

THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (MEETING 116 –19.8.17)

Held at the National Tramway Museum, Crich, Matlock, Derbyshire, on Friday 4th August 2017 at 10.30am.

Present: M.C.Wright (Chairman); J Soper; J.Brett, M.Galer, I.Dougill, D.W.McEwen, A.Watkins, L.Waters, and L.Smith.

The Chairman welcomed Mr.Watkins to the meeting.

116.1 Apologies for absence: A.Thorpe; A.Smith.

116.2 Minutes of Meeting 115 The minutes of meeting 115 (Friday 19th May) were approved.

116.3 Matters Arising: Actions outstanding from previous meetings:

a) The Bundy Clock. (11.9.15) Overhaul of the mechanism (quote £995).

Action: JB/LW

(In the Chairman's opinion all it needs is levelling, nothing more, but not easy to do.)
Planned for the winter 17-18.

b) Inspector's Hut: (11.9.15) Pictures of tramway period structures had been found, and been reviewed with N.White. Most were simple wooden huts with little character. Further prettier examples to be sought.

Action: MCW

c) 'Gentlemen' and 'Ladies' finger signs: (11.9.15): Of the four signs obtained, the two 'Public Conveniences' had been put up, but the locations for the Gents' and Ladies' signs needed further consideration.

Action: MSG and LW

d) Weather Vane. Barnett's Sweet Shop: (11.9.15). The vane was life expired, and would be conserved and replaced by a copy at some undefined time in the future.

Action: LW

e) Wall Clock on Stephenson Building: (11.9.15) Funded by the Jubilee fund. Winter project 17-18.

Action: LW/JB

f) Exhibition Hall clock: (11.9.15) A quote had been received for £1,999 to put it in working order. Winter project, 2018-19.

Action: LW

g) Police Sentry Box. Town End. (11.9.15): The outside bell and flashing light can now be reinstated, so the phone can be heard from outside.

Action: JB

h) Walkarounds: To be resumed.

Action: DWMcE

i) Post Box: Completed. Its new information plate was not Tramway Period. The old one was thought to still be held by the Post Office.

j) Victoria Park and Hyde Road: Subscriber Plus Fund: One 'Hyde Road' sign had been affixed. A low wall to stop the embankment from encroaching onto the pavement, the extra street lamp and repair of the light on the tram stop were to be included in the 17-18 Winter programme.

Action: JB

k) The MacRae Police Box. (8.4.16). If still available, could be brought and installed this winter. It would not be connected to any services (water, drainage and power), nor open for inspection by visitors.

Action: LW/JB

l) Restricted Street Notices: (8.4.16) Discussions with the castings manufacturer (Leander) had identified a suitable post and finial for the 'restricted street' sign and a price would be sought.

Action: MCW

m) 'Trams Running' Board. (8.4.16) Specification outstanding.

Action: MCW

n) Eagle Press outside light: (8.4.16) Potential sources of 'period' (but compliant) fittings had been identified (see appendix one, meeting 112). The lights on the Burnley Offices and Learning Centre are also of an inappropriate pattern and would also be changed.

Action: JB

o) Buggy Park. Was to be set into the bank to improve circulation space. Winter project.

Action: JB

116.4 Village Hall Project.

The trustees had approved the outline proposals (minute 19139) and asked the Committee to take it "as far as they could". There was further discussion regarding closer vehicle access for deliveries (difficult because of the difference in height between tram track and car park) and on the standards to which the hall has to be constructed ("emissions neutral"). More interior detail had been included on the latest drawing (such as services, amenities and period 'feel') and once other interested parties had been consulted and the design agreed, planning permissions could be sought.

The plans would be shared with R&C, and the Events Team to establish the optimum interior layout, and with the Strategy Group to develop the business case, including support from the local community.

Actions: JS for R&C, MCW for Events and Strategy group

116.5 Stephenson Place hoarding. Typical early 20th century adverts could be produced by the Eagle Press which has suitable typefaces for the period. Being investigated.

Action DWMcE

116.6 'Croydon Tramways' manhole covers. An opportunity had arisen to acquire a couple of 'Croydon Corporation Tramways' manhole covers. It was agreed to take advantage of the offer.

Action: AS

116.7 Stench Pipe, Stephenson Place.
Repairs would be made this winter.

Action: JB

116.8 Bus from the Mike Sutcliffe Collection. L.Smith outlined the plans for producing an attractive funding package for the bus and its interpretation. So far no practical location for the bus garage in Tramway Street had been identified

116.9 'Steep Hill' sign The complete cast 'Steep Hill' signpost, presumed to have been taken to Clay Cross would be looked for during a convenient visit.

Action: JB

116.10 Typeface and Notices

Concern was expressed at the proliferation of ad hoc notices and 'A' boards in different styles. The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 90 of the 1967 Development Report, "*Much period atmosphere can be created by a judicious choice of paper, type face and layout for such notices as fare stages, timetables and regulations. The text, in bold, roughly set type would add to the illusion of reality*". Currently tram stop notices were in an early font, with others in 1920's Gill Sans, the closest available to Johnston. See also Paragraph 39: "*The Period*", which was to be 1910, when street clutter was common, and planning controls nonexistent. "*Much atmosphere can be created through street signs, advertisements and road markings.*"

116.11 Double track to Wakebridge. If practical, centre poles were recommended for overhead suspension (as at Middleton Woods Leeds, L & CBER and Liverpool Lower Lane to Kirkby).

Poles would be unadorned, i.e. no scrollwork (Development Report para 72).

116.12 Any Other Business

Opportunities (including funding) were being sought to improve amenities at Wakebridge, e.g. repair of Cabmen's Shelter and opening the Octagon with an interpretive display, and also to interpret the adit and mineshafts at Glory Mine.

Action: MSG, LS

Carried forward for the next meeting:

Review of the Development Report (no.3) opposite the Five Year Strategy.
Street development beyond Victoria Park towards Cabin;
Other projects which could enhance the Tramway Period Street.

Action: All

116.13 Date of Next Meeting

Friday 17th November 2017, 10.30am, Lecture Room.

Circulation:

Those present & apologising
TMS hon sec

Appendices: none