

Railway Preservation Society of Ireland

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The North Star Hotel, Dublin, Saturday 26th April 2008

Sir Kenneth Bloomfield chaired the meeting and 51 members were present.

Apologies

Lord O'Neill, H.Boomer, S.Boomer, N.Foster, M.Glendinging, M.Halliday, C.Holliday, J.Houston, F.Lee, P.Lockett, D.Mackie, A.McRobert, C.Meredith, G.Mooney, G.Moore, R.Morton, P.H.Newell, P.M.Newell, J.O'Meara, D.O'Murchú, N.Ryan-Purcell, B.Stinson, M.Tyrell.

Minutes of the 2007 AGM

The minutes, previously circulated, were adopted on the proposal of B.Mullally, seconded by A.Hamblin.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman read an addendum to his published report.

The report and addendum were adopted on the proposal of H.Ritchie, seconded by W.Riddall.

Secretary's Report

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

Treasurer's Report

The report, previously circulated, was adopted on the proposal of B.King-Wood, seconded by W.Walters.

Appointment Of Auditors

Dunne McNulty Nannery were re-appointed on the proposal of P.Marsden, seconded by B.King-Wood.

Reports Of Operations Officers

In the absence of M.Tyrell, the Secretary read the Operations Officer (South).

Sir Kenneth congratulated M.Darragh and M.Tyrell on the excellent work done by both Operations Officers.

The reports of the Operations Officers were adopted on the proposal of D.Bergin, seconded by W.Riddall.

Reports Of Locomotive And Carriage Officers

T.O'Shaughnessy read the report of the Carriage & Wagon Officer (South).

The reports were adopted on the proposal of B.Mullally, seconded by F.McDonnell.

Reports Of Other Society Officers

In the absence of P.Lockett, the Secretary read a report the Whitehead Planning Project Manager.

Election Of Council and Office Bearers For 2008

The Secretary reported that nominations had been received for all posts and there were no contests.

The following members 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>	Peter Marsden
<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>	Mark Walsh
<i>General Officer:</i>	Joe McKeown

Any Other Business

Sir Kenneth requested that, based on the proposals for Whitehead, questions be relevant and brief.

D.Henderson noted carriages lying at Whitehead, notably 62M and 861, taking up covered space which would be better used to house the running set. Plus expenditure on non-core items such as the GNR brake van was a drain on the Society. Any museum plans should be for a working museum to provide mainline locomotives and coaches. F.Richards replied that brake van 81 was funded entirely by a donation and Museums Council grant; 62M was funded by the DCDR and would be moving to Downpatrick when transport could be arranged. J Glendinning added that, although progressing very slowly as these things do, 861 is the subject of a donation offer from a member with a view to overhaul as part of a FAS scheme in Dublin. He further stated that secondary door locking is the main drain on funds at present and there was no option but to go ahead with it as it was the subject of national legislation and NIR were not willing to apply for any derogation from the Department. Fitting was progressing, with 4 vehicles nearly complete, having been certified by an independent vehicle inspection body. The next step is to submit vehicles and documentation to NIR for approval. J.Lockett emphasised the need to ensure developments at Whitehead will be geared towards providing improved facilities for restoration and maintenance of running locomotives and rolling stock.

O.Lanigan asked was the Society registered to reclaim tax paid by southern members on donations over €250. F.McDonnell replied that a number of claims had been received and he would look further into suggestions made by Ms Lanigan.

R.Henderson said she was very disappointed to be told that her services were not required on Christmas trains, nor was she consulted in the fitting out of the new Mk2 diner. P.Marsden replied that the former was not strictly the case as the request was made to provide trolley facilities in the platform shop due to seating demands on the train. J.Glendinning said that a number of members experienced in the catering area were invited to submit views on the fitting out of the diner and he apologised if she perceived her views were not considered or were ignored - he was willing to discuss the matter further with her. S.McAteer said that a decision had been taken to address the lack of proper catering in the north in recent years and 6 volunteers had lately attended a food hygiene course with a view to having a professionally turned out catering team when the new diner returns to traffic.

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

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