

Railway Preservation Society of Ireland

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Belfast Rowing Club, Friday 20th January 1984

Robert Edwards chaired the meeting and 59 members were present.

Apologies were received from: Lord O'Neill, Sam Carse, Leslie McAllister, Sullivan Boomer, Denis Grimshaw, Ian James, Arthur Wickham, Henry Beaumont, and Douglas Ferguson.

The minutes of the 1982 AGM were taken as read and adopted on the proposal of Paul Newell, seconded by Jeremy Saulters. The minutes of the October 7 EGM were taken as read and adopted on the proposal of Colin Holliday, seconded Gavin Martin.

The Secretary read his report and it was adopted on the proposal of Charles Friel, seconded by Nelson Poots.

The Treasurer read his report and presented the accounts, which were adopted on the proposal of John Beaumont, seconded by Ernest Gilmore.

R Edwards said proposals had been received for all council posts except Commercial Officer. There were contests for the positions of Chairman and Publications. R. Edwards paid tribute to two council members who were standing down from posts – J. Beaumont as Commercial Officer and Alan Edgar as Carriage Maintenance Officer.

Robin Morton explained that he had inadvertently cut short the requisite period of notice for the receipt of nominations for the AGM. The rules, however, allowed for late nominations to be accepted by the meeting, and it was agreed that all nominations were valid. Patrick Kelly and J. Beaumont were appointed tellers.

The election then took place and the following was the result:

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|---------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Chairman: | Sullivan Boomer 45 votes; | R. Edwards 11; | Abstentions 2. |
| Publications: | A. Edgar 33 votes; | Nevin Hamilton 23; | Abstentions 2. |

One ballot paper was declared spoiled.

S. Boomer and A. Edgar were thus deemed elected. The rest of those members proposed for council posts were also deemed elected, on the proposal of E. Gilmore, seconded by C. Holliday.

Thus the 1984 council is as follows:

Chairman - Sullivan Boomer, 22 Town Lane, Islandmagee, Larne, Co. Antrim.

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 - Brian Hill, 63 Beechill Park East, Belfast 8.

Coach Maintenance - Jeremy Saulters, 3 Ashlea Park, Dunmurry.
Coach Running - Neil Hamilton, 10 Lintagh Park, Hillsborough, Co. Down.
Operations - Ernest Gilmore, 20 Chichester Road, Belfast 15.
Publicity - John Friel, 103 Wynchurch Road, Belfast 6.
Publications - Alan Edgar, 76 Hopefield Avenue, Portrush, Co. Antrim.
Site - John Glendinning, 23 Beechdene Gardens, Lisburn.
Mullingar - Rory McNamee, 19 Thornhill Road, Mount Merrion, Dublin.
Dublin Agent - Sam Carse, 38 Oakley Road, Ranelagh, Dublin 6.
London Agent - Leslie McAllister, 26 Regent Way, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey.

J.Richardson then paid tribute to R.Edwards who he said had been a founder member of the Society and had served on council as Secretary and Chairman. He expressed the hope that R.Edwards could continue to support the Society in the future. R.Edwards then left the meeting and Ian Slaughter took over the chair.

Coopers & Lybrand were re-appointed auditors on the proposal of R Morton, seconded by Michael Henderson.

Reports were then presented by A.Edgar (Coach Maintenance) and J.Glendinning (Whitehead Site).

E Gilmore then presented the proposed 1984 railtour programme. He expressed disappointment that more was not being made so far of Traen 150.

The chairman then declared the meeting open for general discussion.

Nevin Hamilton expressed concern about the overcrowding on the September Dublin Bay tour. E.Gilmore acknowledged this had been a problem, and said that scheduling and ticketing arrangements were being looked at.

Irwin Pryce asked what the prospects were of having No.184 work north of the border. He also asked that the locomotive be restored to a railway livery. E.Gilmore said he would look at the possibilities of No.184 coming north. He said he understood No.184 was being painted in CIÉ green livery.

A.Edgar drew attention to the Traen 150 first day covers which the Dublin Post Office was issuing on January 30.

J.Friel said he wanted the meeting to congratulate Gregg Ryan on his efforts on the publicity front for the Dublin Bay. He spoke of the problems involved in filling the Portrush Flyer and Steam Enterprise and asked the meeting for any comments on RPSI publicity.

Victor Corrie said the Society did not blow its own trumpet enough and suggested the British railway press could do more on Whitehead.

Derek Henderson suggested that a Flyer be run at Easter time instead of at the end of the Twelfth holidays.

C.Friel expressed concern at the non-appearance of Five Foot Three. He said publication now seemed to have reduced to just one issue per annum and asked what steps were being taken to

revert to two issues each year. A.Edgar replied that the latest FFT was with the printer. Costs. had ruled out the proposed copy which was due to come out around the Port Lairge tour time. The magazine, he said, cost around £550 per issue.

As there was no further business, I.Slaughter formally declared the meeting closed. Members then watched a ciné film of the RPSI in 1983 presented by J.Friel.

Signed: _____ *Chairman* *Date:* _____