

# Abingdon and District Model Railway Club

## Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025 @ 20:00 online

1. Trustees present and apologies
  - a. Present: Bill Marnane
  - b. Apologies: None received
2. Committee Members present and apologies
  - a. Present: James Barclay, Mike Taylor, John Winchester, Phil Cole, Stephen Usher, Graham Hadingham, Mark Gregory, Trevor Slaughter
  - b. Apologies: Catherine McNeill
3. Minutes of the previous meeting (5th Aug)
  - a. **Matters Arising**

ABRAIL details will need to be considered as a separate meeting

    - i. July 2: PO Wagon - **ongoing**.  
3 were sold at Didcot show. About ½ box remaining.
    - ii. Dec 2: Member stock inventory – **ongoing**  
Mark will send an email to members about layouts and will include Member stock too.  
Phil indicated that he'd started a spreadsheet and will share that with Mark.
    - iii. July 3: Pentre Road discussions – **ongoing**  
Discussions need to be taken up with Alan Pearce with a time limit for completion. Has been under development for 20-30 years and there is concern that little progress is being made.  
**Action: Graham to request details from Alan on who's working on it, timescale and plans**
    - iv. July 4: Millanford - Transfer to Oxford being arranged - **Transfer complete, other than some cables which are being used by Pentre Road.**
    - v. Sept 8: Policy Documents uploaded to website – **ongoing**
  - b. **Actions from last meeting**
    - i. Aug 1: Bank mandate updates - **No progress. Trevor will need to visit the branch to arrange.**

- ii. Aug 2: Confirmation of amount owed by former member – **complete**.  
Graham has written to the former member and the debt is now cleared.
- iii. Aug 3: Didcot floor plans, flyers and postering - **complete**
- iv. Aug 4: ABRAIL 2026 traders - **ongoing**  
Trevor has started working with Mike. Details to be provided. Bill has details of invoices from 2025 which he has been asked to send over. James confirmed that Shaun had some traders confirmed. Will keep rate the same £8/linear foot. Anyone at ABRAIL 2025 will have first option on attending in 2026.
- v. Aug 5: Exhibition committee meeting Sept 2025 - **ongoing**  
Hasn't yet happened.  
Date: Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 8pm  
**ACTION: Phil to circulate invite.**
- vi. Charities commission document upload – **ongoing**  
Still need to add Chris, Bill, Graham or another Trustee and then remove Trevor from the site to allow him to focus on the ABRAIL role.  
**ACTION: Graham to talk to Chris Nutman**
- vii. Gate Access – **ongoing**  
Details provided and all have access. Trevor is not currently able to open the gate. Phil will check the list again with FS Mackenzie.  
We discussed procedures regarding who should latch the gate open on a Friday evening. First keyholder to arrive on Friday should latch the gate open.

#### 4. Safety & Safeguarding

No issues reported

#### 5. Policy Reviews

- a. Lone worker policy
- b. Financial Controls
- c. Vulnerable persons
- d. Bullying and Harassment

Bullying and harassment refers to a grievance procedure – we will need to find one!

Financial – some discussion to be had

Other policies – ok. All formally adopted as of 14 October

**ACTION: Phil to format docs and upload to website**

**ACTION: All to review Financial Controls and offer comments for approval next time**

e. Risk Management

Chris has also suggested that we need to consider this as well as the policies above. There will be additional risk coverage for ABRAIL 2026. Further discussions to be had in other meetings.

6. Treasurer's report

Trevor reported that there is £13,195.28 in the Current Account, £19,818.44 in the Deposit account. The credit card balance is currently £1,912.36 (including the recent insurance renewal + Didcot show) There are creditors due £596.03 - mostly second hand sales to be paid out. This leaves a balance of £30,505.33.

Trevor will update the Didcot accounts and a PDF of the front page will need to be sent round to membership.

7. Didcot show 2025

Draft accounts have been circulated and show a surplus of just under £3000.

Dominic would like a more formal review of the show, so discussion was limited to general observations and financials.

The second hand stall was successful and there was some discussion about stock and whether we should accept donations when 3<sup>rd</sup> parties offer. Concerns were raised regarding the organisation of the event which we felt could have been better.

We will set aside an hour one Friday to hold the washup meeting when Dominic is available to attend.

**ACTION: Phil to find when Dominic is available, Graham to chair the meeting**

8. ABRAIL 2026

Deferred to Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct

9. Layout proposals

a. Didcot replacement

A team is evolving around Mark, Trevor and Chris M, and has received positive indications from those that have seen the thoughts.

A provisional track plan is being developed, and they are looking more at Didcot Parkway rather than the Power Station.

b. Young members

James has had some details from Ethan Purves. He is proposing a 900mm x 750mm, Narrow gauge themed layout. There is a small team being brought together. James and Phil had a brief, positive, discussion with the Oxfordshire Narrow Gauge Modellers at the Didcot Show. We could also bring this into a bigger proposal for developing a young modelers group within the Club.

We will be receptive to ADMRC completely supporting the cost of the layout build.

#### 10. New Shed

Graham and Chris M have discussed replacing one of the small sheds, but Chris is now unsure that this would bring significant benefit. Instead, it is felt that we might gain more by replacing the current workshop which is 15'x8' with one that is 20'x10' - potentially a store with a small workshop. Chris is investigating pricing and options. It might be better to store layout pieces indoors, and the posters etc stored outside. Storing the posters in the main store has caused some disruption to the Library door. The workshop and its equipment needs refreshing and we need a fuller discussion about what is needed.

#### 11. A.O.B.

##### a. Projector & Screen for the Library

Steve presented his proposal for a ceiling mounted pull down screen which could be used for presentations. Screen £70-150, Projector to be loaned by Steve for now.

All in favour

##### b. Concerns over road poster collection / lone working.

More support from club members is needed for this

##### c. Second hand stall

Need to sort through what we have in the Pentre Road cabin. We should send a note to all members requesting items before Christmas. Need a volunteer to look after this.

Next meetings:

- Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025 (Exhibitions)
- Tues 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Closed: 22:10.