

**THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (MEETING 118 –23.3.18)**

Held at the National Tramway Museum, Crich, Matlock, Derbyshire, on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 at 10.40am.

Present: M.C.Wright (Chairman); J Soper; J.Brett, M.Galer, D.W.Mc Ewen, A.Watkins, and A.Smith..

118.1 Apologies for absence: A.Thorpe, I Dougill, L.Waters

118.2 Minutes of Meeting 117. The minutes of meeting 117 (Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017) were approved with the addition of A.Smith to those present.

118.3 Matters Arising: Actions outstanding from previous meetings:

a) The Bundy Clock. (11.9.15) The mechanism is still with the Derby clocksmiths.

**Action: LW**

b) Inspector's Hut: (11.9.15) Apart from the cast iron ones at Blackpool (none of which survives), only characterless wooden sheds had been found. One prettier example has been found.

**Action: MCW**

c) 'Gentlemen' and 'Ladies' finger signs: (11.9.15) The locations for the Gents' and Ladies' signs needs 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, now deferred until 18-19. This was disappointing, especially as the funding was available now.

**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 was in the process of being reinstated, with the help of a telephone engineer.

**Action: JB**

h) Walkarounds: Done. 197 Object Condition Reports have been generated with 237 pictures. DWMcE was thanked for his sterling efforts.

i) Victoria Park and Hyde Road: Subscriber Plus Fund: The low wall to stop the embankment from encroaching onto the pavement had been completed with stone from the Derby Station porte cochere. Delivery of the extra street lamp was expected before Easter. Pictures of the lamp by the tram stop had been found and parts obtained for its repair.

**Action: JB**

The green mould on the paintwork round the Park would be cleaned as time permitted.

**Action DW McE**

j) 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**

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

**Action: MCW**

l) Eagle Press outside light: (8.4.16) Potential sources of 'period' (but compliant) fittings had been identified (see appendix one, meeting 112). Prices from the supplier in Oswestry were being sought.

**Action: DWMcE/JB**

m) Buggy Park. Completed

n) Village Hall Project. This has developed into the provision of a new (tramway period-looking) construction to replace Rita's Tea Rooms, incorporating a village hall/conference facility on the top floor, and based on JS's architectural schemes. It was being developed by a separate group.

A suggested development for the area south of Stephenson place was a 1906 car showroom based on an example in Leeds.

o) Stephenson Place hoarding. Examples of typical early 20<sup>th</sup> century flyposting type adverts had been found which could be produced by the Eagle press.

**Action DWMcE**

p) 'Croydon Tramways' manhole covers. Two had been acquired and were in a Croydon Corporation depot on a pallet ready for collection. Logistical difficulties. They were heavy, and would require a flatbed truck to collect them and lifting equipment to unload them at the Museum. One could replace the damaged LCC Tramways cover in the headshunt track.

**Action: AS/JB**

q) Stench Pipe, Stephenson Place. Repairs deferred (again) to next winter.

**Action: JB**

r) Bus from the Mike Sutcliffe Collection. Proceeding, £13,500 of the £60,000 for the bus has been raised so far. Funding for its accommodation is additional.

s) 'Steep Hill' sign. The complete cast 'Steep Hill' signpost, presumed to have been taken to Clay Cross has not yet been found.

**Action: JB**

t) Double track to Wakebridge. The first part, single line replacement on the existing alignment, had been completed. Further work was expected to continue through the operating season with items which did not interfere with the daily tram service.

u) Woodland Walk and Wakebridge. The funding application was in progress to improve amenities at Wakebridge and the woodland walk, e.g. repair of Cabmen's Shelter and opening the Octagon with an interpretive display. The subscriber Plus fund would finance the refurbishment of the Birmingham tram shelter. It was suggested that it be painted in the 'Birmingham Blue' of their tram system, but it was not certain that was correct as the Town End (Birmingham) shelter has been restored to its original *green*. It was agreed that it should be painted in the original colour (if found). It was recommended that different colours should be used in the area to delineate 'tramway' items from 'local authority/private' items.

**Action: LW**

It was noted with disappointment that because of the new traction power supplies, the Substation would not be open to the public again. It was thought possible to rearrange access arrangements so that the now redundant DC switchgear (1927, Lister Drive, Liverpool) could be safely interpreted and viewed.

**Action: MSG, LS, JB**

118.4 Layout of Glory Mine: Replacement of the track would be required soon, and schemes were under discussion with the Traffic Department as to the best layout having regard for the Development Committee's proposals for a 'second generation' tram stop.

**Action: LS, MCW/N.White/LW**

118.5 Depot Refurbishment. Almost complete, The 'open depot' vista was lost for ever, but the new, individual hinged doors are much more typical than concertina shutters.

- 118.6 Stephenson building wall furniture: A picture taken in July 2010 showed the shop signs, adverts and the bracket lamps (as well as the wall clock) before the rebuilding. Picture is on TMS server ref: *MCW pictures 2010 Edwardian L1050686*. The current locations of the missing items would be sought. One advert at least had rotted away in storage. The adverts and shop signs could be easily reproduced with current techniques, including 'period' weathering.

It was agreed that the visitor experience could be enhanced further by replacing all the various items of street furniture which had been 'removed' during alterations and never put back.

**Action: MSG LW JB**

- 118.7 Area beside Red Lion: No developments. Item closed.

- 118.9 AOB: The question was asked as to when the tarmac patches would be returned to setts. It was stated that all tramway street track renewals would be followed by setting rather than tarmacing.

Carried forward:

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**

- 118.10 Date of Next Meeting

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2018, 10.30am.

Circulation:

Those present & apologising

L.Smith

TMS hon sec

Appendix:

Picture L1050686

