

Railway Preservation Society of Ireland

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Belfast Rowing Club, Friday 29th January 1982

Lord O'Neill presided, and 48 members were present. Apologies were received from

Lord Dunleath, Ernie Gilmore, Leslie McAllister, Henry Jack, John Harcourt, John Taylor, Derek Henderson and David Trotter.

The minutes of the 1980 AGM and of the EGM of February 13, 1981, which had already been circulated, were taken as read and adopted.

The Secretary read his report and it was adopted on the proposal of Tony Ragg, seconded by Sam Carse.

The Treasurer read his report and it was adopted on the proposal of Michael Henderson, seconded by Neil Hamilton.

Referring to the announcement that Lord Dunleath had accepted the position of RPSI Vice-President, Lord O'Neill paid tribute to Lord Dunleath's support for and involvement in the No.85 project. The work involved, he said, had been much greater than anticipated, and the bill correspondingly larger.

Lord O'Neill said nominations had been received for all council posts with the exception of Treasurer, Loco. Running Officer, and London Agent. He invited nominations, and John Richardson was proposed as Treasurer by Robin Morton, seconded Robert Edwards. J.Richardson explained that he had not submitted an application because the workload had expanded so much he felt a financial controller would be needed. However, as no other nominations were forthcoming, he agreed to take on the post. No nominations were forthcoming for Loco. Running Officer, so it was decided to leave this to the council, who could co-opt someone. For London Agent Leslie McAllister was proposed by R.Morton, seconded J.Richardson.

There being no contests, the 1982 council was then deemed elected on the proposal of John Martin, seconded by Colin Holliday. The council is:

Chairman - Robert Edwards, 61 Ballynahinch Road, Saintfield, Co. Down.

Secretary - Robin Morton, 79 Sharman Road, Belfast, BT9 5HE.

Treasurer - John Richardson, 18 Downshire Gardens., Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim.

Loco. Maintenance - Peter Scott, 17 Finaghy Park Central, Belfast 10.

Loco. Running - vacant.

Coach Maintenance - Alan Edgar, 152 Cavehill Road, Belfast 15.

Whitehead Site - John Glendinning, 23 Beechdene Gardens, Lisburn, Co. Antrim.

Operations - Ernie Gilmore, 20 Chichester Road, Belfast 15.

Commercial - John Beaumont, 148 Hillsborough Road, Lisburn, Co. Antrim.

Publications - Alan Edgar, 152 Cavehill Road, Belfast 15.

Publicity - John Friel, 103 Wynchurch Road, Belfast 6.

Dublin Agent - Sam Carse, 38 Oakley Road, Ranelagh, Dublin 6.

London Agent - Leslie McAllister, 26 Regent Way, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey.

R.Edwards paid tribute to Paul Newell, who was standing down from the council.

J.Richardson then gave notice of motion to amend the RPSI Articles of Association which would be ratified at the 1982 AGM. He explained that the Articles which had been drafted some years ago had been overtaken by inflation. The Society, if it wished to borrow money from members, was restricted to paying interest of 6% per annum. He proposed that this section of the Articles be amended to read: "at a rate not exceeding 1% below the current charity overdraft rate". This was seconded by Dermot Mackie and carried unanimously.

R.Edwards then gave outline details of the 1982 railtour programme and answered a number of points.

P.Scott then gave the first report of the branchline sub-committee. He said they were not yet in a position to make a full report, and said they were concentrating on legal and land problems. P.Scott suggested that the authorisation given to the council to finance the sub-committee up to a figure of 10% of the annual budget be extended for a further year. This motion was proposed by P Newell, seconded C Holliday, and passed unanimously.

P.Scott then presented his report on the locomotives, which is published in Five Foot Three.

R.Edwards proposed a vote of thanks to P.Scott for his work on the locomotives and particularly in relation to No.85. This was carried unanimously.

A.Edgar then invited comments on Five Foot Three and a broad consensus of view came across. A.Edgar thanked Charles Friel for provision of photographs.

A.Edgar then gave a report on the carriages. He said nine carriages were in traffic, but warned that at some stage all but three would need a general overhaul. Immediate plans included returning all-1st 1142 to traffic, and the second dining car, 87.

Turning to the site, J.Glending said work was progressing well towards the 2001 plan and the next job was the re-alignment of the carriage sidings. He said the introduction of a midweek squad had been a success and thanked two retired members who were giving up one day per week to work at Whitehead.

Irwin Pryce paid tribute to Denis Grimshaw, who had retired as Operations Officer in 1981.

Sullivan Boomer suggested carriage and site reports he included in the agenda for future AGMs.

As there was no further business, Lord O'Neill declared the meeting closed and the members present watched the film "All Change for Banbridge" made by Banbridge Academy Transport Society and presented by John Lockett.

Signed: _____ **Chairman** **Date:** _____