

Minutes of Annual General Meeting for the of RDRPS held at Crathes Hall on 1st October 2016 at 2pm

Welcome from the Chairman followed by a minute silence in respect of the passing of Councillor Jenny Watson and condolences to her husband Dr Adam Watson

Apologies	Sandra Pearson, David Pearson, Chris Milburn, Graham Ironside, Joan Ironside, Bill Halliday, Charles Brown, Margaret Brown, Malcolm McNeil, Angie McNeil, Keith Robertson, Ken Ashcroft, Peter Thomson	
Minutes of previous meeting	The minutes from the previous meeting were read and proposed by Frant Grant seconded by Peter Mearns. Note made to provide a draft of minutes prior to the meeting next year.	
Chairman's report	<p>Welcomed attendees and thanked everyone for attending. Chairman DC visited Ferryhill which would appear to be going downhill due to lack of finance.</p> <p>Proposed actions – vandalised coach appeal – work progressing well LNER Brake Van, work on going in leaps and bounds by Harvey, Frank, Pete Ian – the linings to be replaced GNSR work has been approved by the committee, although the work should be carried out inside for stripping and painting LNWR – Picnic Saloon gone to private site for restoration for a period of 18 months, costs to be approved on going Way forward – track to layby and platform at Milton – Bert working on it. Platform to be dismantled and re building between January and April 2017 7000 visitors over the year, thank you for the dedication of volunteers.</p>	
Treasurer's report	<p>Copies provided for the Balance sheet, detail of brake van in general terms. Expenses for materials and equipment and other income. Separate sheet with detail. Main expenses for the layby. During the year £13000 paid back on the loan leaving balance of £10000 end of financial year. We are receiving two grants of £1000. Funds to be allocated for the re-alignment west of Bridge of Bennie. The other grant of £1500 from the transport trust at Ferryhill. Problems encountered regarding signatories, the bank causing the delay, all resolved now. We are trying to encourage payments on line which will be quicker and easier for audit trail.</p> <p>Application to be made for grants to fund carriage shed, which is in principle accepted for final submission. Current lease held by DRC</p>	
Questions from the floor	<p>Why are we not receiving Gift Aid, RH replied there is a delay in updating the records, we are not losing Gift Aid. Open discussion followed regarding the loan, the tax paid and the options for increasing income. Questions raised on how the donations were spent, answer given that coach repairs were the biggest cost at present 50% of donations spent. The work is continuing until 100% of donations are used and retained for restoration in future.</p> <p>Were all funds used for the vandalised coach? No the costs were appropriated for vandalism and restoration. Gift aid will be applied. Response given we are looking into long and short term projects next year to promote the railway, but as always we need more volunteers for the layby and beyond. Proposed Volunteers Day</p>	
Auditor Approved	Proposed Auditor John Grieg, RH proposed and DC seconded.	

<p>Election of Office Bearers</p>	<p>No one nominated as Treasurer, RH to continue, DC proposed FG seconded, Richard Hamlet duly appointed SG nominated as Secretary, proposed by HP seconded by BK Sandra Guyan duly appointed as secretary Frank Grant nominated as Procurement Supervisor Proposed by DC seconded by JR therefore Frank Grant duly appointed</p> <p>No other nominations made</p>	
<p>AOCB</p>	<p>GNSR coach at Ferryhill is deteriorated with no resources to fund repair. G Simpson may take it on to take control JW suggests giving ownership to G Simpson then we can have first refusal. Can we dispose of assets? Check constitution SCIO – not enough known to reduce liability, the committee propose to look at it as SCIO negotiate for lease on its own right. Why have lease rights, response – its timing. Propose asking membership, but what are the benefits. Maintenance – have to build in costs when planning fund distribution BEMU – JR to take on project with outline plan for workscope to return BEMU to fully operating condition but is committing to funds counterproductive whilst expanding the line west. Matter of priority, but dealing with challenges. Suggest reduce the priority of BEMU. Discussion regarding tendering the cost of repairs. Procedures to be formalised and published for volunteer conduct. Current procedures to be reviewed and rolled out.</p> <p>Chairman asked the floor for any proposals. None were formally given. Discussion arose regarding an email sent to some members as a proposal to make changes but no proposal was substantiated or made.</p>	
	<p>The Chairman asked if there was any other business, no response.</p> <p>All attendees were thanked and invited back to the Station at Milton for refreshment. The meeting closed at 3.15pm</p>	