



WESTERN LOCOMOTIVE ASSOCIATION LTD

Minutes of a Virtual Board Meeting held on
Thursday, 26th January 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Ian Clayton (Director)
 Paul Finch (Director)
 Darren Shelmerdine (Director)
 Roger Smith (Director & Meeting Chairman)
 Mike Targett (Treasurer)

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th November 2022 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

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Mike Targett clarified that Gift Aid was still outstanding for 2018 although payment for 2019 and 2020 had been received. It was understood that Derek Payne would be resubmitting 2018, and that Derek Payne and Jon Aston would be completing 2021 with Jon Aston responsible for 2022. This would be cross-checked with Jon Aston, following the next Committee Meeting.

IC

It was previously confirmed that Jon Aston had been appointed as Charity Officer at the AGM and that Derek Payne had now stepped down as a Director and Trustee. It was understood that the HMRC login credentials would eventually be handed over to Jon Aston.

A follow-up meeting was held with Nemesis Rail on 13th December involving Pete Sandham and Roger Smith. The purpose of the meeting was to clarify items from their quotation for D1013's bogie overhaul and works required by the SDR. The detail was recorded on a spreadsheet and it was good to note that most of the contingencies had been allowed for, including the manufacture of special tools.

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A further meeting was held on 26th January with Rob Evans at South Devon Railway Engineering Ltd to clarify costings for D1013's wheelset overhaul including new axles and bearings. The costings should be available before the end of February, which should then provide the complete total, (currently estimated at £746k).

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It was noted that the amended Articles had been approved at the AGM and would now be formatted by Jonathan Sandiford and submitted to Companies House in due course.

IC

A discussion took place on the transmission project where a new continuously rated pump had recently been purchased plus electrical components. An update on this project would be provided by Darren Shelmerdine for the next Board meeting.

DS

It was accepted that the delivery of a refurbished governor at minimal cost to the WLA was reasonable compensation for the two cam boxes which were in need of cleaning. It was thought that this task could be passed on to one or two of the new Working Members.

DS

Following the transfer of spares from Bridgnorth, the next project will be to relocate the spare bogie from Bridgnorth to Kidderminster. Consideration will have to be given as to how the bogie is to be lifted and moved together with any preparation works that need to be made for its new storage point. It was understood that Paul Medley and Mark Perry would be able to advise on this item, including cross-checking with Roland Bull on the storage area available at Kidderminster.

DS

Darren Shelmerdine had previously advised that the torque reaction arms on D1062 had been checked by Richard Williams and were considered to be fit for use on the SVR. These had been monitored during the season, but no further degradation had been noted. It was now intended to carry out the remedial work involving the replacement of the rubbers, rather than any trunnion repairs.

DS

The Two Obbo were trips considered for 2022 (attached to the stock) as a tribute to Greg Heathcliffe and Henry Coates, plus the single Obbo day out for members/friends, (subject to prices and availability) would be planned for 2023, pending production of a draft timetable.

DS

Darren Shelmerdine advised that "B" end transmission had been monitored with no further "ratcheting" witnessed.

The WLA invoices to the SVR for operating during 2022 had all been issued and settled.

It was agreed that the WLA's 50th Anniversary in January 2024 should possibly be celebrated with a film show at the Kidderminster Museum, together with a beer celebration at the King & Castle. It was thought that Keith Bullock and/or Roger Geech might be able to help with providing films or a slide show. Ian Clayton agreed to follow up with David Postle at the next WLA Committee Meeting.

IC

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It was noted that some 221 members had renewed their memberships with 38, via the new web site. It was agreed to review membership number progress at the end of February.

RSS

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Darren Shelmerdine confirmed that it was intended to replace "A" end pre-heater in D1062 in the Winter months and that "B" end pre-heater should be replaced in a year's time. In addition, Darren Shelmerdine recommended some "preventative maintenance" with swapping out "B" end Dyno-Starter; a budget of £4,500 was suggested and previously approved.

DS

The pre-heater motors sent to Bowers for overhaul had now been overhauled and were back at Bridgnorth, all paid for.

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The quotation for the refurbishment of a Distributor for D1062 had been received and this work would be undertaken by Railway Brake Services, before the locomotive returns to traffic.

DS

It was noted that both D1013 and D1062 were residing outside Kidderminster TMD and it was now understood that they could be brought back inside, during February, with D1062 receiving priority over D1013.

Richard Williams had been approached to help progress the pipework required for the new front end air receivers on D1062. The manifolds had now been delivered and a request had been made to Martin White for Richard Williams to complete the work under contract between the SVR & WLA before the 30th April 2023.

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Ian Clayton confirm that the abridged AGM Minutes had been be provided for the e-newsletter.

Ian Clayton advised that the verification process required for the SumUp credit card facility had been resolved.

4. Finance Report

Mike Targett provided a brief overview of the finances for the Company, which included a list of available funds, as follows:

Bank:	£139,111
Paypal:	£1,282
Total:	£140,393
Budget:	(£57,300)
Contingency	(£30,000)
Available funds:	£53,093

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Restricted	£13,230 (D1013 bogie appeal)
Unrestricted	£39,863

A review of proposed and agreed expenditure was as follows:

PROPOSED COMMITTED WLA EXPENDITURE (SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL IF NOT ON ORDER) AS AT 26 JANUARY 2023

Brake Distributor Overhaul:	£1,000
Brake Gauges:	£1,400
Batteries for D1013:	£6,000 (TBC)
Brake System D1013:	£10,000 (TBC)
Brake System D1062:	£1,500 (TBC)
Engine Parts D1013:	£1,500 (TBC)
Turbo Rebuild:	£4,000 (TBC)
Dyno-starter overhaul:	£4,500
Repaint D1013:	£6,000 (Updated quote from Tony Middleton TBC)
Kidderminster Tools and Cart:	£500
Oil Sampling:	£500
Contingency:	£5,000
TOTAL	£41,900

EXPENDITURE PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION AND CURRENTLY UNAPPROVED

Torque Arms & Trunnion repairs for D1062:	£6,000
Bogie Parts for D1062 (Bushing ext. based on previous costs):	£4,550
1 x short cardan shaft for D1013:	£4,850
TOTAL:	£15,400
GRAND TOTAL:	£57,300

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5. Locomotive Maintenance & Operation for 2023

A well-attended, positive Working Members meeting was held on the 21st January, with the Minutes/action plans issued out during the week. This information formed the basis of the report for this item, together with items recorded and actioned from the previous Board meeting. At the time of our meeting, it was not known what the SVR's operational requirements were going to be for 2023.

Darren Shelmerdine reported that an SVR Diesel Committee Meeting is due to be held on 11th February. For the future, it was understood that this Committee is due to be split into two covering Engineering and Operations, with Terms of Reference and/or further details to follow.

DS

It was understood that a new SVR Operating Agreement would be presented to the WLA for consideration at some point in the future.

All to note

6. WLA Proposal to the SVR Board

Whilst the initial proposal had not been accepted, we had been advised to keep the lines of communication open with the owners of the interested party. Once matters had settled down regarding management changes on the SVR, the matter would be looked at more favourably, probably during May. If accepted, we would need to discuss with the WLA Committee and then the Working Members, before calling an EGM, to discuss with the membership.

All to note

7. Any other business

There were no further items of business discussed.

8. Date of next Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting would be held by Zoom on Thursday, 13th April 2023 at 7.30pm.

The next Committee Meeting would be on Saturday, 28th January 2023.

www.westernlocomotives.co.uk

The Western Locomotive Association Limited is the owner of D1013 Western Ranger and D1062 Western Courier on the Severn Valley Railway, Bridgnorth, Shropshire and is a Company Limited by Guarantee Registered number 3873466

Registered office: 5 Prospect Place, Millennium Way, Pride Park, Derby, DE24 8HG The WLA is registered as a charity under number 1115058