

MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAY SOCIETY

(A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, no.7406570)

Held at 12.00 at the Kidderminster Railway Museum, Station Road, Comberton Hill, Kidderminster, DY10 1QX on Saturday 28th May 2022.

Attended by:

Directors:

David Charlesworth – Editor and Photo Archivist

Martin Collins – Archivist and Exhibition Sales

Peter Jordan - Treasurer and Sales

Michael Melbourne - Webmaster

Paul Whittle - Vice-Chairman and Public Relations

Officers:

Janine Bird – Secretary, Membership Secretary and Events Organiser

David Churchill - Technical and Modelling Coordinator

David Mead – Engineering and DRCS Liaison

47 members were present in person, including the Directors and Officers listed above.

7 guests were present in person.

16 members attended the meeting via Zoom and were eligible to vote.

14 proxy forms had been received from members nominating the Chairman of the Meeting to vote in their stead.

A full list of Members attending the meeting and Notices of Proxy is held by the Secretary and filed with the Minutes.

1. Welcome and introductions

David Barrie (Chairman DHRS) was unable to attend the meeting in person so Paul Whittle (PW) assumed the Chair and welcomed everyone, either in person or via Zoom, to the twelfth AGM of the DHRS.

PW then introduced DB, via Zoom, who gave an overview of the activities of the Society since the previous AGM.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the eleventh Annual General Meeting held on 9th October 2021.

PW said that the minutes of this AGM had been published on the Society's website with provision for paper copies to be available.

The Secretary had not received any comments on the minutes.

PW asked for a proposer and seconder to approve the minutes.

Proposed by: Hugh Smith

Seconded by: John Knapton

The resolution to approve the Minutes of the eleventh AGM was put to the meeting and was carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the Report of the Directors and the Annual Accounts for Year Ended December 2021

Peter Jordan gave an overview of the significant cash balance currently held by the DHRS and possible future opportunities for expenditure.

There being no questions regarding the Directors' and the Annual Accounts Reports PW asked for a proposer and seconder for a motion to approve the Reports.

Proposed by: Peter Baker

Seconded by: Tim Hadfield

The resolution to approve the Reports was put to the meeting and was carried unanimously.

4. Appointment of a Reporting Accountant

PW reminded members that there is a legal requirement for the DHRS to have a Reporting Accountant to review the accounts and advise the DHRS Board.

Derek Williamson of Goddards Accountants had acted as Reporting Accountant for the Society for the 2021 Accounts and was happy to continue in office.

There were no questions so PW asked for a proposer and a seconder for the motion to reappoint Derek Williamson.

Proposed by: Jack Thornton

Seconded by: Reg Banks

The resolution to reappoint Derek Williamson as Reporting Accountant was put to the meeting and was carried unanimously.

5. Re-election of Directors

Article 29 of the Society's Articles of Association provided that at each Annual General Meeting (other than the first) one-third of the Directors must retire from office.

In accordance with this Article, two directors were retiring and, being eligible, offered themselves for re-election. The profiles of Peter Jordan and Michael Melbourne had been provided in the insert to the February 2022 issue of The Darjeeling Mail.

The Resolution to re-elect Peter Jordan was
Proposed by: Dorothy Knapton
Seconded by: Hugh Smith
and carried unanimously.

The Resolution to re-elect Michael Melbourne was
Proposed by: John Knapton
Seconded by: John Miles
and carried unanimously.

6. AOB

There being no AOB or questions tabled, PW brought the formal part of the meeting to a conclusion at 12.25.

Following immediately was a proposal from Cedric Lodge to build a replica B Class in the UK as an initiative to increase interest in, and membership of, the DHRS. This proposal will be discussed by the DHRS board.

At 13.00 PW closed the meeting for the lunch break and reminded members, both in the room and via Zoom, that the afternoon entertainment would start at 14.00 with:

A presentation from Adrian Shooter and David Mead

An update from PW about recent events in India and specifically the DHR

A slide show "Off the Tracks" from David Charlesworth.

The event ended at 16.30.