

THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (MEETING 85 – 29.01.2007)**ACTION**

Held at the National Tramway Museum, Crich, Matlock, Derbyshire, on Monday 29th January 2007 at 10.30am.

Issue: 1

Present: Messrs B Pennyfather (Chairman), I.M. Dougill (Secretary), A. Smith, G.C.G. Wilton, M.C. Wright, A. K. Thorpe (Minutes Secretary)

Apologies for absence: A. Smith, A.W Bond

85.1 Announcements

IMD reported that AWB was making a good recovery and likely to return in August if not earlier.

85.2 Minutes of Meeting 84 (18.12.06)

These were agreed as a true record.

85.3 Membership of the Committee:

Requests to join Committee still on hold. In terms of additional skills required there was a need for someone who could produce drawings and undertake surveying work. IMD suggested Mike Thorne. Also agreed to seek others through Contact.

IMD

85.4 Future Role of the Committee:

IMD agreed to update and amend the terms of reference of the Committee and bring them to a future meeting for approval, before submission to the Board.

IMD

85.5 Report back from A. Smith on the Red Lion ramp:

It was understood that the Retail Report will suggest that ramp may no longer be needed. However, the report has not yet been seen or agreed. In any case the ramp needs to be maintained in order to keep the 'Grandfather' rights and keep our options open for future use.

RTP noted that AS has been progressing this project and it was intended that the Committee would discuss the proposals at this meeting. There were concerns that there may now no longer be time to do the work before the start of the season. It was agreed that IMD would contact AS as a matter of urgency to ascertain what stage the plans have reached and how long the work would take. IMD to report back to RTP before the next Board Meeting. GCGW reported that he is still looking into new advertisements.

IMD
GCGW

RTP said that he was concerned at the amount of work that the Committee delegates to AS, the lack of support available to him to progress projects quickly and the lack of a substitute for him at Development Committee meetings. It was felt that AS needed a team of people with the necessary skills for him to draw upon as necessary. These skills include drawing, surveying (levels angles and slopes) and planning. Richard Sykes, Mike Thorne and Adrian Thorpe were suggested as possibilities. It was agreed that IMD would seek AS thoughts on this.

IMD
AS

85.6 Report back from AS on Entrance ramp:

MCW had not heard back from AS regarding Access ramps and kerb issues. It was felt that the problems were due to AS having insufficient time.

A complete costed design was required by June 2007 for the work to be carried out in winter 2007 / 2008. A provisional figure of £50,000 had been suggested and this needed to be confirmed by February 2007. A project plan outlining what needed to be done, with deadlines was required.

MCW

85.7 Toilet facilities at Town End:

A budget had been approved for a refurbishment of the Emporium toilets. This was due to start in about two weeks and be completed by 1st March 2007.

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The priorities were to improve the quality/user friendliness and to solve the water supply issues. The feeling was that the gents' facilities were generally adequate but that there was insufficient capacity in the ladies facilities at busy times. GCGW commented that the complaints had not been about capacity, but about quality. It was agreed that there was no capacity problem if all the available facilities were adequately signposted; the problem was the poor quality of some of the facilities.

MCW was progressing signage. He also suggested that we monitor the capacity / use this summer, - possibly a role of the Duty Inspector.

MCW

In terms of quality the work required was thought to be: tiling; replacing the urinal troughs by bowls; clean surfaces of both floors and walls; new sinks, larger cubicles with new doors to cater for disabled visitors; heating and improved water supply.

MCW agreed to raise the issue monitoring usage and highlighting capacity elsewhere at the Museum on the visitor information leaflet handed out at the entrance. AT to consider improvements to the leaflet and to liaise with Kyle Hulme.

MCW
AT

IMD suggested provision of a unisex toilet for disabled people by reducing the length of the men's urinal in the Assembly Rooms. There was a need to ascertain space requirements for disabled toilets. We also needed to consider provision of baby changing facilities.

MCW

85.8 Options for Glory Mine – Report from M.C. Wright:

MCW said that the first priority needed to be Wakebridge, to ensure continued access to Glory Mine. MCW was proposing welding work on the Wakebridge points this year and to completely relay Wakebridge in 2007 / 2008.

At Glory Mine MCW said that we need to maintain a run around facility and not exclude the Steam Tram. Right hand running was the preferred approach as this would allow people to alight on the correct side of the tram onto an island platform. With the installation of new siding points and it would also make that available. Right hand running only should be the initial action to ascertain how well the circulation of passengers worked. We also needed to consider operation of the Access Tram - and right hand running was likely to be the best solution in that regard.

The whole area from the cattle grid northwards would need to be surfaced. Tarmac was suggested and MCW indicated a cost of about £3,000 as the tarmac would not need to be as thick as at Town End because it would not carry vehicles.

Fencing would also be required, possibly wire, in particular to stop people from walking along the tramway. However safety issues needed to be considered - the more fencing we erected, the more maintenance would be required. The footpath would need to be kept open - possibly using gates if fencing was used in the vicinity.

Picnic benches could be provided. It was noted that it was possible to source benches suitable for wheelchair users.

To extend the rail beyond the stub would require contract work with proper engineering drawings. This would allow an alighting point beyond the loop. The element could be Phase 2 of the project - following right hand running.

This phase could also include a Camera Obscura and interpretive signage etc. It would also allow the facility to be developed over a number of years.

MCW

85.9 Report back from Ian Dougill on rights and responsibilities re Quarry

Nothing to add at present. IMD attending a meeting with the Quarry in March and would feedback to the Committee.

IMD

85.10 Report back from Glynn Wilton on Stone Workshop

It was reported that Nigel Rose Ltd., the project manager we proposed appointing, had indicated that they did not want the contract. GCGW reported that the architect appointed, also did project management work and that he was attending a meeting with them to discuss their possible employment as project managers.

The Conservation Management Plan had been sent to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). GCGW was awaiting their response. Since there was no specific timescale for

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decision in respect of a Stage 2 bid, GCGW was to contact the HLF to ascertain when a decision is likely.

GCGW explained the main changes in proposals with regard to a ramp/steps down to the front door and provision of an education room on the ground floor. Toilet provision was also required as a consequence of the education room. MCW suggested that we consider putting the toilet on the first floor otherwise drainage could be a problem.

GCGW agreed to circulate latest plans with a note indicating subsequent amendments.

GCGW

85.11 Offer of original Road Traffic Act 1930 Road Sign

RTP had written to Derek Redmond who was interested in this as a possible 'Subscriber Plus' project. He suggested that we could also include the toilet signs.

85.12 Report back from Glynn Wilton on storage facility

GCGW reported that he was awaiting a response from AS who was investing possible buildings.

85.13 Report back from Ian Dougill and Malcolm Wright on premises management

IMD,
MCW

IMD and MCW agreed to discuss and report back to a future meeting

85.14 A tick-over project

This was agreed as Glory Mine.

85.15 Longer term projects

RTP indicated that he was maintaining a list until the Development Report was updated.

Possible HLF projects were increased depot accommodation which could cater for any additional cars from Blackpool and allow a more spacious layout giving better visibility and more buildings to develop the street scene.

The HLF had already asked us to pursue the depot project after the Stone Workshop project was completed. GCGW suggested under floor heating to the depots. GCGW had spoken to several appropriate companies and would speak to Ian Stewart. IMD also noted that we needed to start thinking about replacing the depot roofs as these were made of asbestos cement. GCGW also suggested a double door arrangement to a new depot building. MCW suggested one doorway with the entire depot fan inside the building.

The possibilities discussed were to build a new depot behind the Exhibition Hall, at Cabin near the labyrinth or off site; to cover the depot yard or to use the Exhibition Hall as depot space and to move the Exhibition Hall to Cabin.

GCGW agreed to prepare a paper to which the Committee could contribute.

GCGW

85.16 An Energy Strategy – paper by David Senior

RTP agreed to circulate this paper.

RTP

85.17 The Development Report

To be discussed at next meeting. MCW suggested we start with 1967 report.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 19th March 2007, 10.30 am