

Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station

Minutes of the meeting held 11th January 2022 via Zoom

Chris Wright opening the meeting by wishing the group the compliments of the season and thanked Mike Payne for hosting the meeting via Zoom.

Apologies John Myddelton, Joy Edwards, Tony and Auralee Evans

Attendees Charles Adams, Chris Wright, Jim Milner, Mike Payne, Lauren Brundell, John Hartley

Secretary's Report Lauren gave an update on the Calder Valley Line Community Rail Partnership

Treasurer's Report Jim reported that the income since the last meeting had been £13 (membership renewal) and the only expenditure had been on postage stamps.

There is expenditure due of £36 which Joy is to pay and claim back from the group. This is for the Yorkshire in Bloom entry.

Northern has approved a grant for £500 for planters, etc.

Jim asked for any ideas for the group's annual plan/projects. Chris asked if the 2021 objectives had been met as a starting point. There is some maintenance and replanting from previous years along with distance signs and information boards.

The water harvesting project with LucyZodion won't go any further at the moment.

Charles Adams added that Andrew had suggested we get new noticeboards for the station as they're damaged/past their best. This has been reported to the maintenance team and Chris will follow this up with John Mason. He also added that he has a contact at LucyZodion if we do wish to progress this.

Mike Payne suggested that we clad the container, put shelves inside and beautify it. He added that we could collect water from it, too. Charles suggested living wall(s) might be a good idea but they would need to provide year-round coverage.

Coach Trip-Mac Veal and John King had paid for seats. Jim will speak to Maureen King about John's refund.

Memorial Account-Jim proposed that we transfer the funds into the main account as a reserve and the group agreed.

Membership Update

Two memberships have been renewed since the list was issued. Chris suggested that we set up a direct debit system from the 1st January each year. Concerns have been raised over some members who haven't been as active as they once were. Incentives were suggested to get non-active members more involved. John Hartley suggested reviewing where we're at with documentation.

Health and Safety Co-ordinator

An appeal to go in noticeboards for new members, particularly for the Health and Safety Co-ordinator, but the station is very quiet at the moment. Volunteers need to attend the practical gatherings. A number of possible names has been suggested.

Northern insurance covers volunteers and Jim will put an appeal on local Facebook group with Chris as the main contact.

Sponsorship Update – there is nothing to report on sponsorship. He is working on bringing businesses inline calendar-wise.

Any Other Business

Charles Adams gave an update on the website. He has managed to create a very basic website and is working with Martin Watson who was hosting the website.

Next meeting Tuesday 8th February. Location TBC.