

# Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station

## Committee Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023

The Hollins Mill

Attendees: Jim Milner, Charles Adams, Richard Adams, Mike Payne, John Hartley, David Harriott, Joy Edwards, Chris Webster & David Whiteley.

Apologies: Chris Harvey & Peter Burke.

Committee Meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022, minutes accepted.

Secretary: CA during the H&S Briefing had a conversation with Richard Isaac who provided useful details regarding new planters courtesy of Calderdale College. The scheduled Community Rail Partnership meeting in January had been postponed and rearranged for 1<sup>st</sup> February, to be held at Halifax Industrial Museum 10am-1pm. The new rail passes, when received, will have an 18 month validity.

Treasurer: JM indicated that John White had audited the groups accounts, for the period Nov21-Oct22, and given them a clean bill of health. With the change of chairperson, Mike Payne was to be added as a signatory for group expenditure, a new banking mandate would need to be completed. There was little activity of finances during December, with £19 being received from sales at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms. There would be monies being paid out shortly for the Yorkshire in Bloom entry and a new Yorkshire flag for the flagpole. An approved grant from Northern was currently being awaited on.

Health & Safety: CH was unavailable, but had sent an update. A H&S briefing had been held with Richard Isaac of Northern Rail at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms. There were 6 attendees, the short notice of the meeting had prevented a more positive turnout. CH is now authorised to brief other group volunteers, he hopes to do so at February's meeting or on an adhoc basis. There are some online (TEAMS) briefings on the 12 & 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023. A new Risk Assessment template has been provided, which CH will review/amend as relevant to our groups activities. CH has also been provided with an appropriate 'accident' form should any member have one, nearly have one or identify issues which could lead to one. He did identify that the group had not had any incidents in the last month.

Gardening: JE reported the last session wasn't held due to adverse weather. Two Rowan trees are to be removed at the next session (21/1/23) and relocated. Some ½ barrel planters are coming to end of life. If members were working on their own, they are requested to advise staff at the JRR if open, a H&S requirement.

Membership: The current membership stands at 70. Only a few renewals were outstanding.

Sponsorship: JH indicated there had been little activity, but he would be pursuing sponsorship renewals shortly.

Coach Trip: PB was unavailable, but had indicated he would be able to supply quotes for the proposed trip to the North Yorkshire Moors Railway and Whitby at the next meeting.

Station: ISS who deal with station cleaning had done a good tidy up of the recent graffiti and were proactive with priority issues. John Mason who had been a regular ISS station cleaner had now retired, his working cohort was awaiting a new partner who was going through induction.

Website/Social Media: this was upto date. A link to a steam train travelling through Todmorden had received very good viewing figures.

Jubilee Refreshment Rooms: this had opened up the main room between 9.30am and 2pm. It is still doing the window service from 6.30-9.30am.

Christmas Cards: these had been sent out to the Sponsors, Life Members and a few other notables.

AOB; the Annual Plan for 2023 had been sent to Northern, RI had accepted it. The group have a mobile generator they do not use, giving it to alternative users was briefly discussed. The groups meeting dates for 2023 had been agreed with the Hollins Mill, second Tuesday of the Month.

The next Gardening Session is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023, 9.30-11.30am

The next Committee Meeting will be at The Hollins Mill on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.30pm

RA