

Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station

Committee Meeting 13th September 2022

Attendees – Joy Edwards (Chair), Jim Milner, David Harriott, Chris Webster, Chris Harvey, Peter Burke & Charles Adams.

Apologies – Chris Wright, John Hartley, Richard Adams, John Myddelton, Mike Payne, Tony & Aurelee Evans, David Whiteley.

Minutes of last meeting 9th August 2022. Accepted by all, proposed CW and seconded by DH

Health & Safety – CH reported he had re- attempted contact with Richard Isaac of Northern Rail to gain further understanding of NR H&S procedures for volunteers within the railway environment however with no success although CH now has RI phone number so will try that avenue. CH also produced some forms for recording volunteer hours which could be useful in terms of future grant requests etc. CA offered to scan this and distribute to the membership so they can record hours volunteered, this should include not just work at the station but administrative hours as well.

Secretary's Report – CA advised the group no emails of note have been received. He went on to say that he had attended a meeting of the CRP earlier in the day on anti-vandalism which was quite ironic in light of the graffiti at the station last weekend. He reported back that although it had seemed more of a talking shop, CRP were looking to producing a booklet on attractions along the Calder Valley line and had drone footage of the line which will be released shortly. He did however ask for updates from Northern as to the possibility of CCTV on the platforms and there was mention of a goodwill gesture to repaint the container again and add an anti-vandalism coating. He went on to say that in respect of the graffiti ISS were doing a great job in clearing it up, MP's nephew had found a link on Instagram boasting of doing the graffiti from the culprit which sadly deleted has been passed on to BTP for further investigation.

Treasurers Report – JM reported that the Bank mandate had now been approved authorising cheques to have 2 signatures from 4, the change being that CA has replaced Lauren Brundell. He went on to say Income since the last meeting had been £142 made up of Northern reimbursing the cost of the paint for the container £85.26, £19 in respect of membership renewals, £10 on rail pass income and £28 from trip bookings. In terms of Expenditure this had been £797 made up of £525 for coach hire for the forthcoming trip, £170 for painting of the container, £24 for raffle prizes, £20 for replacement plants. He also reported that Yorkshire in Bloom was holding a presentation lunch in Tadcaster and we had paid £40 for lunches so Joy & Christine to attend and £18 for a plaque for whatever award we have won to be displayed on the underpass. He concluded by saying that the work we commissioned to have the benches revarnished, Mavis repainted and new banners was covered by a Ward Forum Grant however the timing meant this was in the 21/22 year and we could apply for another one for this year 22/23 and suggested we look at submitting one for sorting out the graffiti on the container and coating it with an anti-graffiti covering as he didn't hold out much hope for Northern's good will gesture as well as a new bird bath. JM agreed to draw something up on this and submit

Gardening Group – JE reported that there hadn't been any further vandalism however the Bird bath still needs attention. She also suggested keeping an eye on person in garden when possible. JE also reported that the next gardening meeting would be on September 21st which CA said he would add to the Calendar on the Website. JE concluded by saying no more plants been pulled up and we have

approximately 100 wall flowers left although JM did say we had money from Northern for more plants.

Membership – Unfortunately the Secretary wasn't present however he had submitted his report that was distributed. The only update being that Lauren Brundell and James Callaghan had renewed.

Sponsorship – JH not present and there was nothing else to report under this heading.

Coach Trip – It was reported that we were back in numbers to 41, thanks were expressed to Sandra Adams for agreeing to do the raffle and we had more than 12 prizes. In terms of the prizes, thanks were expressed to Sean Raw, Wendy Evans, Paul Denton, DH, JE, CW and CA. JM mentioned the invoice from TS travel asked for a phone call 3 days before the trip to confirm all details which PB agreed to undertake, he also agreed to ask for 2 prizes for next year Whitby with a drop in Pickering and Llangollen.

Container – There is some left over paint which could be used to repaint the container again in light of the recent graffiti.

Station – There has been no update on this and apparently Kerry Taylor has moved on from the role however CA said he would pursue this.

Social Media – CA advised this was all up to date and Facebook posts were keeping us in the public eye and hopefully the latest one regarding the graffiti may help BTP catch the culprit.

Remembrance Day – It was noted we are struggling to find a vicar as BGT is unavailable, MP is looking into this and CA agreed to chase him up. It was however agreed we should order a wreath.

AGM – CA reported he had spoken to CW and we are unable to hold this at the JRR. It was agreed we should hold this upstairs at Hollins Mill and CA agreed to check availability. JM suggested getting a guest speaker, maybe the Station Manager and agreed to email him.

Lucy Zodion – It was reported that David Whiteley had spoken to his son-in-law at Springhill who said they would be able to install the system we were looking at. CA reported that his contact to get in touch with Lucy Zodion is on holiday and would chase it up as soon as they return.

A.O.B. – JM noted that Richard Adams had stated the notice cases need replacing and the information has passed onto Station Manager and Richard Issac.

An enquiry had been received from Geoff Mitchell (M'royd) as to whether he should arrange further Calderdale Stations Liaison Meetings. JM to respond that we are in favour of this with CH being our likely representative.

Meeting closed - 8:40pm

Date of Next Meeting - 11th October 2022

CA