

Railway Preservation Society of Ireland

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

North Star Hotel, Dublin, Saturday 22nd April 2006

Sir Kenneth Bloomfield chaired the meeting and 42 members were present.

Apologies

Lord O'Neill, Dr Garret FitzGerald, H.Beaumont, J.Beaumont, H.Boomer, S.Boomer, W.Brazier, E.Creamer, J.Darling, J.C.Darling, M.Darragh, N.Hamilton, B.Hill, C.Holliday, R.Joanes, D.Mackie, D.McCabe, D.McNamara, A.McRobert, J.Moffett, S.Murphy, P.Newell, J.Richardson, I.Sinclair, A.Thompson, G.Train, D.Young.

Minutes of the 2005 AGM

The minutes were adopted on the proposal of W.Riddall, seconded by B.Mullally.

Chairman's Report

J.Glendinning said he wished to further his report by thanking P.Cox and G.Mooney for their terms in office and he was sorry to lose such young members from Council.

The report, previously circulated, was adopted on the proposal of H.Ritchie, seconded by C.Meredith.

Secretary's Report

The report, previously circulated, was adopted on the proposal of B.Mullally, seconded by P.Emmett.

Treasurer's Report

N.Poots supplemented his report by stating that the financial situation had improved further since its publication and he hoped the corner had been turned.

J.Harcourt was informed that the reduction in fundraising income was a consequence of the 2004 figures being artificially high due to valuing stock at retail rather than wholesale prices.

The report, previously circulated, was adopted on the proposal of N.Foster, seconded by T.O'Shaughnessy.

Appointment Of Auditors

Dunne McNulty Nannery were re-appointed on the proposal of J.McBride, seconded by W.Riddall.

Reports Of Operations Officers

The report of the Operations Committee, previously circulated, was adopted on the proposal of E.Gilmore, seconded by F.Gallagher.

Reports Of Locomotive And Carriage Officers

P.Scott informed D.Carse that No.186 could be turned out in GSWR green if manpower became available. He replied to J.Harcourt that to apply NCC lettering to No.4 would mean removing lining to remain authentic. However, UTA roundels or coats of arms would be suitable. W.Riddall was told that, while boiler and firebox were a long-term project, work on No.461 was progressing reasonably well and should be finished in two years or earlier.

G.Mooney stated that there was at times a huge commitment required from crews, both volunteer and professional, witness the intense period of activity in May and June 2005, and this should be acknowledged.

C.Meredith reported that the last of the new panels had been applied to 1142. J.Glendinning thanked those working on the historic vehicles.

The reports were adopted on the proposal of H.Ritchie, seconded by G.Mooney.

Election Of Council and Office Bearers For 2006

Sir Kenneth reported that nominations had been received for all posts, with the exception of Treasurer, and there were no contests. N.Poots said that a potential Treasurer had been identified for 2007 and he was willing to serve for a further year on the understanding that a handover would take place.

There being no further nominations from the meeting, the following were elected to serve on Council:

<i>Chairman:</i>	Johnny Glendinning
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i>	David Houston
<i>Secretary:</i>	Paul McCann
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Nelson Poots
<i>Locomotive Officer:</i>	Peter Scott
<i>Carriage & Wagon Officer (Southern):</i>	Tony O'Shaughnessy
<i>Carriage & Wagon Officer (Whitehead):</i>	Francis Richards
<i>Belfast Area Operations Officer:</i>	Mervyn Darragh
<i>Dublin Area Operations Officer:</i>	Mark Tyrrell
<i>Business Development Officer:</i>	Fergus McDonnell
<i>General Officer:</i>	Norman Foster
<i>General Officer:</i>	Philip Lockett

Any Other Business

G.Mooney recorded that ex Irish Rail steam inspector, Tony Foley, had died recently.

J McBride stated that the Society needed a child protection policy. P.McCann replied that Council were in the process of drawing up such a policy.

C.Meredith suggested, that following a recent enquiry, the Society should consider having speakers visit schools - a task he was willing to undertake. Sir Kenneth suggested the UFTM in the North and D.O'Murchú suggested the Education Department in the South as potential sources of help and information. It was agreed that Council should consider the appointment of a Schools/Youth Liaison Officer. W.Riddall reported on a young member, Nicholas Ryan-Purcell, who had made No.85 the subject of a school project. He had also produced summary leaflets on the operational locomotives.

Replying to J.McBride, J Glendinning reported that the Society had taken the place of the Bushmills & Giant's Causeway Railway when that company had withdrawn from an Inter-Reg partnership with Co. Donegal Railway Restoration Ltd. He was aware that CDR locomotive "Drumboe", the subject of some work to be carried out at Whitehead, was owned by the North-West of Ireland Railway Society but any issues in that regard were between NWIRS and CDRRL. The scheme has allowed the RPSI to take on one extra employee in each of the Locomotive and Carriage & Wagon departments.

F.McDonnell reported that Iarnród Éireann had agreed to the display of Society posters in DART trains at no cost.

J.Glendinning reported that Council wished to reinstate the Council post of Whitehead Site Officer due to the vastly increased workload and legislative responsibility which the post had assumed in recent years. It was planned to co-opt a member to the post during the coming year with a view to putting a resolution to the membership at the next AGM.

That being all the business, Sir Kenneth thanked all those present for attending and closed the meeting.

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