

# **Minutes of Committee Meeting - G Scale Society Kent**

**Held on Thursday 1 December 2022 by Zoom**

**Present:** Roger Allen (RA), Wayne Evans-Addy (WE), Jeff Fray (JF), John Morgan (JM), Martin Piper (MP),

**Apologies** John Morgan (JM), JOHN Dean (JD), David Groves (DG),

RA welcomed JD, WE and DG to their first committee meeting

## **1 Minutes of Last Meeting**

The last meeting was on 28 April 2022. Minutes had been circulated and there were no items that would not be covered elsewhere on the agenda.

## **2. Treasurers Report**

JF reported that the current account balance stands at £3222 and the savings account at £1386. He would shortly be preparing the statement for the Group year ending 31 October 2022

## **3 GER**

A very successful working day took place on 8 October. The principal items achieved were the installation of a third continuous track plus repainting of the exterior wooden frames. In addition a number of scenic modifications were made, in part to accommodate the third track. At Pratts Bottom we decided that the engine shed would be better placed on the rear siding but this would require modification to the engine shed. RA will contact Glenn.

JF is able to continue towing the trailer but we need somewhere to store it with good access. A Request will be made to members.

## **4 Website**

It was felt that the website is OK as is for the present but does require some updating of the information displayed, for example that on the group track. All committee members were asked to look at the website and send comments to MP. The size of GER needs adding. It was suggested that further video footage, like that recently taken by Richard Barton of his garden, be added.

## **5 Newsletter**

It was agreed that the next edition be published by mid-December with seasons greetings to members and information on meetings in the early New Year, along with other articles.

## **6 Facebook**

The number of members on the group Facebook page has increased from 9 to 16.

## **7 Forthcoming Events**

### **a) Indoor**

- Arrangements for the group Winter Meet at Teynham on 29 January 2023 were discussed. Surrey Group would be invited to provide a track.
- JD suggested that we should be more professional in our use of GER at a public meeting. We should ensure that at least one train is always running and that we should re-introduce a running sheet. This would be divided into time periods throughout the day and users asked to book in their trains. After running the user should remove their train from the track to free up space.

- Further consideration was given to the acquisition of a card reader to facilitate such payments on the member sales stand. WE was asked to prepare a proposal for circulation by mid-December.

b) Garden meets

Three events had been held this year courtesy of JF, MP and Richard Barton. The last was arranged at short notice and we were able to welcome Mick Spilsbury and his wife, who is a Kent group member based in California. The next Newsletter would be used to encourage members to consider an event in 2023.

## **8 AGM Matters**

Agreed that the meeting should be a hybrid physical presence/ Zoom meeting as in 2022. Members will be asked to make contact beforehand if they wish to use Zoom so that they may receive joining instructions.

All the current members of the committee have said they are prepared to continue for a further year if so approved. RA said that after January he would cease arranging our internal events and WE said that he would be content to take on this role.

RA further announced that he wishes to stand down as group chairman with effect from the AGM 2024 (this will mark nearly 10 years in the role) and thus in the coming year thoughts are needed to a successor.

Andrew Lloyd is prepared to continue for a further year with his role of membership administration & communication but will stand down at the AGM 2024. The members present expressed their thanks to Andrew.

## **9 Membership**

Group membership stands at 52 members plus 9 honorary Kent members.

RA reported that Andrew Lloyd has provided a Kent map showing the location of group members. In the interests of data protection only the postcode is shown.

## **10 Matrix of committee members duties and responsibilities**

Feedback had been very limited since presentation earlier in the year. Agreed that any changes be carried over to 2023

## **11 Wider promotion of the Group and G Scale Society**

Since the last meeting we have participated in one general model rail show (Orpington in May) to show our activities to a wider audience and seek new members. We plan to attend a similar two-day event at Tenterden in mid-February. This is our first time at an event in that part of Kent and we will ask for member assistance.

Participation in such events does require member help and from a wider number that usually help. Unless greater help is readily forthcoming then realistically participation may be limited. Following the last meeting, WE has arranged some standard signing for our events with Kent group branding and these were used at the Orpington show and at our autumn meet where they were agreed to be an attractive addition. The suggestion of a Kent group Polo Shirt will be pursued as will clip-on name cards.

We discussed a possible summer event in the Ashford area where we would run GER and invite others to participate. WE will explore costs and possible venue.

Other suggestions from the last meeting remain in abeyance

## **12 Next Meeting**

Date to be agreed after AGM