

Abingdon and District Model Railway Club

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 29th August 2023 @ 19.30 On Line.

There was a delay to the start of the meeting due to a technical problem with the Secretary's laptop. The meeting commenced at 19.45

1 Opening remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking James for taking over the Zoom control. He continued by giving a brief synopsis of the agenda.

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, P. Cole, D. Roger, M. Taylor

Apologies: There were no apologies

4 Minutes of the previous meeting (6th June)

Matters Arising

Continued Actions

- Action N6 – Club night events – ongoing
- Action July 1 Purchase and fitting of defibrillator– ongoing
- Action July 2 Private owner wagon– ongoing
- Action July 3 Marketing of above – Secretary
- Action Dec 2 Members Stock on site inventory- Treasurer - ongoing
- Action Dec 3 Club wagon sales – ongoing

Actions from last meeting

- Action March 1 – Treasurer to organise club debit cards and Money Laundering regulations - ongoing
- Action March 2- Secretary to add the above items to the next meeting agenda - closed
- Action March 3 – Secretary to write to Cheltenham, Squires and Osbournes re show invitation - closed
- Action March 4 – Trevor to invite members to join the A-brail 24 subcommittee - Ongoing
- Action March 5 – Chairman to continue to make members aware of the working day dates Ongoing

5 Treasurer's report

- Account statements

Current account: £4,628.46 Deposit account: £12,009.10 Total is: £16,637.56

- Arrangement to have accounts audited

This is in hand, but has yet to be finalised

- Club debit cards

The Treasurer will be picking up the necessary paperwork from the bank in the morning.

- Money Laundering Regulations

This has partially been completed, with only the 'Sum-up' reader outstanding.

6 Refurbishment progress

- Current status

The internal decoration of the building has been completed and the new flooring is in place, the Store room has now been tidied out and the only outstanding area is the library which still has boxes of Magazines on the floor. After discussion it was agreed that the current vast stock of magazines would be disposed of either by members taking them away, or putting them in a skip. The secretary will write to the members informing them that the magazines are available for anyone to take, the remainder being dumped. It was also agreed that a current copy of the '*Hornby Magazine*' would be placed on the coffee table in the reception area month-on month, and a request made to other members who received a monthly edition of any other related magazine to offer it on the coffee table. The intention being to keep only the current months issues for members to peruse.

- Chair Disposal

The chairs currently in the Pentre Rd cabin will be disposed of. It was agreed that because they did not have a 'fire retardant' certificate the club could not responsibly sell them, so they, like the magazines would be offered to any member who wanted them, with the remainder being put in a skip. **Both the above items to be actioned by the secretary – Aug 1**

7 *Abrail* 24 Exhibition progress

- Review of Plan for 2024

After consultation with other clubs that run two day shows a proposal was put forward that the Exhibitions would, in future, be dealt with at a separate meeting. This would mean that the committee could concentrate on running the club with a separate committee organising the exhibitions and regularly reporting back to the club committee.

8 Proposal for New Didcot show

It was agreed that it would be good to re-introduce the Didcot Exhibition which had not been run since the Covid lockdown and the increased charges at the Civic Hall had made it untenable. It had now been established that as a Registered Charity we would be entitled to a 30% discount for charges at the civic hall and this made re-establishing the show practical.

It was agreed that we should book the hall for the October school half term weekend Saturday 26th October. It was also noted that Dominic had expressed interest in organising this show and the Secretary has agreed to assist him. **Secretary to book date and consult with Dominic – Action Aug 2**

9 Thomas refurbishment

This layout has been a major attraction for youngster at our shows for many years and is now in need of major rewiring and refurbishment. Dominic has agreed to take on the project and has requested a budget of £400 to carry out the work. It was agreed that as this layout is such an attraction, we should fully support the work. It is being exhibited at Millet's Farm this coming weekend and we will, as a charity be able to appeal to the public for donations to assist with this cost. This was agreed unanimously and donation boxes will be available on the day.

10 Family Open day

It is proposed to hold a Family Day on September 24th to show off the refurbished premises and the work that has been completed. The day will be held from 11am till 15.00 and a BBQ will be arranged. The secretary will ask members if they can offer salads or cakes and if anyone has a BBQ available – **action Secretary Aug 3**

11 A.O.B.

- Millet's Farm visits

This will be going ahead on the 2nd September and we will be showing the Sodor Island layout, East Dock and the Lego layout. Donation tins will be available for members of the public to donate to assist with the 'Thomas refurbishment'.

- Oxford Show

The Oxford Club have appealed to us to assist in the stewarding of their show on the 17th Sept @ Cherwell School. A few members have already volunteered, but the Chairman will re-affirm the request for volunteers – **action Chairman Aug 4**

- Invites from Show organisers

There is concern that invitations from other Clubs to exhibit our layouts at their show has become extremely haphazard. We have a new board for these invitations to be listed, but no one appears to be coordinating the invitations, most of which are verbal to the layout coordinators. It was agreed that all invitations should be channelled through the Secretary who will respond to the invitation and formalise it with the layout coordinator involved - **action Secretary Aug 5**

- Work days

The work day held on Saturday 26th August was poorly attended and the Chairman felt this was probably due to it being held in August and on a Bank holiday weekend. It was decided that in future when a weekend workday falls on a bank holiday weekend it should be postponed until the following Tuesday when more members are usually available.

The meeting closed at 21.15

Peter Hunt – Secretary 30th August 2023