

Minutes of the St Neots MRC Committee Meeting Buckden Village Club, Tuesday 1st November 2022 at 7.30pm

Attendees: Caroline Hoy, Thomas Hoy, Chris Langdon, Will Heath, John Kneeshaw, Jackie Kneeshaw, Harold Thompson, Keith Titmuss (SNEL)

Item	Details	Action
1	Apologies Caroline welcomed Keith Titmuss from St Neots Exhibitions Ltd. (SNEL) who would be covering the exhibition financials. Sandy Spark (SNEL) sent his apologies.	
6 & 2	Exhibition Managers report and exhibition financial outcome Agenda items 6 and 2 were taken together. Jackie reported that there were 670 visitors to the exhibition, 529 paying and 141 children or carers, generating £2,645 on the door. Feedback had been very positive, with traders keen to return and a number of layouts wanting to come next year. It had stimulated several visitors to come to club night who may become members. There were also requests for some of the layouts to attend other exhibitions. The event was featured in the Hunts Post and on YouTube. Jackie concluded "Our one-day show in the Great Hall at the Priory Centre in 2022 has worked well and we will plan to use the same recipe for 2023". To that end, a deposit has been paid to secure the venue for Saturday 14 th October 2023, planning is well underway, and advertising flyers have already been distributed. The financial outcome was summarised by Keith: the exhibition surplus was £2,746.83 (including the £635 grant from St Neots Town Council and carrying forward Bob Pearman's payment of £48 to 2023). From this, a payment of £2,500 will be made to St Neots MRC, the balance being held for next year's show. Keith asked Chris to issue three invoices to cover the payment: <i>Invoice 1</i> for £1,375 to cover stewarding, <i>Invoice 2</i> for £477 to cover advertising signage around the town, and <i>Invoice 3</i> for £648 to cover exhibition storage for the year. Jackie has already expressed thanks to our members and helpers, to the Priory Centre team, and to St Neots Town Council. She will feedback to club members on the outcomes of the exhibition and financial benefit in the upcoming Newsletter.	CL/JaK JaK
3	Minutes of previous committee meeting No comments or amendments, and agreed as a true record.	
4	Matters arising Website update to be discussed under AOB. Jackie also asked that we formally record how professional the new Club Leaflet is and how successful it has been. She felt it was one of the best things we have ever done.	
5	Treasurer's Report The club continues to enjoy a healthy bank balance, which stands at £16,183.52 allowing for October's room hire and storage charges. The poorly performing NS&I account has been closed and the balance transferred to the current account. A suitable investment alternative needs to be identified. John Kneeshaw proposed that a single signatory account be sought with multiple	

	<p>people able to access it for monitoring purposes. Will Heath seconded the proposal, and it was unanimously agreed. Chris will investigate.</p> <p>The committee were happy for refreshments to continue to be managed via a £40 float. The NatWest current account is functioning well, but needs an additional committee member with online banking access to provide adequate cover.</p> <p>John questioned why we need such a large bank balance. The committee agreed that it was there to fund new layouts and any other activities the club deems appropriate. This highlighted the need for new layout ideas, and Jackie will include this in the Newsletter.</p> <p>Chris reported that membership now stands at 34, with 29 full members, 2 juniors and 3 associates, and that this is a more optimistic picture than a month ago.</p>	<p>CL</p> <p>WH</p> <p>CL</p> <p>JaK</p>
6	<p>Exhibition Manager's Report Covered with Item 2 above.</p>	
7	<p>Assets – inventory, ownership and accounting This was prompted by Chris not being clear how to manage the purchase and sale of Club clothing. In the past, the treasurer had maintained a spreadsheet of Club clothing movements, and Chris agreed to adopt the same approach to record purchases, stock and sale of items.</p> <p>The question was raised about creating an inventory of other items of value owned by the club. After some discussion, it was agreed by a majority vote (4 for, 2 against, 1 abstention) to make an inventory of any items in store that have commercial value. Will to action with Harold's support.</p>	<p>CL</p> <p>WH/HT</p>
8	<p>Club meal and social activities It was agreed that we should arrange a Club meal for January/February 2023, and Jackie and Caroline will investigate potential venues as a matter of urgency. The Lion, Buckden was good (if a little tight) but has changed hands. Other venues suggested were the Eaton Oak and Brampton Mill. Jackie will ask members for suggestions/preferences in the Newsletter.</p> <p>An excursion in 2023 was also felt to be worth doing, and suggestions included Butterley (the Midland Railway Centre), Bluebell Railway, Day boats and Crich Tramway Museum.</p> <p>Members will also be asked for their views in the Newsletter.</p>	<p>JaK/CH</p> <p>JaK</p> <p>JaK</p>
9	<p>Any other business</p> <p>(a) <u>Website</u> Members have been informed of the login to the SNMRC website members page. A reminder will be posted in the Newsletter. Harold asked if it could include a calendar, and Thomas explained that he had tried but found it impossible. However, it was agreed to post the Test Track dates in each Newsletter. The FaceBook page is only open to members, and it was agreed that past members should be deleted.</p> <p>(b) <u>East Quay</u> Mike Wild (Editor, Hornby Magazine) had photographed the layout that day for a future article. Chris will provide copy. Four exhibition enquiries have been received, with 2 confirmed (Oxrail and Silver Fox).</p> <p>(c) <u>Test Track</u></p>	<p>JaK</p> <p>JaK</p> <p>TH</p> <p>CL</p>

	Following agreement on the maintenance proposal, Roger Jubb has started work on the wiring modifications.	
--	---	--

The next committee meeting will be held at Buckden Village Club on Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.