

## WEARDALE RAILWAY TRUST

Minutes of the management committee meeting held in Bishop Auckland Station on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009

The meeting started at 7:30 PM.

### **Those present**

Dr Mike Wood – Vice Chair  
Peter Shields – Finance Officer  
John Askwith  
Dave Foxtton  
Dave Million  
Gerry Mudd  
Steve Raine  
Fred Ramshaw  
Dave Scott  
Malcolm Simpson  
Arthur Temple  
Michael Wilkinson  
James Lynn – Secretary

### **1 Apologises for absence**

Dave Bullows, Brian Cox, Trevor Hewitt, Kevin Hillary, Graham Lord

### **2 Chairmans Report**

The Directors reviewed the Chairman Kevin Hillary previously emailed report.  
The Directors approved the Chairmans report

Proposed: Peter Shields

Seconded: Gerry Mudd

### **3 Election of Officers**

#### **Chair**

Kevin Hillary 5 votes

Proposed - Mike Wood seconded - Peter Shields

Dave Scott 6 votes

Proposed – Arthur Temple seconded – Gerry Mudd

Dave Scott was elected as Chair

#### **Vice Chair**

Trevor Hewitt 4 votes

Proposed – Arthur Temple seconded – John Askwith

Mike Wood 6 votes

Proposed – Peter Shields seconded – Dave Foxtton

Mike Wood was elected as Vice Chair

#### **Treasurer**

Trevor Hewitt – elected unopposed

Proposed – Peter Shields seconded – Gerry Mudd

Trevor Hewitt was elected as Treasurer

#### **WRCIC Trust Directors**

Kevin Hillary

Proposed – Arthur Temple seconded – Gerry Mudd

Steve Raine and Gerry Mudd (Current Trust Directors)

Proposed – Arthur Temple seconded – Dave Million

Approved unanimously

Kevin Hillary, Gerry Mudd and Steve Raine were nominated as the Trusts Directors for the WRCIC board.

#### **4 Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes from the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 meeting were approved without any corrections

Proposed - Dave Foxton  
Seconded - Steve Raine

The minutes from the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009 meeting were approved without any corrections

Proposed – Mike Wood  
Seconded – Gerry Mudd

#### **5 Matters arising from the last meeting**

None

#### **6 Identify other business.**

3 items were been identified.

#### **7 Conflicts of Interest**

None

#### **8 Treasurer's report**

Peter Shields reported on behalf of Trevor Hewitt that the Trusts income was £1200 (Number 40 hire income), Peter reported that Number 40's October hire is still outstanding and that the November hire invoice will be raised shortly. Book sales income has been paid £ (value?). Expenditure consisted £600 for magazines and £210 for prizes. Peter commented on an invoice received from Winning Moves for £500 for the Durham Monopoly game costs – Arthur Temple remarked that this will be paid by WRCIC and that 12 boxes issued to the Trust will be covered by a sponsor.

AGM Raffle and pie and peas money (approx £50) has not been accounted for Dave Scott and Trevor Hewitt to investigate.

Peter reminded the Directors that the Trust may have a potential shortfall of £25k to £30k in 2 – 3 years time for boiler certificate renewal/repairs to Number 40.

The Treasurers report was approved

Proposed: Mike Wood  
Seconded: Gerry Mudd

#### **9 Secretary's report**

No report was presented.

AGM – The Secretary reviewed some issues that arose from the AGM. Our accountant is to fully restate the loans the Trust made to WRCIC into our accounts which will require a slight modification to the accounts presented at the AGM. The Secretary asked that Directors supply information requested (by email) for the Trustees Annual Report.

The Secretary confirmed that the Directors who had resigned at the AGM have been removed from Trusts Companies House records.

#### **10 Number 40**

Malcolm Simpson reported that Number 40s bearings have been repaired and following a run last weekend appeared to be running much cooler. Malcolm also reported that some of the springs need servicing (by Owens of Darlington) and that a new spring should be purchased as a spare – Trevor Hewitt to see if a component drawing is in his files and costs are to be obtained from the supplier – Malcolm Simpson.

Proposal: The Directors authorised the purchase of a spare spring and servicing of the current set of springs (servicing costs to set at 10% of the new spring cost – Trust Directors would need to approve above this figure).

Proposed: Mike Wood

Seconded: Steve Raine

The Directors approved the proposal

## **11 Restoration Activities**

### **11a Carriage and Wagon**

Graham Lord has agreed to help form a restoration team. The G5 Group is to loan the Trust/railway an LMS BG coach.

### **11b Infrastructure**

No report.

## **12 Volunteering (Dave Million)**

Dave Million had previously emailed out a report.

The Chair reminded Directors to fill in their time sheets.

Michael Wilkinson commented on the CRB process – no decisions were taken.

Work your pudding off day is set for 28<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

KX Stanhope Special on 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010 volunteer stewards are required.

## **Weardale Railways CIC Reports**

### **13a/13b Report from the Company Board meetings/ Report from Management Group meetings (Trust representatives)**

Board meeting/Management Group meeting – no meetings have been held since last Trust Council meeting.

Gerry reported that there would be a BARS shareholders meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

Steve Raine/Gerry Mudd reported the following updates:

- Interviews for railway GM will take place after Christmas
- 95% of work to Bishop Auckland has been completed.
- HMRI inspection due 25/26 January 2010.
- Work will start on trackwork in depot in preparation for coal transportation.
- Wolsingham depot bridge has been inspected after the recent flooding had damaged the abutment concrete apron. This is to be repaired shortly.
- News update – Bumper Xmas special 10 pages. Gerry is looking for a volunteer to take over this work.
- Deposition evidence has been completed on encroaching fence at Witton-le-Wear – should be in court before Christmas.
- Wolsingham Steel legal documents have been received for review by WRCIC lawyers.
- Steve Raine reviewed the coal disposal developments at Wolsingham.
- Eastgate Eco village – A project manager has been recruited.

John Askwith expressed concerns about the operation of the railway as a heritage line and the possible use of modern flashing tail lights (for example). Steve Raine commented that some of the grants received had conditions which BARS would be made aware of.

### **13c Report from the Marketing Group meeting (John Askwith)**

John Askwith reported:

- Santa Specials – Need a Santa for Saturday. All Santa Specials sold out thanks to Dave Million and volunteers.
- Timetable leaflet 2010 – 2011 at Lintons – needs to be proof read before Xmas. Gerry commented that the timetable would have 160 running days. This may be changed to allow trains to run to Bishop Auckland – this needs Rail Regulators approval.
- Special events – War on the line date confirmed. Tornado may visit the line in April/May 2010 and there may be possible joint venture with Locomotion. A special cause train is to be run with a local radio station date to be advised.
- Countryfile magazine to write an article about the railway in a forthcoming issue.

- Northern Rail timetable published with details on Weardale Railway.
- Steve Raine asked if there were any large WR posters left – 2 framed ones are in the shop.

## **14 Other Reports from Trust Directors**

### **14a Weekly Lottery/Fund raising (Arthur Temple)**

Ongoing.

### **14b Major Projects and Funding Sub Group – (Gerry Mudd/Arthur Temple)**

Gerry reported that a grant source (up to £8000) for the approach road to Wolsingham car park had been identified. Total project cost is around £30,000. BARS business plan has been received by Gerry.

### **14c Educational Activities/Talks/Publications/Magazine – (John Askwith)**

John Askwith reported the following:-

Publications	Booklet Bishop Auckland in postcards to be sold in shop. John can get these at cost. Mike Wood suggested that books could be sold by Trust and funds donated to WRCIC – to be checked with our accountant.
BTL	BTL issue 66 contributions by 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan dispatch 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2010.
Talks	5 talks are planned in 2010.
No 40 Postcards	Less than 100 postcards left.

### **14d Membership Secretary's Report (Frank Holmes)**

See emailed report.

### **14e New fund raising ideas**

Footplate driving experience days – Mike raised this idea for discussion. Peter Shields has sent details to Mike Fairburn and Alistair Gregory but has had no response. Gerry is to get details and run it past the Management board meeting. The Directors discussed ideas that would be needed to form a complete package. Footplate driving experience to be added to the agenda.

Monopoly sets – To be advertised in BTL – sale will be monitored to ensure Trust doesn't make a loss on this.

DVD – Peter (Spielberg) Shields reported that his DVD made £110 and a second edition is to be released with additional features - £20 for 1.5 hours.

## **13 Any other business.**

Wensleydale Railway – Peter Shields handed out a leaflet from Wensleydale Railway detailing the economic impact it has on the local economy. Peter suggested that the railway should undertake a similar exercise. Gerry volunteered to undertake this work with help from Steve Raine.

Cockerton Hill Bridge Bishop Auckland – Peter Shields reported that this bridge would be closed during January and February 2010 which may cause problems for WR trains. Northern Rail passengers are to be brought into Bishop Auckland by bus until work is complete.

Donated Bikes – No report.

PTS – Peter Shields reported on an email from Don Heath following a fatality of a look out man at Leeds Station. Peter is concerned about the lack of PTS training for volunteers and suggested the Trust as part of its duty of care take responsibility for this training.

ANOB – ANOB is to send a cheque for project work on the line.

Meeting closed at 21:45

**13 Date/time of the next meeting is 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010 7:30PM at Bishop Auckland Station.**