



Chairman's Report

The Trustees' decision regarding our AGM in this difficult year is explained in the Secretary's report.

During the lockdown we lost Frank Walker who was a former committee member and a member of Bridgnorth MPD. He was looking forward to the loco getting to Bridgnorth so he could get stuck in.

Perhaps I was a little optimistic with my last report, but at that time no one had ever heard of Covid 19 or what it was going to mean to the heritage railway movement in general. Working parties have been reduced and in most cases stopped, therefore the completion of the loco has been pushed back. But the good news is that we have agreed with the SVR that work on the boiler will continue at Bridgnorth, the full-time staff have fitted the new crown stays and finishing off the lap screws. So, as you can see we are working with the SVR to get the loco into service as quickly as possible. I would like to thank all the lads who have been working on the loco during this difficult time and the team behind the scenes that keep all the paperwork up to date. Now that we are a Community Benefit Society we can claim Gift Aid on UK taxpayer donations. Stephen Goodchild answered the call and has agreed to be the Fund Treasurer and I look forward to working with him in the future. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Paul Bennett for his excellent work on the Fund website www.4150.org.uk. Those of you that follow our progress on it will know what a good job he does.

In July we started to get the loco ready to come out to a more accessible position in readiness for the move to Bridgnorth, when that will be we are not sure but hopefully it should not be too long. Each wheel set has been jacked up and oil sprayed on the journals and at some point the engine will need to go over the pit for a final check underside. We are lucky in that we have a team of skilled and dedicated people working on the loco, but the one thing we are desperately short of, is a skilled machinist. If you are interested and have the skills please let us know, otherwise we are going to have to pay a lot of money for the work to be done outside.

I hope that we will be able to get together soon, but that is looking more like being well into the new year.

Secretary's Report

Firstly, you will find your new share certificate enclosed which are being issued to conform with our new CBS status. As I have said before our database has gone through numerous changes over the years starting with a small pocket note book to the Excel spreadsheet we use now. In that time it may have accumulated a few anomalies; if there any issues regarding your certificate please let me know using the listed contact details. Those who contribute by standing order, your March 2019 – February 2020 contributions are included. Future acknowledgements of these will be sent out with our Newsletter and AGM notice in August, starting next year when we hope to hold the AGM in September.

Closed AGM Meeting 2020

In common with most groups it has been decided to hold a closed AGM for 2020. 3 Trustees plus myself as Secretary will meet on Friday 18th September at 19.00 with a minimum agenda and address essential business only. Any member wishing to stand as a Trustee, or to have any other business considered or to raise any objections please notify me in writing by Friday 11th September. Email pww1946@gmail.com or 22 Broomfield Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY11 5PB

Agenda

1. Trustees' Reports
2. Present the accounts
3. Appoint an auditor
4. One third of Trustees must stand down each year but can be re-elected. Peter Maddicks and Mike Hutt will be standing down as longest serving members and have agreed to continue subject to any objections.
5. During the year Peter Dodson was co-opted on to the Committee and has agreed to continue subject to any objections
6. Steve Goodchild has taken up the post of Fund Treasurer and has agreed to become a Trustee subject to any objections
7. Any other business

Bewdley Report – Tony Howard

After 14 weeks of lockdown we returned to Bewdley on the 6th July. After a meeting on the car park to remind us of the latest Covid rules we were asked how soon would 4150 be ready to be shunted out in readiness to go to Bridgnorth.

The first job was to check that all the half nuts were on the spring hanger bolts, most had not got them on so new half nuts were put on along with new split pins.

The brake rigging was the next item to have the same operation, half nuts and new split pins. We found one of the bolts was too short and would not take a half nut and a split pin so will have to be changed. The front two bolts had been put in the wrong way round and would rub on the Pony truck frame. We had to slacken the brake adjusters right off to clear the pony truck frame to get the bolts to go in top to bottom, we just managed to do it.

The water valve controls were fitted and we were pleased that all our careful measuring in the past had paid off, we achieved the correct clearances that we needed.

The inside of the bunker had another coat of paint along the inside of the frames. Lots of new brackets were painted as well as the rear sand pipes.

The new window frames were returned from machining off site and the original ones were fitted to the rear spectacle plate.

The front window frames are more difficult as they were cast using the original one as a pattern so because of the shrinkage of material in the casting the holes in the spectacle plate would not line up so the holes were welded up and new holes drilled through the window frame and spectacle plate.

When we looked at the Pony Truck we found several jobs to do on it. Some of the nuts and bolts had not been tightened and other bolts were not long enough to take the full nut, half nut and split pin. These have been ordered and delivery is expected soon.

With the 50-ton Jacks borrowed from Bridgnorth each wheel set was lifted and plenty of oil was poured around the journals.

All in all, a lot of work has been done in July.

Bridgnorth Report – Peter Dodson

Coronavirus has put back the work on refurbishing the boiler by 3 months, which is a pity as progress had been very good until March this year.

As you will have seen from SVR news item the crown stays were delivered by the 'barrow load'. They have all now been fitted and caulked. The 60 crown stays, inside the firebox, that are not fitted with protective nuts, are being reduced in length ready for them to be worked over.

As regards the patch screws 75% have been fitted, with the remainder being completed when the boiler is turned over.

The drop gate assembly is progressing, with the drop gate bar already purchased and teeth supply in hand. The final arrangement of the support bracket is also making good progress.

The ash pan material has been delivered and it is hoped to make a start on the assembly at the end of August. In summary work is progressing well.