

Abingdon and District Model Railway Club

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 6th June 2023 @ 19.30 On Line.

1 Opening remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking the members for their attendance. He began by giving a run down of the main topics up for discussion at 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,

4 Minutes of the previous meeting (28th March)

Matters Arising

Actions

- Action N6 – Club night events – ongoing
- Action July 1 Purchase and fitting of defibulator– ongoing
- Action Dec 2 Members Stock on site inventory- Treasurer - ongoing
- 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. A. Pierce has agreed to package and post any sales requests that we have in the meantime.
- Action March 1 – Treasurer to organise club debit cards and Money Laundering regs. This has become a major issue, with the Bank after it suspended our account – The Treasurer is in ongoing discussion with the bank to solve this issue. – **See Treasurers report**
- Action March 2- - Closed
- Action March 3 – Closed

- Action March 4 – Trevor to invite members to join the ABrail 24 subcommittee - ongoing
- Action March 5 – Chairman to continue to make members aware of the working day dates - ongoing

5 Treasurer's report

See Action March 1. The Treasurer reported that he was currently unable to give a summary of the accounts because of the problem with the Bank. Under new government regulations two of the Trustees have to confirm their identity with the bank. C, Nutman and P. Hunt who are registered trustees will have to show identity. Trevor continued by saying " There are many small businesses being caught out by this 'zero tolerance' policy re Money Laundering by the Government and Barclays are now trying to get business and charity accounts up to date so they comply with the new guidelines. Once we are fully compliant we will hopefully then be good for debit/credit card applications in the near future."

At the last meeting in March the accounts were:

The current account was at:	£4,075.43
The Deposit account was at:	£14,636.68
The total balance was:	£18,712.11

- Review and approve the Draft annual accounts for the AGM. – The Treasurer guided the committee through the Annual accounts to be presented at the AGM. The acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by C. Nutman, 2nd M. Taylor and agreed unanimously.

6 Refurbishment progress

- Current status

The work to position a new ramp and canopy at the entrance to Pentre Rd was now complete, The workshop roof had been re-covered with roofing felt and it was now ready to be tidied out and repainted. All gutters have been cleared and the one at the rear of Pentre Rd had been reset. A club member has a contact who can hopefully provide a ton of gravel to spread in the yard. The chairman reported that we now have a date for the delivery of a large storage container to house all the layouts, and books from the library whilst the floor is renewed (26th June). They will move all the items into the container, but we must have members on hand to oversee this work. The work to replace all the damaged flooring in the reception, kitchen, toilet and library will commence on July 10th It is hoped to use the next working weekend to carry out some minor repairs in the reception area and do some painting before the floors are re-laid.

- Electrical problems and Quotation

The electrician had attended the club to survey the reason why our electrical supply keeps tripping out. He concluded that the external switch box was the wrong sort – it should have a timed cutout of 10,000th of a second, so that any fuse that trips in the building only trips for that particular area and not the whole system. After surveying the fuse boxes in each of the buildings, it was discovered that they are all more than ten years old, and of differing types that don't talk to each other. Current standards rule that all fuse boxes, while they may be of differing makes, must all be compatible. It is therefore necessary to have all seven on the boxes upgraded. He quoted £1,974,00 inc.vat to carry out this work.

It was unanimously agreed by those present that we should go ahead and have the work carried out as soon as possible.

7 *Abrail* 24 Exhibition Progress

- Review of Plan for 2024 – Trevor reported that he was working currently on the planning in conjunction with Mike Taylor and they were hoping to visit the college to confirm room sizes this Thursday 8th. He had now completed a draft costing for the show, but this was a moveable feast which would be constantly updated as time progressed. He asked that this draft be distributed to the membership prior to the A.G.M. so that they had the opportunity to digest it and he would be ready to answer the questions that will certainly arise.

One of the main issues was to attempt to get sponsorship from companies to help with offsetting the cost of the show and this was his main concern over the coming weeks. It was suggested that if we could demonstrate that we had willing sponsors prior to the AGM it would ease the passage of membership approval to host a two - day show. – **Action 1 Trevor**

He continued by saying that we had to get the Publicity and advertising of the show correct and we needed a member to put this in place.

Price of entry was another issue, possibly having two entrance costs, one straightforward fee and one with Gift Aid, if we add 10% for the gift aided entry then we would receive as much as 30% back which could, if handled correctly be quite a substantial amount.

- Trevor was still looking for members to sign up for the *Abrail24* sub-committee, he is hoping that members will take on jobs such as the publicity and advertising, but emphasised that the sub committee would be answerable to the club committee, and would require their agreement before any major decisions were taken. – **Action 2 Trevor**

8 A.G.M.

The Treasurer presented the draft of the Club's annual accounts to the committee for appraisal and approval. They were unanimously accepted and will be sent out to the members prior to the A.G.M, along with the agenda and annual layout reports.

- Agenda – For the AGM will be produced and sent out to the members along with last year's minutes, the layout reports the annual accounts and the *Abrail24* proposed budget. –**Action3 Secretary**

9 A.O.B.

- Weekend work days – The Chairman will continue to remind members of these dates with Chris Maycock coordinating the work to be carried out. – **Ongoing Action**
- Millet's Farm visits - It is planned to take two maybe three layouts to this venue on the 2nd and 3rd September, Dominic has asked if we could attempt to get some prizes for a raffle. James suggested that we get *Abrail24* flyers printed in time for this visit to hand out to interested people – We require someone to coordinate with Trevor to make up the Flyer.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.15

Peter Hunt, Secretary.