

Minutes of the 36th Annual General Meeting of the West Somerset Steam Railway Trust held in the BL Meeting Room at Bishops Lydeard Station on Saturday 28 April 2018 at 14.00 hours

Chris Austin took the Chair and approximately 23 members were present.

The Chairman welcomed those attending including Ian Coleby, Chairman of the WSR PLC and Geoff Garfield, in a personal capacity. The Chairman extended a welcome to the members to visit the model railway after the meeting where Jacob, Tom and Matt were in charge.

1. Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting.

Approved as presented.

2. Financial Statements

Agreed as presented by Chris Bolt, who reported that the reserves were in a healthy state.

Proposed by Ray Clack

Seconded by Alan Meade

Approved

3. Election of Directors

To elect Alan Meade

Proposed by Tim Randle

Seconded by Roger Legg

Approved

4. Election Vice President

To elect Peter Treharne

Proposed by Alan Meade

Seconded by Greg McNelly

Approved

5. Trust Business Plan

Chris Bolt presented the final version of the Business Plan for approval

Proposed by Greg McNelly

Seconded by David Baker

Approved

6. Chairman's Update

Chris Austin reported that he had been Chairman of the WSSRT for eight years and looked back at some of the issues relevant then. The Trust had inherited heritage carriages and funds were required to restore these. A Business Plan had been produced and the present Business Plan was the second version. Governance matters had been addressed and the WSSRT now had 75 members. The Chairman thanked his fellow Trustees for their support and made particular mention of the hard work and support from the two departing Trustees, Chris Bolt and David Baker and to Pete Treharne for all his work with Blue Anchor Museum. The Chairman reported that 6705 was approaching completion and the Project Management Group would turn their attention to 3639 next. He thanked the volunteers led by Greg McNelly and the proposals to manage the next project prepared by Roger Legg.

He reported that there are strong teams of volunteers in both museums now. The Chairman also explained that he was unable to chair the proposed Heritage Committee because of other commitments and therefore the PLC and WSRA would be looking elsewhere for a lead person.

Finally, the Chairman made a plea for anyone interested in the management of the WSSRT to talk to him about becoming a Trustee.

Question and Answer Session

A question was raised by Nick Baxter about the lack of the use of social media to promote projects and the Chairman replied that this had been discussed by the Board and it was intended to invite the young people involved in the model railway to advise the Board on the best way forward.

Greg McNelly suggested he could probably produce a group on Facebook and he would keep the Trust informed on developments. It was emphasised that time was needed to look after any social media site and keep it up to date.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed.

Members were invited to view the model railway which was being staffed by young volunteers and a number of members took advantage of this invitation.