



# Heritage Railway Association

*Patron: Dame Margaret Weston DBE  
President: Lord Faulkner of Worcester  
Deputy President: S. Richard Bowker CBE*

Page 1 of 9

## **Minutes of the Heritage Tramways Committee Meeting 19, held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Summerlee Museum of Scottish Industrial Life.**

**Present:** Geoffrey Claydon [GBC] (Chairman), Keith Whitmore [KW] (Heaton Park Tramway), Rob Jones [RJ] (Merseyside Tramway Preservation Society), Ian Longworth [IL] (Isle of Man Transport), Tony Williams [TW] (National Tramway Museum), Mike Crabtree [MC] (Heritage Railway Association), Dan Hill [DH] (UKTram), Alan Pearce [AP] (Light Rail Transit Association), Neil Jones [NJ] (Great Orme Tramway), Geoff Senior [GS] (Heaton Park Tramway), George Murray [GM] (Summerlee Transport Museum)

### **HTC 19/1 CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS & INTRODUCTIONS**

GBC opened the meeting at 13:00 and welcomed all members and thanked everyone for attending. Lu McNair (Museum Manager) and David Craig (Workshop Co-ordinator) introduced themselves to the group and welcomed everyone to Summerlee Museum. GBC invited all members to introduce themselves and state their positions within each organisation they were representing. GBC extended his thanks to Lu, David and Geoff for hosting the meeting and for all their input in arranging the day of activities, the meeting room, refreshments and lunch. All members present joined in showing their appreciation for the hospitality and activities kindly laid on by the hosts.

### **HTC 19/2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

GBC advised the meeting of the following apologies that had been received:

Bryan Lindop [BL] (Blackpool Transport)  
Jeremy Reece [JR] (Isle of Man)  
Irene DeBoo [ID] (Black Country Living Museum)  
Tim Major [TM] (East Anglia Transport Museum)  
Martin Gurr [MG] (Blackpool Transport)  
James Hammett [JH] (Secretary)  
Maurice Curran [MC] (Volks Electric Railway)  
Lee Taylor [LT] (Seaton Tramway)

### **HTC 19/3 MINUTES OF MEETING No. 18 held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

GBC asked the group if the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at Volks Electric Railway, were a true and accurate account of the meeting. The minutes were approved as a true and accurate reflection of meeting, RJ proposed this, seconded by AP.

*Representing Heritage & Tourist Railways, Tramways and Preservation Societies  
A Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England and Wales  
Registered No: 2226245 Registered Office: 2 Littlestone Road, New Romney, Kent TN28 8PL  
VAT Registration No. 800 8702 58*



# Heritage Railway Association

*Patron: Dame Margaret Weston DBE  
President: Lord Faulkner of Worcester  
Deputy President: S. Richard Bowker CBE*

Page 2 of 9

## **HTC 19/4 MATTERS ARISING NOT ON CURRENT AGENDA**

There were no matters arising that were not on the current agenda.

## **HTC 19/5 UPDATE ON UKTRAM and HTC MEMBERSHIP and ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

DH informed the group that the UKTram High Level Summit recently took place on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September at Birmingham City Football Club. The event was a great success, with a high attendance and positive feedback from those who attended. On the afternoon of the Summit, UKTram held an industry workshop, requesting members' feedback on what they thought UKTram should be doing in the future and how they can support the industry. Due to the success of the event, another summit will take place in 2019 and more details will follow in the New Year.

The formation of the Light Rail Safety Standards Board is steadily moving along. Due to no funding announcement from the Minister, the shadow body are unable to progress with some of the work streams they had intended to start but work on the Risk Model is still progressing.

Mark Ashmore from Midland Metro joined the UKTram team back in July, as a Safety and Assurance Manager. He will be working closely with all the Heads of Safety from all of the systems and also working with the LRSSB once it is fully established.

## **HTC 19/6 UPDATE ON MoU BETWEEN ORR – UKTRAM and ORR – HRA RESPECTIVELY**

GBC advised the group that responsibility for the TPG Document (formerly RSP2) had been handed over to UKTram. An updated version of the document was released earlier in the year and David Key had requested that any comments or feedback regarding the document be fed back to him, which he will incorporate in to the next update.

## **HTC 19/7 SHADOW BODY UPDATE - LRTSSB**

DH informed the group that UKTram have been supplying the administration support, staffing support and utilising UKTram resource expertise, appointing and managing consultants for the LRSSB work streams.

The work undertaken by UKTram Subcommittee 1 continues on recommendations 3-8, recommendations 3 & 4 (Technologies) are being worked on by a team from Ian Rowe Associates



# Heritage Railway Association

*Patron: Dame Margaret Weston DBE  
President: Lord Faulkner of Worcester  
Deputy President: S. Richard Bowker CBE*

**Page 3 of 9**

And their work will pass on to Subcommittee 1. A streamlined Subcommittee 1 group met on 26<sup>th</sup> July to continue work on recommendations 5-8, where it was agreed to revisit the industry questionnaire Subcommittee 1 produced and delve deeper into their responses. All this work will eventually be passed on to the LRSSB once it is fully established.

The main focus of the Shadow Body has been the Business case for the full body and the Industry Risk work. Atkins have been working with our appointed experts (WG2) and the Heads of Safety Group to develop the Industry Risk Model development. The Industry Risk Model is now at a point where work can be started, but due to no funding announcement this has not been possible.

## **HTC 19/8 ORR/RAIB REPORTS & UPDATES**

MC provided the group with a RAIB report, detailing 16 investigations in progress, 2 of which are currently planned to be issued in Safety Digest format.

There are 2 investigations in progress which relate to heritage railways and no outstanding investigations relating to a heritage tramway incident.

The 2 investigations in progress relate to a runaway PW trolley on the East Lancs Railway and the runaway of 2 BR Mk1 coaches at Bitton Station.

The group reviewed the reports and MC advised that the 'High Risk' areas were level crossings and entrapment in doors: 7 reported level crossing incidents and 7 cases of passengers being trapped in doors. There had also been 6 near miss incidents reported in the last year.

## **HTC 19/9 UPDATES ON LEGAL ISSUES.**

GBC informed the group that due to Brexit, there had been a hold up on the Young Person's bill amongst others. The All Party Parliamentary Group on Heritage Rail have been throwing all their weight in changing the legislation, with things moving forward but very slowly.

## **HTC 19/10 UPDATES ON OTHER ISSUES – i) HRA, ii) UKTram & iii) TMS**

### **HRA**

GBC informed the Committee that at the Heritage meeting at Volks, the newly appointed Chief Executive Officer, Stephen Oates attended, who expressed that he is keen to get more involved with the Heritage Group. Stephen has worked on the Isle of Wight Steam Railway for more than 30 years, most recently as Chairman.

### **UKTram**

DH informed the Committee that in previous meetings it was suggested that a Hazards and Perceptions DVD be produced to assist with driver learning and training. Ian Row Associates



# Heritage Railway Association

*Patron: Dame Margaret Weston DBE  
President: Lord Faulkner of Worcester  
Deputy President: S. Richard Bowker CBE*

**Page 4 of 9**

advised UKTram that they have put together a Hazards programme that links in with their Driver's simulator, which some systems use when recruiting new drivers. DH suggested arranging for someone from Ian Rowe Associates to provide the committee with a demonstration at the next meeting in Crich.

## **HTC 19/11 HTC WORK STREAMS UPDATE**

No update was provided.

## **HTC 19/12 ISSUES TO BE RAISED OR DELEGATED FROM i) HRA & ii) UKTram**

### **HRA**

GBC raised that due to the equality act change in April 2011, there is no longer a legal retirement age, and employers can no longer force their employees to retire at a certain age. The individual can decide when they wish to stop working. GBC advised that for ROGs, the person must be fit and competent to perform the task. GBC raised that 75 is currently the limit for drivers at Crich.

IL informed the group that IoM use bus criteria for their drivers. If the drivers are over the age of 65, they take a medical test to see if they are fit to work each year (DVLA Category 2). IL also raised that they need to check eye criteria when it comes to drivers as this has changed over the years.

GS advised that at Heaton Park they send their drivers to a GP for a DVLA Medical D4. This is not necessarily the same GP each time. GBC stated it's important to visit the same practitioner when carrying out medicals because if you visit a different practitioner each time, you may not receive the full tests, compared to when visiting the same practitioner each time.

GS also advised that due to their insurance policies, they are unable to employ drivers under the age of 21. IL suggested UKTram could possibly have their own industry insurance policy put in place to cover all systems.

GS raised the point around DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) and protecting young persons in the work place. GS felt that the Safeguarding Training Programme wasn't suitable for what they required, as it mainly related to working with children within a sports environment. GS also pointed out that DBS also looks at vulnerable adults. GBC suggested raising the question around First Aid training and Safeguarding at the next LROC Meeting to see how they deal with this. MC agreed, and said he would raise this at the next LROC meeting on behalf of the Heritage group.

GBC advised that he will contact Jan Barratt at Crich to see if she can provide the group with a presentation around the safeguarding of children at the next Heritage meeting.

*Representing Heritage & Tourist Railways, Tramways and Preservation Societies*

*A Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England and Wales*

*Registered No: 2226245 Registered Office: 2 Littlestone Road, New Romney, Kent TN28 8PL*

*VAT Registration No. 800 8702 58*



# Heritage Railway Association

*Patron: Dame Margaret Weston DBE  
President: Lord Faulkner of Worcester  
Deputy President: S. Richard Bowker CBE*

Page 5 of 9

## HTC 19/13 REPORTS ON CURRENT SITUATION OF MEMBERS AS NEEDED

### **National Tramway Museum [TW]**

TW informed the group that the work being carried out on recladding the depot had now been completed. All three roofs of the depot had been completed by Christmas, and work continued in the New Year.

In January this year, we began an appeal to raise funds for the purchase of Car No. 5, a trial tramway replacement service bus operated by Barnsley & District Electric Traction Company, and later by British Electric Traction Group. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have already raised over £15,000. We still need another £53,000 to make the bus part of our collection. Car No. 5 has visited the museum on previous occasions and will be visiting again this year. The Leyland Society will be celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Crich Tramway Village on 8<sup>th</sup> July and a range of Leyland vehicles will be on display, including Car no.5.

The Track renewal at Cliffside has addressed the problems we have had with drainage. The new track uses the 55G2 rail we acquired some years ago. The new track has been installed on standard railway ballast, with a depth of 200mm under the sleepers, which will help improve the drainage.

Restoration of Bluebird is continuing, which is now structurally complete and now has a staircase. We have also acquired Bournemouth 85 and a Birmingham cable car.

### **Isle of Man [IL]**

IL informed the group that they had been given permission to produce a single storey depot. The new depot is scheduled to open February 2020.

The Manx Electric Railway had had a good season, with them celebrating their 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. There had been over 5000 extra tram journeys during the launch week of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

Work has already begun on the track and overhead renewals.

Horse Tram operation will close next September



# Heritage Railway Association

*Patron: Dame Margaret Weston DBE  
President: Lord Faulkner of Worcester  
Deputy President: S. Richard Bowker CBE*

**Page 6 of 9**

Over the next few weeks work will begin on Snaefell 3 & 6. Last year Snaefell received 62,000 visitors and expected to exceed that in the new season.

IL announced that in three weeks he will be working part-time.

## **Heaton Park Tramway [GS]**

GS informed the group that the tramway reopened for the 2018 season on the 11<sup>th</sup> February after a Christmas shutdown that allowed us to work on some of our workshop projects including Stockport 5.

It had been a mixed year, with the beginning of the year being quite quiet.

The Tramtastic event on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July, saw our first 'Three Car Service' of the year, with our stalwarts 96 and 765 in operation, and after its year-long holiday in Blackpool, 623 was relaunched into service. The day also gave us the re-enactment of the Suffragettes protest march through Heaton Park and the arrest of Emmeline Pankhurst, marking 100 years since women were given the right to vote in the UK.

The overhaul of Stockport 5 continues to progress.

## **Heaton Park Tramway Society [KW]**

KW informed the group that their external lines and partnerships were working well.

We had recently hosted two successful external events.

Stockport 5 has now been sent back to Stockport.

## **Summerlee Museum [GM]**

GM informed the group that they had been open every day except Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

GM also advised that going back to the discussion regarding Driver's age, they don't have an age limit in place they are just required to have a Full Driver's License.

## **Merseyside Tramway Preservation Society [MTPS]**

Last weekend was our yearly big event, the "Bus and Tram Show." We carried 900 passengers, many of whom travelled on multi ride tickets and we operated a four tram service. This number carried is about 10% down on last year, as there was a large rival event in Liverpool.

Since reopening on 21<sup>st</sup> July, the number of visitors is higher than the same time last year and income has increased as we now have a café, which serves tea, coffee and snacks such as crisps



# Heritage Railway Association

*Patron: Dame Margaret Weston DBE  
President: Lord Faulkner of Worcester  
Deputy President: S. Richard Bowker CBE*

**Page 7 of 9**

And biscuits. We can run the museum without the support of Wirral Borough Council. Our idea that we would be disposed of by the council as an asset disposal is currently looking unlikely. The shop is being run by members who previously did not do regular working in the museum. The café is being run by spouses, who have been appropriately trained.

Birkenhead 20 is still in Blackpool and as I speak, is having the new tyres fitted. It will remain in Blackpool for some time longer which is yet to be agreed.

Liverpool 762 is back in service after a two year delay in electrical fault finding, a new resistance bank has been bought and it is thought that a reversing barrel on a controller at one end was not functioning properly. Progress of re-gauging the Lisbon truck for the Warrington tram is very slow heading in the right direction.

The society recently received a large legacy from a deceased member, which in fact is the biggest single member donation in the society's history. We aren't disclosing the figure as we don't want other members' donations to seem insignificant.

We now have two more younger enthusiastic tram volunteers (aged 14 and 15) and another aged 19. This excludes Jamie Moran aged 18 who is an engineer and passed guard. We also have two new active members who have recently retired.

The council recently provided us with a defibrillator.

There had recently been an outbreak of graffiti on a large sign at the museum. We received a visit from the British Transport Police plain clothed division to analyse the images and tags to compare them against other images in the area, but these had been wiped clean. RJ suggested that if anyone experiences this in the future, then you should take photos of the graffiti and report it to the police.

## **Great Orme**

NJ informed the group that there had been a slow start to the season due to bad weather, including mini tornadoes!

We are slightly down on previous seasons.

There has been days where there have been no passengers at all.

The authorities are looking at improvements and investments in the park.



# Heritage Railway Association

*Patron: Dame Margaret Weston DBE  
President: Lord Faulkner of Worcester  
Deputy President: S. Richard Bowker CBE*

Page 8 of 9

## **HTC 19/14 REPORTS ON MEMBERS/OTHERS NOT REPRESENTED AT MEETING**

No representatives from Beamish were able to attend the meeting, but they provided the following update:

### **Beamish Museum [PJ]**

Since April, much of the season continued with 3 tramcars available (114, 264 and 196). 31 returned to service at the end of June. As well as new tyres, the opportunity was taken to skim the axle journals, the axle boxes were then white metalled and machined to suit. Since entering service, 31 has been trouble free and has completed 2000 miles in service. Having 31 back in service for the high summer was particularly useful, and has immediately reaffirmed its popularity with the crew and visitors alike.

As soon as 31 was back in service, Sunderland 16 was lifted for tyre turning. The tyres have been turned, and whilst lifted, some pins and bushes were renewed on the brake gear. 16 will be back in service for late October, this will then mean we have 5 cars available for service. With a few exceptions (Christmas events), 3 cars will be sufficient for the winter service. 114, 264 and 196 will all have short periods out of service to complete a variety of maintenance tasks on them. By the end of March, the fleet will return to 5 car availability. To date the fleet mileage for the year is 16,000.

An advert for a new Tramcar Technician will be going out at the start of October. Anybody interested in applying should contact 0191 370 4000 or keep an eye out on the website. A machinist/fitter has been appointed – this will greatly assist with the comprehensive overhaul of Gateshead 10 in the New Year. Work on Gateshead 10 has not completely stalled. The overhauls of the compressor, controllers and trolley base are all complete.

Permanent way work has continued with the re-railing of certain high rails. A significant re-sleepering programme is now underway for the reserved track sections. This work will see variations to the service patterns and limited runs on weekdays from the start of November onwards.

Planning for next year's events is well underway, with the tramway playing a part – watch this space...

## **HTC 19/15 DATE & TIME OF MEETINGS IN 2019**

The 2019 meeting dates are as follows:

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – National Tramway Museum, Crich

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – Wirral Transport Museum, Birkenhead





# Heritage Railway Association

*Patron: Dame Margaret Weston DBE  
President: Lord Faulkner of Worcester  
Deputy President: S. Richard Bowker CBE*

**Page 9 of 9**

## **HTC 19/16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

MC raised the question of the Committee instituting a series of “best practice” days when members might gain experience of other members’ practices. He cited oversight of electrical supply and overhead line arrangements. IL explained the latest facilities which the MER had for controlling power supply. Other members said that OLE maintenance and repair was put out to contract. No one now used live-line wiring. It was agreed that the question of “best practice” days should be considered at the next HTC meeting.

MC also raised the question of horse operation and, in particular, the view was taken that there was need for adequate training of the person or persons occupying the front platform of the car when it was in operation. The discussion widened of the need to consider the provision of first aid facilities and safeguarding arrangements. Again, it was agreed that these matters should be items for consideration at the next meeting.

**Meeting closed at 15.30**

**Signed** ..... **Dated** ..... / ..... /  
.....