

THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 121, 8.3.19

Held at the National Tramway Museum, Crich, Matlock, Derbyshire, on Friday 8th March 2019 at 10.30am (deferred from 22nd Feb).

Present: M.C.Wright (Chairman); A.Smith, D.W.McEwen, J.Soper.

121.1 Apologies for absence: A.Thorpe, I.Dougill, M.Galer, J.Brett.
Not present: G.C.Wilton, L.Waters.

121.2 Minutes of Meeting 120. The minutes of meeting 120 (9th November 2018) were approved.

121.3 Matters Arising: Actions outstanding from previous meetings:

a) The Bundy Clock. (11.9.15) A new door seal is due to be supplied by the Workshop, but meanwhile the clock's interior is already beginning to succumb to the weather.

Action: DWMcE- MSG

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. MCW reviewed with A.Barber and N.White. Outcome awaited.

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. Suitable examples of street furniture had not yet been found.

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 had been removed and conserved. It would be 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) Replacement 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 external bell was difficult to reinstate as the buried cable had been severed. A louder bell inside was being tried.

Action: JB

h) Victoria Park and Hyde Road: (12.12.16) The extra street lamp had been installed during the winter. The lamp by the tram stop would be repaired early in the season.

Action: JB

i) Restricted Street Notice: (8.4.16) After sourcing an appropriate finial, it was recommended that the sign be placed at Victoria Park at the end of the park railings going up the hill using one of the posts from Matlock Council.

Action: MCW-Board

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.

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). It was recommended that the sign be installed at Victoria Park on the hill at the end of the pavement.

Action: MCW-Board

p) Woodland Walk and Wakebridge. (17.11.17) The worm toilet, octagon and tram shelter had been completed and some PDMHS sheds removed. The Woodland Walk had been resurfaced. Funding for the Cabmen's shelter had yet to be obtained. The Subscriber Plus fund had financed the refurbishment of the Birmingham tram shelter. Access to the substation was being revised so the now disused historical switchgear (Lister Drive Liverpool) could be safely interpreted and viewed.

Action: MSG

q) Track Replacements: (19.8.17) Glory Mine Loop had been replaced and would open to traffic early in the season.

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

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

s): Tram stops. Passenger information at tram stops was being reviewed following the changes to the service. A thirties style typeface and diagrams were to be tried.

Action: MCW

121.5 AOB The "Safety First walk on the left" lamp post signs would be reinstated, and only removed again whilst the posts were painted.

Action: DWMcE

It was noted with disappointment that, despite the Committee's best efforts, the lack of street detail which enhances the period atmosphere for visitors (e.g.signs, adverts, clocks, posters, weather vane). Much had been removed 'for maintenance' and never put back.

MCW- Board

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

121.6 Date of Next Meeting

Friday 28th June 2019, 10.30am, Poplar House.

Circulation:

Those present & apologising, L.Smith, TMS hon sec