him. He also emphasised that the sub committee would be answerable to the club committee, and would require their agreement before any major decisions were taken. – Action Trevor

9 AOB

- Future exhibition invitations – These were now listed on a board in the reception area, being kept up to date by Alan Pierce. All layout coordinators should be aware that they must keep him up to date with invitations for their layouts. Members should also be asked to volunteer their time to attend shows with the invited layouts.
- Weekend work days – The Chairman will continue to remind members of these dates and he will ask Chris Maycock to coordinate the work to be done. - Action Chairman
- Millet's Farm visits - The next visit to Millet farm is planned for 2nd and 3rd September and it is hoped that Dominic will continue to co-ordinate this.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.45

Peter Hunt, Secretary.