

Abingdon and District Model Railway Club

Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 13th Jan 2026 @ 20:00 Online

1. Opening remarks
2. Trustees present and apologies
 - a. Present: Alan
 - b. Apologies: Bill, Mike
3. Committee Members present and apologies
 - a. Present: Mark, Phil, Trevor, James, John, Mike, Catherine, Graham
 - b. Apologies:
4. Minutes of the previous meeting (14th Oct 2025)

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as an accurate record

 - a. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising which were not covered elsewhere in the agenda
 - b. **Continued Actions**
 - i. July 2: PO Wagon - **ongoing**.

We still have some stock remaining which we will stack on ticket desk at ABRAIL - "last chance to purchase"
 - ii. Dec 2: Member stock inventory – **ongoing**

No progress made – layout coordinators asked for details
 - iii. July 3: Pentre Road discussions – **ongoing**

Alan was present and gave an update, suggesting agreement that it is taking too long and we should step back from its further development. Further problems are coming to light through attempting to run trains. It might be possible to reuse some of the boards, but recovering some of the point motors etc would be a good idea. Trevor proposed attempting a new layout in HOe scale – and making it more achievable.
 - iv. Sept 8: Policy Documents uploaded to website – **done**

Phil has updated these to the website -
 - v. Aug 1: Bank mandate updates – **ongoing**

John has written to the Bank and submitted a form requesting to add Graham in place

of Bill. Waiting on Barclays to process.

Action – John to chase Barclays at end of January 2026

vi. Millanford

Shares similar cables to Pentre Road, so we might be able to help them with some if required.

vii. Charities commission document upload – **done**

Trevor and Chris uploaded the documents. Other policy documents need to be developed – we should aim to convert at least 1 policy each year.

Phil, Trevor and Graham will identify the next policies to update and will report back to the committee next time.

Other Trustees have been added to the Charities site.

c. **Actions from last meeting**

5. **Safety & Safeguarding**

No issues have been raised since the last meeting

6. **Policy Reviews**

a. **Financial Controls**

The v0.2 and v0.3 versions of the proposed Financial Controls Policy document were discussed. New layouts – it was felt that these should be proposed to committee first, but the aim would be to fully fund any viable layout.

We should aim to keep 6 months' running costs in reserve – covering rent, gas and electricity. Legally, we should keep 6 years + current statements etc – these are available through the Barclays banking app.

Progress through the year will be tracked by the Treasurer reporting the bank and credit card balances at each committee meeting

Action - Phil to update the document with the numbers discussed

7. **Treasurer's report**

Trevor provided the details of the bank balances – total £17,890.67 made up of £9,070.36 in the current account and £8,820.31 in the Premium account. ABRAIL hotels have already been booked and there is no outstanding balance on the Club credit card.

8. **ABRAIL 2026**

Preparations are progressing well and Trevor is working hard to make the desired surplus. Graham hasn't found anyone to take the Raffle on yet, after Sue found that she was unable to pick this up this year. Trevor suggested that we should concentrate on making the income for the show through tickets rather than upselling Tombola and Raffle. Comparison was made with the Manchester Show where a big prize was offered in exchange for feedback etc. The Raffle made £1,500 in 2025, but carried a high resource load to find and distribute prizes.

James has confirmed meeting with the College at 2pm on 23rd. Naomi, James, Phil and Graham James will get a quote from Allmark for 20 carparking hi-vis and some more orange jackets. Phil will send a repeat of Sue's message from Jan 2025.

An Exhibition committee meeting will be held in early February

Action – Phil to repeat Sue's Raffle message from 2025

Action – James to obtain quotes for Hi-vis jackets

9. Didcot show 2026

Trevor to approach layouts – target Feb 2026

10. A.O.B.

a. Modelling equipment

Steve provided details of some resources that he wanted to purchase for the club members to use for modelling evenings. Trevor proposed we go ahead – all in favour.

Aiming for modelling on last Friday of the Month and talk/demonstration etc on 2nd Friday

Mark suggests 1st Fri would be a running session – bring your stock along

The projection screen is now in position in the Library

Action – details to be added to the website.

b. Library

Martin had provided some updates ahead of the meeting – the books received before

Christmas have been assimilated and there are some duplicates and overly specialised items which could be offered to members; there used to be a DYMO label machine which has gone missing – Martin wondered if a new could be purchased. Amazon has label machines for £35-£40. Purchase of a new Dymo label machine was approved.

c. Boiler

Will need to consider whether any further lagging etc is required to prevent a repeat of a problem experienced in early 2026 – the sink drain froze and condensate backed back up into the boiler.

There have been other problems identified with an internal pressure management device – this will be very expensive to replace anyway.

The boiler was replaced, we believe, in 2013 – so the boiler is approaching end of life.

Grants etc should be investigated – Graham will talk to Andrew Skinner and making enquiries after ABRAIL.

d. New workshop/store

Discussion started in 2025. Chris Maycock has looked at options 20x10' where current is. Cost ~£6000, but will need concrete footing and fitting out. CM would like to project manage, with a committee member working alongside him. This was agreed in principle, but timing will be subject to prioritisation against the boiler etc, and being able to get volunteer support to build it. Graham will continue discussions with Chris.

Meeting closed: 21:45