

Preston & District Model Railway Society

Committee Meeting Monday, 26th Jun at 8:00pm

Present:

John Wilson	<i>Chairman</i>
Andy Joel	<i>Secretary</i>
John Farnden	<i>Treasurer</i>
Carl Bowden	Tom Springett

1. Apologies for absence

Dave Pallant

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Read and adopted

3. Matters arising from the minutes

- One light still to be replaced as and when time permits. On-going.
- The chairman is still awaiting official confirmation from the bank that he can sign checks. **Action:** JF to contact bank.
- The stairlift has been serviced and the fault rectified for £65. An annual contract was proposed, which would reduce liability if the worst happened. **Action:** JW to chase.
- The new clothing order has arrived. Two members still to collect and pay.
- It was decided that the AGM will be held externally, as it was pre-COVID. See later.
- The issue with the web site appears to be resolved.

4. Accidents recorded since the last meeting

- None.

5. Finance

- JF sends the accounts out, 20/Jun. The club is in a good position, with subs being paid promptly – which has historically not been the case, especially during COVID. The electricity bill was £277 to the end of May, considerably less than expected. The club is about £900 better off than it was this time last year.

6. Correspondence

- None.

7. Membership

- One new junior membership was approved.

8. Future programme

- A venue for the AGM was discussed. JW has approached Ingol Social Club, but this is now a pool club, and the room we have previously used is full of pool tables, and parking is also an issue. Alternatives were suggested and need consideration.

9. Layouts

- Chelthwaite Mills is now being restored; Martin has replaced two points so far.
- Euxton Junction now has 2 new DC controllers. Les had asked that a standard fitting be used, but this was not feasible for this layout.
- Euxton Junc is booked for Doncaster Festival of Modelling, 10-11/Feb/24.
- The new N gauge layout is progressing in the work room, with the track all laid on the lower level. Droppers are being added and servos readied for install. The next big step is disassembly and putting each board on its side for servo fitting and wiring.
- Should the new layout get moved into the main room once the lower level is wired? It was decided this should wait until the upper level is also wired.
- Should the lower level be wired to allow DC as well as DCC? It was noted that currently most N gauge modellers are DC, though two are likely to migrate to DCC once that is available. However, wiring for DC too significantly increases the complexity of wiring, and ultimately we have to accept the wisdom of those who will be doing the work - reluctantly it was agreed the lower level would be DCC only.
- The embryonic O gauge layout was further discussed. No one has shown any interest for some months, and it was decided the layout should be disposed of.

10. Exhibition

- The issue of badges for committee members was further discussed. Awaiting feedback from DP.

11. Any other business

- TS said he would do the annual review of the risk assessments.
- A quick audit of keys was made. It is thought that there are ten sets. People known to have keys are: TS, JF, CB, JW, AJ, Mike Pye, Mike DP, Karl Smith. Those possibly with keys are Bill Taylor, CW and DP.
- With regards to Neville's layouts and stock, his daughters are understandably keen to get this resolved quickly. A suggestion was made to move stock to the back room, allowing members to make offers. All that remains can go to an auction house. TS suggested just getting Vectis or similar to go to the house without

involving the club at all. It was noted that it is mostly very specialised and most of it will not be of interest to club members.

Date of the next meeting

21/Aug/23 at 8 pm

Meeting finished at 9:10 pm