

Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth Rail Passengers' Association

Annual General Meeting followed by Ordinary Meeting

Saturday 11th June 2022, 11:15

Machynlleth Bowling Club

Present: Dennis Bates^(r), James Davies, Angus Eickhoff, Roger Goodhew, Sarah Harvey^(r), Robert Knight, Bill Redfern, Jeff Smith, Roger Whitehouse, Cllr Michael Williams.

^(r) – remote.

Apologies: Carol Handcock, Tony Harvey, Ivor Morris, Trevor Roberts, Thomas Wheeler.

Annual General Meeting:-

Jeff Smith welcomed members to our second face to face meeting and stated that it was particularly nice to see Roger Goodhew and Robert Knight who had been unable to participate remotely.

Election of Officers:

Michael Williams proposed that Jeff Smith be re-elected to the chair. This was seconded by Roger Whitehouse and agreed by the meeting.

The meeting received notification from Ivor Morris that he wished to step down from Vice-Chair. Jeff Smith proposed Angus Eickhoff for Vice-Chair and Ivor Morris for committee member without portfolio. This was seconded by James Davies and agreed by the meeting.

Michael Williams proposed that Bill Redfern continue as Treasurer and Membership Officer. This was seconded by Jeff Smith and agreed by the meeting.

Despite requests for volunteers the office of Secretary remains vacant.

Robert Knight proposed that Denis Bates continue as Newsletter Editor. This was seconded by Jeff Smith and agreed by the meeting.

Jeff Smith proposed that Robert Knight continue as Distribution Officer. (Robert requested that he be given maximum notice of publication.) This was seconded by James Davies and agreed by the meeting.

Jeff Smith proposed that Angus Eickhoff continue as Web Master. This was seconded by Robert Knight and agreed by the meeting.

Jeff Smith proposed that Roger Goodhew and Tony Harvey continue as Committee Members without portfolio. This was seconded by Robert Knight and agreed by the meeting. The meeting recognised Tony Harvey's recent success in achieving a doctorate.

Bill Redfern proposed Thomas Wheeler and Roger Whitehouse as Committee Members without portfolio. This was seconded by Jeff Smith and agreed by the meeting.

Treasurers Report:

Bill Redfern presented a summary of the associations finances, attached.

Though income and expenditure are roughly balanced (over the 18 months since the last report) it is too close for comfort, and we should be aiming to build up funds for campaigning. This reflects that the membership renewals are currently low at 30, renewals continue to come in throughout the year. We all need to encourage more members to join.

Angus Eickhoff pointed out that we have more subscribers to our Facebook pages than actual members, but it is not clear how to encourage them to join.

Bill Redfern proposed that we increase the number of cheque signatories, on a any 2 signatures required basis; and accordingly that the signatures of Roger Whitehouse and Jeff Smith be added. This was seconded by Jeff Smith and agreed by the meeting. Jeff Smith took an action to ensure that councils along the coast are aware. It was thought that Trevor Roberts may be able to help encourage membership along the Coast Line.

Scope:

Bill Redfern proposed that we formally confirm that the scope of the association includes the Cambrian Coast Line. This was seconded by Jeff Smith and agreed by the meeting.

Meetings Programme:

It was proposed and agreed that future AGMs should be held in the Spring/Summer.

Meetings programme agreed that we should aim for the 2nd Saturday in each month.

9th July 11:15 Welshpool, Royal Oak;

13th August 11:15 Machynlleth;

10th September 11:45 Tywyn, Talyllyn

8th October 12:15 Borth, Railway Inn

12th November 11:30 Shrewsbury

10th December 11:45 Council Chamber?

Note Tywyn/Borth to be swapped if Slater room unavailable.

Ordinary Meeting:

The minutes of the May meeting were accepted with typographical corrections.

Roger Goodhew and Roger Whitehouse questioned when the refreshment trolleys will be able to accept cash payments. To be raised with TfW.

It was noticed that it is proposed that there will be no trains at all on the Coast Line during the Autumn Barmouth Bridge works. It was considered that bustitution should be minimised and that trains should be considered at least to Tywyn.

It is rumoured that problems have been identified with the running of the new 197 trains along the Coast Line.

The importance of through journeys from the coast was reiterated.

We hear that TfW have purchased shortened HST sets for summer use between Manchester and Llandrindod. Why not the Cambrian?

Finances at 31st May 2022

Opening balance (1 st September 2020):	£1,233.31			
Income:				
	Subscriptions & donations		£935.00	
	Interest		£0.10	
				£935.10
Expenditure:				
	Newsletter 82	Postage	£79.36	
		Printing	£116.00	
	Newsletter 83	Postage	£71.21	
		Printing	£116.00	
	Newsletter 84	Postage	£82.73	
		Printing	£116.00	
	Newsletter 85	Postage	£37.49	
		Printing	£100.00	
	Newsletter 86	Postage	£68.47	
		Printing	£100.00	
	Web hosting		£40.00	
				£927.26
Closing balance:	£1,241.15			

Membership 30

Liabilities due:

Newsletter 87 Postage £77.59, Printing £104.00
2022 Web hosting £40, reduced by donation from Angus Eickhoff.

Notes:

#1 Postage for Newsletter 86 reduced thanks to a generous donation of stamps by Judith Adams.
#2 Average Newsletter cost is £186.
#3 Corrected to include printing costs owed to Treasurer for BACS payments.