

THE TRAMWAY MUSEUM SOCIETY

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 48th meeting held on Sunday 10th January 1998.

Present: A.W.Bond (Chairman); M.C.Wright; J.Soper; D.F.Russell; J.Miller

1. Apologies for absence: none. All present.
2. Minutes of the last meeting (28.9.97): Approved.
3. Matters Arising: Covered below.
4. Red Lion: The estimate was £12.5k for the remaining brickwork & roof (within the £29k agreed). Downstairs windows were on hand (£8k) and upstairs ones still to do. Should be a watertight shell by the end of March. As the exterior was completed the scaffolding would gradually be removed, probably by the end of the summer budget. Removal and repositioning of the railings to the north side of the cul-de-sac to be done in the 1998/9 winter budget.

Action: JM

5. Exhibition Hall Annexe Play Area: Preliminary estimate from JS requires an unbudgetted £15k to prepare the area for the equipment (walls, concrete floor, finishing, lighting, small working area). Leaving the big doors open all day could affect temperature profile in exhibition hall, which currently remains acceptable without any heating. Detailed costings to be provided.

Action: JS&JM

Consider daily lock/unlock method and incorporate into Exhibition Hall circuits to minimise extra work for Duty Inspector.

Action: JM→KBH

Storage of items displaced by playground. The Collections Management Committee to decide having first taken advice from M.Gilks. A key item to retain was the mercury arc rectifier.

Action: AWB→MRG

The (second) steam engine had been retained for spares for the Bellis & Morcom, which was decaying. There was no short term prospect of either moving it from by the Assembly Rooms nor providing a weathertight shelter, so it was agreed that subject to the advice and recommendations of J.M.Davis, that such spares as were required be removed and taken to Clay Cross and the remainder of the second engine be disposed of.

Action: JM→JMD

6. Entrance Improvement: The revised archway sketch was approved, being made from poles, bracket arms & scrollwork in stock. The lowest point was 22ft high, sufficient for large vehicular access (e.g. trams on trailers). It would be placed across the car park entrance AFTER the quarry road had diverged. The new 4ft 6ins fencing was ca £3k, and would be a slanting 'Midland Railway' type (sketch shown at last Board meeting), which although having a high maintenance cost, was more attractive than vertical boarding. The boulder relocations would be at no cost, and the whole scheme would be considerably below budget. The archway could be ready for Easter.

Action: JM

With this reduced cost, and by omitting the flag poles it was possible to fund a significant part of the extra £15k for the indoor playground. To be reviewed with the Marketing Manager.

Action: AWB→LPSW

(Repair to the entrance kiosk was in the site budget.)

7. Disabled Access: C.Heaton's note of 23.11.97. Special 'sett effect' concrete was about £50 sq.m., making the total cost about £5k (including £2k for tarmac in some off street locations). The committee still held the view that the path would completely spoil the 1910 effect that had taken so much time and effort to achieve. Sett relaying and flushpointing (as had been done in Leeds) would achieve the same smooth result without the visual intrusion, and for about the

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same cost. An application for an 'Adapt' grant would be made, and work could start as soon as it was obtained, probably June. Action: AWB & JM

Fire exit behind depots needs opening out (budget £2k). Action: JM

8. Alhambra Cinema: The owner required assurances that the building would be put up on arrival. Impossible. No further action. Cancel budget. Action: AWB

9. Bandstand Railings: Railway Inspector's requirement. To go on the top of the bank. In winter budget, but costed with own labour so may be delayed. Action: JM

10. Footpath to Wakebridge: needs to be blocked off. Unlikely to be open this year. External project team still working on it. Quarry still using Cabin crossing and portacabin on TMS land. Action: AWB→GBC

11. Lottery: Almost ready for submission. Action: AWB

12. AOB:

The steam tram water column/gas lamp had not been repositioned as required, but removed, shot blasted, painted and 'stored'. To be replaced in position.

Action: JM

PDMHS. Buildings have been erected at Wakebridge (with the approval of the previous Manager) which were quite out of keeping with the area. Need to establish how the area can be demodernised. Action: AWB→GBC

Next meeting: Sunday 15th March, 10.30.

Circulation: Those present, Board, Mins Sec.

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