

Notes of RDRPS Committee Meeting held at Milton of Crathes on 21st April 2015

Present

D Cowie (DC)

D Pearson (DP)

S Pearson (SP)

W Halliday (WH)

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the draw for the April 200 club prizes was made as follows

1st prize P Cromack Member 406

2<sup>nd</sup> prize D Musgrave Member 202

3<sup>rd</sup> prize A Pelham Burn Member 374

### **Minutes of meeting**

1 An apology for absence was received from R Hamlet

2 The minutes of the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> March were accepted as a true record proposed by D P and seconded by SP.

#### **3 Matters arising**

- DC reported that a joint meeting with DRC had been requested for a date in May yet to be finalised
- DP had banked £603 from membership subscriptions and donations
- The Queens messenger had been delivered to members in which connection DP observed the large increase in postal charges which had occurred since the last increase in membership fees and suggested suitable increases in the latter should be considered before 2016 renewals became due. Because of his difficulties in preparing membership labels this was being done by SFX in connection with printing of magazine.
- SP indicated a new volunteer had expressed an interest in becoming part of the retail and catering teams.
- WH reported on the outcome of the meeting with the Building Control officer earlier that day. The indications were that obtaining the final completion certificate would be a relatively straightforward matter and it would be hoped to reach this stage by 31<sup>st</sup> May
- WH also advised the order for a commercial dishwasher had been placed and would be in place in time for the forthcoming cream tea event on 17<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **4 Finance**

In the absence of the treasurer there was no financial update. DC observed that the current signatories to the bank account were Frank Grant, Richard Hamlet and Jon Tyler. It was resolved in view of the difficulties experienced on the previous occasion changes in signatories needed to be made to leave the situation as it stood until after the AGM at which stage new office bearers would be appointed from whom the replacement signatories could be drawn.

#### **5 Joint meeting**

Committee members were asked both to study the proposals issued by Keith Robertson at the turn of the year since these would form the main element of the agenda and think about what needs to be done in the short, medium and longer term. SP to particularly focus on catering issues and needs for the future bearing in mind the increasing focus on this aspect. In connection with the work necessary to refurbish the TSO DC reported the intention was to store the present contents in the container at the

lay by for safekeeping until the welding repairs had been carried out. WH indicated there remained three planning issues to be resolved in relation to Birkenbaud temporary platform.

A further discussion on this subject would be held in advance of the joint meeting to finalise the committee's views on the issues to be addressed.

#### **6 Progress on Infrastructure**

- It was reported steelwork for the new bridge of Bennie had been sourced and tested. Contact would be made with the project leader for a progress report.
- It had now been established the land at the rear of Morrison's car park did belong to that company. They were in favour of the land being transferred to RDRPS subject to the legal costs being borne by the Society. The treasurer was following this up.
- The grant provided by Marr Area Council towards the path work would be paid over on receipt of the bill for the purchase of the ballast showing the matching contribution by the Society. It was proposed to round up the expenditure to the nearest full load.

#### **7 AOCB**

- DC brought up the issue of trees having been cut down at the Banchory end of line much to the concern of the Estate. This had come about as a result of a misunderstanding. For the future where any work was to be undertaken in that area it would firstly be necessary to alert DRC in order that as the nominated contact point between the railway and Estate the latter could be consulted and authority given for the work to proceed.
- DC reminded the meeting that the GNSR coach was currently languishing at Ferryhill engine sheds with no work having been done on it since its removal to that site several years ago. He proposed that funds (up to £500) be provided to Ferryhill trust to undertake the outstanding work necessary to complete the restoration. On completion the coach to remain at the present location until suitable covered accommodation became available at Milton. It was agreed that he attend the next meeting of the Ferryhill Trust to discuss the matter.
- The committee wished to place on record the Society's sincere thanks for the sterling efforts of the outgoing Chairman and Secretary during their hectic period of office and expressed it's appreciation that both would continue to support the Society in its day to day operations

#### **8 Next meeting**

To be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May at Milton of Crathes