

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

**Held on Thursday 23 November 2023 – Christopher Bushell Way, Ashford**

Participants: Roger Allen (RA), Wayne Evans-Addy (WE), Jeff Fray (JF), John Morgan (JM)

## **1 Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes of the committee meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 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 £1659 and the business savings account at £1060. There have been several purchases notably the Massoth Control system and then a second controller. The long outstanding bill from Pratts Bottom Village Hall for hire in October 2022 has been received and paid.

Wayne reported for card transactions events – g scale Kent now has its own account and any monies received less handling fees are passed to the Group bank account. JF is check with Lloyds Bank progress on adding Wayne to the mandate

## **3 GER**

Any remedial works on the track will be carried out at Tenterden if time and circumstances permit. A request had been made to Martin Piper for the track wiring diagram but it has not been received.

JF note that the trailer is leaking and the roof bolts will be re-masticed. After Teynham in January the trailer will go to Alan Jones's.

## **4 Website**

WE has updated the website in a number of areas. Should committee members spot any errors or further changes required they will contact Wayne. One area needing attention is the Links page with a couple of links not working properly

## **5 Newsletter**

It was agreed that the next edition, number 33 would be produced by JF and issued prior to Christmas. After that WE will take over editorship with number 34 after Teynham

## **6 Facebook**

WE notes that we now have 26 members in the Kent Facebook group

## **7 Forthcoming Events**

### **a) Indoor**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> December West Sussex Group event at Henfield. GER will attend and a reminder will be sent to all members requesting help on the day.
- 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024 our Winter event and AGM at Teynham. WE gave a run down of exhibits which include a layout from Chris Worby, Eric Upton with battery powered R/C, also Alan Eccles, WE's modular layout, GER, Chalk Garden and the members sales stand
- 10/11 February 2024 – Ashford MRC show at Tenterden. GER will attend
- 6/7 April 2024 – Ashford Festival (AIMREC) – GER will attend as will David Groves with a display
- 20/21 July Chatham – we have offered GER but confirmation is awaited
- Autumn 2024 – investigations on an alternative venue to Pratts Bottom are in progress

WE will produce a flyer listing events.

- b) Garden meets 2024  
A request to members will be in the next Newsletter

## **8 Membership**

Membership of the group stands as 52 full members plus 10 Kent Honorary. RA confirmed that Andrew Lloyd would be standing down from the membership administration and communication duties he has been performing for the group since leaving the committee. If a secretary can be appointed then that will be part of the role but if no appointment is made then in the short term, maximum 1 year, RA offered to perform these tasks in an ex-officio capacity. Agreed

## **9 Kent Committee**

- a) In preparation for the AGM on 28 January formal notice will be sent to members in early December. RA will liaise with Andrew
- b) RA confirmed that he would be standing down from the committee at the AGM. JF, WE, JM and JE had all confirmed that they would continue subject to member approval. RA reported that there were 4 names as possibilities for committee vacancies and if all were confirmed an election would be required at the AGM. It was agreed that when it comes to the appropriate item on the AGM agenda that each name, existing and new, would be considered individually rather than “en-bloc”
- c) It was agreed that further consideration of the matrix of committee members duties and responsibilities should be left until after the AGM.

## **10 Wider promotion of the Group, the Society and our activities**

RA tabled a paper based on ideas and suggestions on wider promotion that David Groves had submitted. Originally David was to have attended the meeting. In discussion a number of the suggestions were found to be in practice already either as-is or with a different emphasis. It was agreed that the following be followed up in the first instance by the new committee:

- In our Group welcome letter to new members ask for information from the new member about what was it that affected or promoted their decision to join the Society. This information could be helpful in our targeting group activities and events. Information from National tend to only give where they found out about the Society
- Assess what members want from the Group and do they perceive of any weaknesses at present. RA noted that we conducted a survey of group members several years ago and it was agreed another survey should be carried out. RA will source the original survey
- Ask members, in the survey, if they have a (portable) layout and would they be prepared to exhibit at a group event or on behalf of the group at an external event.
- DG had mentioned that conversation with visitors at shows is always a good idea and promotes activities. It was felt that we did this already but if manning resources allow, and they don't always, have a member “front of house” to talk with visitors

One suggestion that DG made was to encourage members to assist more at exhibition. All present felt that this continues to be an issue with requests for help usually being answered from the same small band of people. Some members had told us in the last survey that they didn't have a particular interest in the group; they had joined the National G Scale Society.

## **11 Next Meeting**

This will be arranged after the AGM once the new committee is in place