

THE TRAMWAY MUSEUM SOCIETY

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 42nd meeting held on Sunday 3rd December 1995, and continued on 10th December.

Present: A.W.Bond (Chairman); M.C.Wright; J.Soper; M.S.Miller (Manager).

1. **Apologies for absence:** none.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting (17.4.94):** Approved. No amendments.
3. **Remit of the Committee:** It was agreed that the remit as set out in Board minute 6800 was still appropriate.

Committee numbers had dropped to four following the death of John Brooke and the retirement of Geoff Hyde, who had served on the Committee for many years. It was not felt necessary to consider recommending any replacements at this time. Mr Wright agreed to take on the role of Secretary. **Action: MCW**

4. **Red Lion:** Sponsorship discussions had begun with two interested breweries and one catering chain. A figure of £300,000 was quoted by one brewery for completion, including fitting out. This was thought to be rather high. Future use such as corporate entertaining, weddings etc., assumed it would be licensed, but this has yet to be decided. A franchised operation would be outside the (charitable) remit of the Museum.

Construction. Mr.Soper explained the problems. The contractors had been unsatisfactory, had failed to follow the drawings, and significant work had had to be dismantled and rebuilt. It was unlikely that any contractor would have the resources to complete the facade without the skilled supervision which Mr.Soper could provide himself.

Missing pieces were being fabricated by Charles Forster, they were sometimes difficult and took a considerable time to make. Mr.Soper estimated that, on his own, it would take about five years to complete the specialist work to reach the watertight shell stage. However, he and a labouring team of three others every Sunday could complete the special work in a year (=200 man-days), and on this basis there would be a weathertight shell for about £33,000. Review progress in February, for the Summer budget. **Action: next meeting**

5. **Accommodation for the Hydraulic Platform:**

The lean-to on the west side of the Exhibition Hall was included in the next budget, located to the west (and clear) of the track beside the Hall.

Action: JS & MSM

6. **Incomplete Work and the next Budget:**

The Board's Inspection list (minute 9816 Appendix 1) was reviewed. Of the fifty items, only eight (3 verandah fence, 4 foot scraper, 15 print office fall pipe, 20 Assembly Rooms wall rendering, 21 concrete block by RCHF caravan site, 30 cracked glass in shelter, 41 cattle market sign painting, and 47 loose guttering on engine shed) were outstanding. All to be included in the Manager's site maintenance list. **Action: MSM**

7. **Any Other Business:**

Bridge: Some of the north facing stonework needed repointing, the settlement crack in the west abutment required attention, and the ironwork needed repainting. To be added to the Manager's maintenance list.

Action: MSM

Next meeting: Sunday 25th February 1996, 10.30am.

Circulation: Those present, Board, Mins Sec.

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28 November 1995

To: Members of the Development Committee

RED LION HOTEL

At the last Board Meeting it was agreed that there would be a pause in the reconstruction of the Red Lion to give time for an evaluation of the options for the future.

Contact has been established with two breweries, Bass and Mansfield and a speculative letter has been sent to Harry Ramsden's.

The results of these actions are given below:-

1 Meeting held with Jason Insley, Territory Sales Manager, Bass Mitchells & Butlers on 21 November. He undertook to report back to his Company and revert with any possibilities.

2 Meeting held on 22 November with Hugh Wilson, Properties Director, Mansfield Brewery plc who was enthused by the project on, I suspect, purely commercial grounds.

2.1 He recommended a Kevin Bradbury, Architect based in Matlock for advice on completing the interior and a Robin Wilson of Shacklocks, Nottingham for the legal side of pub licensing.

2.2 High Wilson's observations included the following:-

2.2.1 To commercially complete the shell around £200,000, fitting out including kitchens £100,000

2.2.2 He was concerned about catering opportunities and amongst his ideas were weddings, function room and group catering.

2.2.3 He felt we would be forced into purpose built kitchens to current hygiene standards.

2.2.4 Mr Wilson was impressed with Tea Rooms gross take per head and felt we would have a small sound pub trade based on our visitor numbers and mix.

2.2.5 Mr Wilson could perform an introduction to Harry Ramsden's but felt our establishment would not be large enough to interest them. Commented on their very strong product discipline. Noted Ron Kirk as Manager of the Nottingham Harry Ramsden's outlet.

2.2.6 Suggested we apply for a wine licence for Tea Rooms now.

2.2.7 Felt two entrances on the ground floor would impact on capacity - suggested one main entrance only.

2.2.8 Mansfield could provide training for pub management and control

2.2.9 Suggested patio area be incorporated so that on pleasant days customers could drink and watch the trams go by.

2.2.10 I floated the concept of Mansfield's heritage being featured at the Museum and Hugh Wilson undertook to consider this.

3 I have yet to hear from Kimberley's who have also been approached for advice.

Martin S Miller