

Preston & District Model Railway Society

Committee Meeting Monday, 20th March 2017 at 8:00pm

Present: -

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| John Wilson | Chairman (acting) |
| Andy Joel | Secretary |
| Carl Bowden | Bill Taylor |
| John Farnden | Neville Davis (pro tem) |

Apologies for absence

Les Nehrlich offers apologies, after a serious accident which will leave him unable to attend for 6 months. JW was appointed to act as chair in his absence, and ND was co-opted to the committee.

Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting:

- The catenary for the new layout was completed for the exhibition, but Carl expressed a desire to redo some of it.
- With regards to the "Inglenook" to be built for Giles, it was suggested that this be generally available to all members, and both OO and gauge layouts could be built from materials already available.
- Winners of the modelling competition have been announced and are on the web site.
- It was noted that the open evening had been moved to the Wednesday (5th April). A poster is required for display in transport models. **Action: AKJ**
- Unsold items from the second-hand stall to be put away. **Action: BT**
- Bills from the landlord had electricity and water combined. JF enquired, and established these were only electricity bills. There are still no meter readings, but the bill was lower than other bills.

Minutes of last meeting:

- The minutes of the 13th February 2017 meeting were accepted as a true record.

Exhibition

- The logistics for the two vans for the exhibition were discussed. It was noted that the hall was cleared by 6:30.
- The issue with heating was not properly resolved, with no heating upstairs on the Sunday..
- The £500 float was set aside once recovered, which should help accounting.
- It was noted that traders generally seemed very happy with the exhibition, and most (including Bachman) wanted to come back next year.

- The exhibition is thought to have made a profit of a little under £5k, which is excellent. This was partly due to the success of the second hand stall, which took in around £2k, and some layouts claimed significantly smaller expenses than expected.
- It was decided that Dave Geraty should be given a chair next year - whether he likes it or not!
- In the future the second hand stall will require sellers to have the club forms properly filled in and checked before items are accepted for sale, after an incident this year. It is the sellers responsibility to ensure information is correct.
- Thanks were extended to DW for cleaning the club room before the layouts were returned.

Any Other Business:

- It was noted that Pete had made no progress on his layout, but it was still taking up valuable space. The committee agree that the club was happy for the layout to be stored in the downstairs area, but it should only be set up upstairs if it is being worked on.
- The possibility of putting up Les' layout was discussed. It was noted that, compared to Tellum Summit: it requires operators to "duck under", which is not an option for some members; it is rather more fragile; it has only two running lines; it is rather bigger.
- Euxton Junction had 2 definition offers and 1 potential - Wakefield, Barrow and York (besides Wigan, for which it is already booked).
- The treasurer reported that virtually everyone was up-to-date on the subs, the one exception being Jason, who no one had seen for a while.

Meeting finished at 8:45pm.

Next committee meeting date: Monday, 8th May at 8:00 pm