

## RDRPS COMMITTEE 22 JAN 2014

### **1. Welcome, apologies.**

**Present:** Frank Grant (Chair), Dave Cowie, Dave Pearson, Sandra Pearson, Jon Tyler

**Apologies:** Richard Hamlet.

### **2. Adoption of Minutes of last meeting.**

- Correction GUV purchase to be repaid at £1000 per year over four years, not £100. Query about purchase had been received from James West. Confirmation of agreement to purchase the GUV was thought to have been minuted around 2 years ago.
- The minutes were adopted, proposed Dave Pearson, 2nd Frank Grant.

### **3. Actions, matters arising.**

- HLF will give us £4000 on receipt of the Station building completion certificate. A realistic date for this will be end 2014.
- Referring to the corrected minute above, the Committee agrees to purchase the GUV under repayment conditions of £1000 per year over 4 years commencing 1 July 2014.
- Incident report on rail sliding off a forklift, narrowly missing a volunteer. The incident report has been completed. Potential fatal. Several lessons have been learned, and should be incorporated in future Risk Assessments.

### **4. Check in. Hopes and Fears for 2014.**

#### ***Fears:***

- Lack of new volunteers.
- Keeping present volunteers. ACTION: DAVE PEARSON to outline the running of a Volunteers Weekend.
- Advertising not effective. Evening Express?
- Lack of suitable and sufficient volunteers for steam operations, of which there will be more in 2014 than in the previous season.
- Lack of operational staff.
- Lack of training training for such staff.

#### ***Hopes:***

- Get a bogie bolster on site.
- Morale keeps pace with ambition.

### **5. Financials.**

Audited accounts 2012/13; Update on OSCR returns: Information to members re audited accounts

#### ***200 Club***

1. No.300 Peter Exell
2. No. 184 Bill Glennie
3. No. 170 Bill Halliday

- Committed funds total £25631.62. The bulk of this is being paid through the Society due to opportunity of reimbursement of VAT. Invoices to Rocks by Rail and Severn Valley Rly. We had to pay the cost of removal of the steam loco and benefit by reimbursement of the VAT. Total reimbursement will be around £12000. This recharge

## RDRPS COMMITTEE 22 JAN 2014

mode of operation is not one to be repeated, due to complications in terms of being a charity rather than a commercial operation.

- No invoice yet received for costs and transport of coaches.
- Oldmeldrum is currently over budget by £1349. Future Expenditure estimates are for interior lighting, exterior light total £1800 plus £2000 for flooring.
- RDRPS balance in bank is £19274.45.
- Conversations are ongoing with DRC regarding loan repayment in order to cover these expenses. Working relationship with DRC is extremely good.
- OSCR: return requires to be completed with the addition of a statement of activities.
- Station moved from Oldmeldrum. Repairs and refurbishment of panels. Commenced re-erection of station building. Rail crane purchased. Cross-over and other track works completed. A number of external talks and school visits completed. Several news items were broadcast regarding progress of the railway. This return will be sent 23 January 2014.
- Accounts for 2012/13 have been audited and signed off OK. Auditor John Craig was very helpful in terms of formatting. Cost £75. Payment for this is Approved by the Committee, proposed Dave Pearson, 2nd Dave Cowie.
- The committee agreed the authorised bank signatories are to be Frank Grant, Richard Hamlet and Jon Tyler. Any two signatories from three to sign cheques. The remainder of the committee signed bank forms to agree to this.
- A Bank resolution regarding operation of the account is to be entered in minutes.

### **6. Additional to Financials:** Sponsorship, Grant applications

- We are pursuing a grant application for footpath extension for £1000 from Marr Area Council. (To be applied for today 22 Jan 2014).
- Mary Salmond Trust to be approached for £500 for same purpose.
- £100 gained from Entrust.

### **7. Membership and Volunteers**

- There has been no increase in membership fee for two years. It was agreed that this should stay the same until other funding is needed. Forms for volunteers and for 200 Club need to be printed at small expense by the local print shop-agreed. Some members are sending in subscriptions now.
- Expansion of the 200 Club - invitations to join will be sent through next edition of Queen's Messenger.
- Website - a Members section, password protection would be beneficial in order to lodge finance QM, and other information to be accessed by members only. ACTION: Frank ask Martin if this is possible.
- Volunteers SEE ABOVE. New volunteer Danny Burke civil engineer, started last weekend. Midweek team has disbanded.
- Can RGU etc. be asked to come to the railway? Frank to explore the issue of school visits etc. with a local teacher of technical subjects.

### **8. Joint Planning:**

Station layout; Staffing for functions and normal services using BSO/TSO

- A Joint Plan has been produced by Richard. There is a vital need of co-ordination between work teams and Planner.
- Problems with staffing. Frank is liaising with Chris on this issue. Relief staff are

## RDRPS COMMITTEE 22 JAN 2014

urgently needed.

### 9. Relationships: DRC, FRHT etc.

- Relationships with DRC are good and working very well.
- FRHT relationship. Constitution being rewritten to remove direct relationship in terms of Trustees on that committee as of right. Annual payment of £500 to FRHT was commenced in November last. RDRPS should use this pending change in FRHT constitution as an opportunity to improve relationships.

### 10. 2014 operating issues.

This is properly a DRC matter, but it is believed the SMS needs reference to the Training Programme. ACTION: BOB KELLEY to investigate reference to training needs in SMS.

### 11. Queen's Messenger.

Since there was no volunteer to edit the QM, Bob Kelley will carry on with assistance from Dave Pearson as necessary. QM Needs updates on planning and what's happening on the railway. Cut-off for content to Bob is 10 March 2014.

ACTION: Dave C to provide one line update on activities.

### 12. Committee meetings and AGM - dates and format.

16:00 starts to accommodate Richard.

Next meeting Wednesday 19 February.

AGM in first week in October, but relate to school holidays.

### 13. AOCB

- Shop location is retained as existing until further notice.
- Volunteers asking for training. Courses should be reviewed annually. SMS?
- Statement of accounts. Instead of an EGM, as some have suggested, we should put these audited accounts on the website. Committee members to approve these accounts. ACTION: Jon will email them to committee members soonest. ACTION: Frank will then ask Martin to insert in Archives section of website. Subsequently circulate membership indicating this location by email.
- Other railways have appeals to extend line and repair bridges. How do they do this? Probably a stand-alone CHARITABLE company to raise funds - "Three Bridges to Banchory". Explore this and float the idea at the AGM. Explore engineering costs prior to this in order to outline the task and objective.
- Is it possible to hold a public event in Banchory? Banchory Show? British Legion?

R KELLEY (Sec.)  
29 January 2014







