

Minutes of the AGM

Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station

Tuesday 9th November 2021

Jubilee Refreshment Rooms, Sowerby Bridge

Attendees Auralee Evans, Tony Evans, David Harriott, Ken Wilby, Geoff Hallos, John Myddelton, Derek Ashton, Charles Adams, Jamie Beal, Graham Beal, Steve Rawstron, Martin Hattersley, Chris Ross, Joy Edwards, John Hartley, Lauren Brundell, John White, Rita White, Daniel Kelly, Chris Wright, Jim Milner, Peter Burke, David Whiteley.

Apologies Mike Payne, Richard Adams, Richard and Gillian Reece-Jones

Treasurer's Report

Update on the Northern Railway Grant which has been paid.

Jim presented his report.

An asset register has been produced listing all the group's assets and their value/cost, how they were paid for (funding source, donation, etc.) and the location.

Jim noted that the last 2 years haven't been 'normal' years and that refunds had been offered for the coach trip to Bridgnorth planned for the 3rd May 2020 but not yet accepted.

Chris Wright thanked Jim for his efforts on behalf of the group.

Independent Examiner's Report

This will be given in the new year.

Convenor's Report

Chris gave thanks to Joy Edwards, Chris Ross, Richard Adams and James Hennigan for their hard work as there would be nothing on the station without them. Chris raised concerns about the weather and asked if it would be worth looking at drought tolerant plants. He can't see the point in buying and watering plants for them to just die.

Efforts are appreciated although may be not by the railways as the station is unkempt and tatty.

We have lost a lot of members and it is time to reflect on them and their efforts.

Chris also thanked those working behind the scenes.

Membership Report

Subs have been frozen from 19/03/2020.

Reminders have been sent to those who hadn't renewed where an email address is available. A fair number of people have failed to renew, including some long-standing members.

We do have some new members – 8 joining as a result of one persons' effort.

Election of Officers

Auralee Evans proposed that officers be re-elected en-masse. This was carried by a show of hands.

Jim advised that we are in need of a HSE Co-ordinator if anyone wishes to put themselves forward.

Any Other Business

Jim brought up the subject of Christmas Cards and the group agreed to send them out again.

Joy – the board/wooden trap door on platform 2 is a trip/slip hazard which needs to be escalated

Andrew – The postcode on the defibrillator needs to be updated and 'What Three Words' added. Charles will speak with Mike Payne as it is believed to be the responsibility of the Rotary Club

Jim – intends to carry on being treasurer of the group but will no longer be organising trips. Peter Burke has agreed to do this.

There needs to be someone in place to chair meetings in Chris's absence.

Remembrance Sunday will be held in the Brontë Garden at 10.40am on Sunday

Charles – suggested that a standard membership year needs to be talked about at a future meeting

Joy – more hardcore is needed for the Brontë Garden

There will be a station tidy-up on Saturday morning