



VALE OF BERKELEY RAILWAY

The Old Engine House, The Docks
Sharpness, Glos GL13 9UD

www.vobr.org.uk

E-mail: valeofberkeleyrailway@gmail.com

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Vale of Berkeley Railway Charitable Trust

Saturday 2nd December 2023

Introduction

1. The meeting opened at 10am in Sharpness Village Hall and was chaired by **Howard Parker, the VoBR Chairman**.
2. 33 fully paid-up members attended, 6 apologies and 4 proxy nominations were received. The meeting was quorate.

Minutes of the 2022 AGM

3. Comments on the minutes of the AGM held 15th October 2022 were invited. None being received **Rob Gerrard** proposed that the minutes be signed as a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by **David Snell**. A vote was held by a show of hands with no-one voting against or abstaining.

Trustees' Report

4. **The Chairman** presented the Trustees' Report (reference AACZ0015) giving an update of progress during the year and invited comments or questions.
5. **Tony Goddard** recalled that when the engine shed was refurbished a number of members had donated materials and equipment such as doors, furniture etc. He asked whether it was the intention to retain these now that it was the intention to vacate the shed by July 2025. **David Snell** explained that where items were 'loose' such as furniture these would be transferred to Oldminster Sidings however items which were deemed as fixtures and fittings (e.g. doors) would have to remain at the shed at the end of the lease. This was consistent with the fact that the first 2 years of the shed lease were rent free on the basis that it would be brought up to an agreed standard.
6. There were various questions arising about grant funding availability. **Julie Snell** explained that it was the intention to apply for match funded lottery grants in 2024 and also that a series of events to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the opening of the railway.

the Sharpness New Dock was planned, and it was anticipated that these would be funded from local grant awarding bodies.

7. There being no further questions or comments on the Trustees' report **Julie Snell** proposed that it be accepted, seconded by **Rob Gerrard**. A vote was held by a show of hands with no-one voting against or abstaining.

Finance Report

8. **Frank Wooldridge** presented the accounts for the year (references AACZ0011 (finance report), AACZ0012 (Balance Sheet), AACZ0013 (Profit & Loss)).
9. There being no further questions **Howard Parker** proposed that the report be accepted. This was seconded by **Graham Sturgess**. A vote was held by a show of hands with no-one voting against or abstaining.

Propositions Raised by Members

10. No propositions from members had been received.

Election of New Trustees

11. The VoBR Constitution requires that a third of the Trustees stand down at each AGM but may stand for re-election. As we had nine Trustees at the time that the meeting was called, this means that three (**Andrew Goodman, Howard Parker and Frank Wooldridge**) are standing down as the longest serving Trustees since election or re-election. **Andrew Goodman, Howard Parker and Frank Wooldridge** have offered themselves for re-election. In addition, nominations were received for **Phil McNamara** and **Carolyn Jones**. Members were invited to consider the nominations in turn with a vote being held by a show of hands. No-one voted against or abstained. For the record the nominations were:

Andrew Goodman, proposed by **Howard Parker**, seconded by **Graham Sturgess**

Howard Parker, proposed by **Bryan Whitfield**, seconded by **Graham Sturgess**

Frank Wooldridge, proposed by **Howard Parker**, seconded by **Graham Sturgess**

Phil McNamara, proposed by **Rob Gerrard**, seconded by **Howard Parker**

Carolyn Jones, proposed by **Howard Parker**, seconded by **Bryan Whitfield**

"Looking to the Future" Address

10. **Edgar Craggs** gave a presentation outlining the plans for the shed, utilities etc.

The meeting closed at 12.30

Signed.....

Document Reference: AABZ0004 v1.0

Apologies: Bryan Whitfield, Ian Raven, Paul Colechin, Trevor Clowes, David Leach, Robert Carruthers

Proxies:

Held by the Chairman for: Bryan Whitfield, Trevor Clowes, Robert Carruthers

Held by Graham Sturgess for: Ian Raven