

Tarka Valley Railway CIO

Minutes of the First Annual General Meeting Held at Torridge Vale Social Club, South Street, Torrington on Tuesday 10th January 2017

Chaired by invitation: David Morgan and Mark Smith of the Heritage Railway Association (HRA)

Present: 30 people

The meeting commenced at 14.12

Mark Smith outlined the voting procedure for the meeting. David Morgan summarised the results of the TVRG meeting and proposed co-opting Janet Welch, as Treasurer, to the TVRG committee, to which all present agreed. He then asked everyone to let Janet know of any information they had about assets and their ownership. David then asked the acting chairman of the CIO, Ralph Chapman, if he had authority to carry on chairing the meeting, to which the answer was yes.

Janet Welch was then asked to go through the accounts as presented, which she did.

Member John Puddy asked whether the grants in the report were restricted or unrestricted, and Janet said that this would become clear as the report was talked through. Janet also expanded the year-end report both to go into more depth and to bring the attendees up-to-date with the financial situation as it now stands. John Puddy also asked about gift aid, and Janet said that this had been planned for and was about to be claimed. A question was also asked about the total cost of the second locomotive – had all the cost of this been raised? Janet replied that all the money had been raised and the locomotive paid for.

Member Mike Durkin asked whether the first phase extension had been costed. Janet affirmed that it had and gave the figures.

Member Alan Wright then proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer for a full and detailed account of the financial position, to which everyone concurred.

Member John Puddy asked if the costs for the whole line to Bideford could be extrapolated from the cost of phase one. Member Phil Tarry (the Railway's Independent Appointed Person), answered this and said that it could not as the conditions on the other phases were different to phase one.

David Morgan then invited the candidates for election to say a few words about themselves.

Anthony Williams gave a summary of his involvement with other railways and his work with the Tarka Valley Railway.

Ralph Chapman gave a resume of his professional career and expressed his wish to expand the Railway and bring people into Torrington.

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Richard Rumbold was unable to attend due to ill health, and so Janet Welch summarised Richard's career in Torrington. Rod Garner added that Richard was also a Trustee of the Great Torrington Poor Lands Trust, which own the station buildings, currently leased out as the *Puffing Billy* café and restaurant.

Andrew Boyd said that he was both a Town and County Councillor. He was a community person rather than railway, and summarised his career. He said that he could see the potential of the Railway.

Colin Clifton did not attend today's meeting.

As neither Gary nor Karen Flack was in attendance, Aubrey McKenzie read out statements on behalf of them. Gary is a paramedic and a teacher, while Karen is the proprietor of a clothing shop. Trustee Martin Wilson asked why, if they were interested in the Railway, they had not made themselves known or become members. Aubrey said that he did not know. Member Bob Wood also asked why they had not shown any interest before, and no one knows who they are. Member John Puddy said he had concerns over the husband and wife issue; however there should be a cross-section of skills among the Trustees. Member Pat Brewer made the observation that these people only seemed to put forward just as the election meeting was due to take place. David Morgan said that perhaps the existing Trustees should ask candidates to make themselves known to Trustees at a meeting. Member Mike Durkin asked how Trustees are made aware of their responsibilities, and David replied that more needs to be known about those who wish to become Trustees. Member Richard Deane believed he had some contact with the Flacks by supporting events, but it appeared that no one else knew of this.

David Morgan moved on to the appointment of auditors, and the Treasurer spoke up for them.

Voting then took place, following which Mark Smith counted the votes while member Mike Durkin acted as scrutineer. While the votes were being counted, Member Phil Tarry gave a talk on the proposed phase one development work.

David Morgan then directed Aubrey McKenzie to remove email lists of members from anyone who had been using them without authorisation. Aubrey McKenzie agreed to do this. David also requested that Aubrey tell Mac Head to remove the unofficial website that had been used in competition to the official website. As regards the facebook page, Aubrey said that he will pass the details of this to whoever in the CIO will be taking it over.

Mark Smith then read out the results of the today's ballot as follows:

resolution		for	against	neither
1	Report & Accounts	28	0	
2	Elections			
		Williams	24	6
		Chapman	24	3
		Rumbold	25	3
		Boyd	25	3

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		Clifton	8	20	
		Flack, G	6	21	
		Flack, K	6	21	
3	Account examiners		28	0	
4	Remuneration		28	0	

Then the proxies were read out as follows:

resolution		for	against	neither	
1	Report & Accounts		29	0	
2	Elections	Williams	29	0	
		Chapman	31	0	
		Rumbold	30	0	
		Boyd	30	0	
		Clifton	2	26	
		Flack, G	2	23	
		Flack, K	2	23	
3	Account examiners		32	0	
4	Remuneration		29	0	

The cumulative results were therefore:

resolution		for	against	neither	
1	Report & Accounts		57	0	
2	Elections	Williams	53	6	
		Chapman	55	3	
		Rumbold	55	3	
		Boyd	55	3	
		Clifton	10	46	
		Flack, G	8	44	
		Flack, K	8	44	
3	Account examiners		60	0	
4	Remuneration		57	0	

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It was therefore declared that resolutions 1, 3 & 4 were carried and that those elected were Anthony Williams, Ralph Chapman, Richard Rumbold and Andrew Boyd.

David Morgan then proposed that Mark Smith be co-opted on to the Board of Trustees, which was agreed. He also mentioned the possible appointment of Phil Simkin as a Vice-President, and that the Heritage Railway Association will be keeping an eye on things for at least the next 12 months. He said that he would be speaking to Ros Mills of DCC tomorrow to let her know the positive outcome of this and the prior TVRG meeting so that the lease negotiations can proceed.

Rod Garner then gave a vote of thanks to the Heritage Railway Association and David Morgan and Mark Smith in particular for managing the two meetings.

The meeting then closed.

AGREED