

**ROYAL DEESIDE RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY
COMMITTEE MEETING.
10 December 2014**

1. Welcome, apologies.

Present: Frank Grant (Chair), Dave Cowie, Sandra Pearson, Dave Pearson, Jon Tyler, Bob Kelley (Sec.)

Apology: Richard Hamlet

200 Club December

271 Bill Cardnor

330 Dave Cowie

184 Bill Glennie

Christmas £100 Draw

383 Alexander Burnett

2. Minutes of last meeting, actions.

- **Actions.** The cash handling system has now been revised by Jon Tyler. This system includes a safe for petty cash, floats etc., which needs to be located. We also need a nominated cashier and two deputies. An audit trail is incorporated. The system will cover both DRC and RDRPS. The system proposed accepted by the committee members present. Richard Hamlet is to be consulted before final implementation.

- Jon Tyler pointed out an incorrect spelling of LICENSE/ LICENCE???

- Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Sandra Pearson, seconded by Jon Tyler. The minutes were accepted.

3. Matters arising.

- Retaining Wall. John Merchant is available, but is not known to be a bona fide builder. We have the Heritage Lottery Fund looking at placing grant funding for this work. We have had no further quotes from builders, and Frank is to expedite.

- Track fishplates have been loosened and then replaced by the Tuesday work group.

4. Check in. Updates - How are we doing? Any additional agenda items.

- Discussion on the status of the organisation was raised by Jon Tyler. Changing to an SCIO would allegedly absolve RDRPS members of liability in the event of accident.
- **ACTION: Contact OSCR regarding the advantages of becoming an SCIO. Write a recommendation for the Committee. Bob Kelley.**

- No further action has been taken on Drum Station shelter. A station gate has been offered to DRC.

5. Finance.

- Richard Hamlet was unable to attend the meeting, but sent the following information -
- Bank balance as of Monday was £13,414.45 with around £800 of cheques still to be cashed. This includes for a mistake in mislaying the 200 club cheques. Efforts are underway to retrieving these cheques. Apologies to the winners.
- Aberdeen Harbour Board have advised that they will donate three UC305 13 m length sections for the Burn o'Bennie light vehicle bridge. They would hope that the railway could in turn support their nominated charity, 'Befriend a Child', next summer by taking a couple of outings that they would organise. Graeme Wood will email confirmation of the donation and then the committee can review whether to say 'thanks' or 'no thanks'.

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6. Additional items (from 4.)

- Track progress. We need additional base plates for crossing timbers. This will cost around £3000, including crossing timbers. The lever frame and sundries may be able to be obtained for a low figure. We have been offered recycled concrete sleepers for £7 each, enough to take us to Burn of Bennie. These are located in North East England. NB there is a load of concrete sleepers next to Morrisons Inverurie. **ACTION Put together a costed list of requirements. JON TYLER.**
- Purchasing Procedure. Ballast has been purchased without a purchase order. The Purchasing Procedure needs to be strictly adhered to if financial control is to be maintained.
- Purchase of 200 stamps approved for postage of the Queen's Messenger.

7. AOCB

- A John Hopkins/ John Lucas communication was discussed. This communication seems to have been widely circulated.
- More volunteers are needed for SANTA running.
- From the first weekend of the Santa Specials, we carried 274 passengers on Saturday and 402 passengers on Sunday. Ongoing thanks is given to volunteers for the operation. Station preparation is excellent and has been commented on.
- Our Santa's inauguration of the Christmas lights at MILTON Craft Village was much appreciated, with good comments from customers.
- Refurbishment of new TSO's will allow more leeway for next year.
- Alex Burnett has commented that the Layby and West Lodge are different locations and need different names.

Next Meeting 14 January 2015

R Kelley.

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