

THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (MEETING 120 –9.11.18)

Held at the National Tramway Museum, Crich, Matlock, Derbyshire, on Friday 9th November 2018 at 10.30am.

Present: M.C.Wright (Chairman); J.Brett, D.McEwen.

120.1 Apologies for absence: A.Thorpe, I Dougill, M.Galer, A.Watkins, and A.Smith.

120.2 Minutes of Meeting 119. The minutes of meeting 119 (Friday 17th August 2018) were approved with one amendment, Wakebridge: Full funding for the Cabman's shelter had not yet been obtained.

120.3 Matters Arising: Actions outstanding from previous meetings:

a) The Bundy Clock. (11.9.15) Overhaul complete, and painted in the original shade of green.

It was recommended that the clock should be demonstrated and interpreted as part of the Guide's daily talks using one of the many keys available (although the print wheel did not work). Needs a new door seal.

Action: DWMcE

It was also recommended that the clock should be checked, adjusted (and wound up if necessary) as part of the Duty Inspector's activities reverting to the normal practice until its damage in 2010. This would relieve Outside Works of the task.

Action: MCW/MSG to review with Alan Barber and N.White

Other Timeclocks: Three red timeclock cases and a clock of the 'insert card' type had been overhauled several years ago and were thought to be in Clay Cross. It would be valuable to install one at Town End for tram crews' use and replace the current timesheets to demonstrate a more appropriate and authentic system.

Action : clock& case JB, timesheets MCW>NW

b) Inspector's Hut: (11.9.15) What was really needed was a store for the portable signs and the other items in the Police Sentry Box used daily by Inspectors and tram crews. It was agreed a 'street cabinet' such as the electric pillar by the Depot Gates would be appropriate. Pictures of street furniture would be sought.

Action: ALL

c) 'Gentlemen' and 'Ladies' finger signs: (11.9.15) Locations for the Gents' and Ladies' signs needs further consideration.

Action: MSG

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. A company had been identified which could make a replica. A quotation would be sought.

Action: DWMcE

e) Wall Clock on Stephenson Building: 11.9.15) Funded by the Jubilee fund. Winter project 17-18, now deferred indefinitely. This was disappointing, especially as the funding was available now and it would significantly improve the Tramway Period scene. Some parts of the original clock had been found.

Action: JB

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

Action: MSG

g) Police Sentry Box, Town End. (11.9.15): The flashing light now worked when the phone rang, but the ringing could only be heard inside the box. The external bell was more difficult to reinstate as the buried cable had been severed. A louder bell inside would be tried.

Action: JB

h) Victoria Park and Hyde Road: (12.12.16) The extra street lamp had would be installed during the winter. The lamp by the tram stop would be done too

Action: JB

i) 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. Alternatively, the post(s) recently donated by Matlock Council might be used.

Action: MCW

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

Action: MCW

k) Eagle Press (and other) outside lights: (8.4.16) The 'period' fittings identified could be adapted unobtrusively to meet the emergency lighting requirements. Investigations continue.

Action: DWMcE/JB

l) Stephenson Place hoarding. (19.8.17) Examples of typical early 20th century flyposting type adverts had been found which could be produced by the Eagle press.

Action DWMcE

m) 'Croydon Tramways' manhole covers. (19.5.17) The two acquired were in a Croydon Corporation depot on a pallet ready for collection. Transport to be arranged. Suitable lifting equipment would be at the Museum over the winter.

Action: AS/JB

n) Stench Pipe, Stephenson Place. (19.8.17) Repairs in progress with a specialist contractor.

Action: JB

o) 'Steep Hill' sign. (19.8.17) Not yet been found. (post meeting note. Now found carefully stored in one of the containers).

Action: none

p) Woodland Walk and Wakebridge. (17.11.17) Funding obtained to improve amenities at Wakebridge, the Octagon and the Woodland Walk (but not yet all needed for the cabmens' shelter) leading to repair of Cabmen's Shelter and opening the Octagon with an interpretive display. The Subscriber Plus fund was financing the refurbishment of the Birmingham tram shelter.

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 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

120.4 Track Replacements: (19.8.17) Glory Mine Loop would be replaced this winter to the same general arrangement with improved alignment. (Museum funds). A grounded tram body (Nottingham 45) would be placed at Glory Mine as a shelter. Whilst the overhead was being realigned, the traction poles would be painted.

Doubling the track to Wakebridge is in the plan for next winter but as yet unfunded.

120.5 Stephenson building wall furniture: (23.3.18) discussion deferred.

120.6 AOB:

Tram stops. A member of the traffic Department had suggested new displays for the tram stops; examples were reviewed. Current styles were as recommended in the 1967 Development Report (paragraph 90 L&CBER). More research needed, but it was agreed that thirties typeface and route diagram for timetable information would look appropriate.

Action: MCW

As it was stated that there was no resource to take on any more winter work, all other business was deferred and the meeting closed at 12.30.

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

*120.7 Date of Next Meeting

Friday 22nd February, 2019, 10.30am, Poplar House.

Circulation:

Those present & apologising, and

L.Smith

G.Wilton

L.Waters

J.Soper

TMS hon sec