

**KWVR 2021 AGM Agenda**  
**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2023 7:30pm**  
**Keighley Civic Centre**

**1. Present**

1. M Stroh (Chair), R Batty (Secretary), M Tarran, J Hinchcliffe, N Bennett, J Hartley Sellers, T Marshall, J Reddyhoff, K Reddyhoff, D Pearson, A Tarran, M Curtis, M Storey, R Graham, R Wilson, S Wilson, G Mitchell, D Winters, J Shaw, A Brown, J Crossley, T England, G Bentley, E A-Gale, R Hustwick, J Hoyle, D Overend, N Ward, P Hudman, A Lind, S Daly, C Sheehan, P Mann, B Sprot,

**2. Apologies for absence**

1. J Duijsters, G Hindley, C Lawson, A Riley, D Taylor, R Hart, C Smyth, O Harrison, A Cryer. A Simkins, R Jones, B Jones, D Eccles, L Davis, R Pulleyn, S Boyes, P Lees, M Moorehead, M Denholm, A Johnson, D Singleton, P Oliver, J Boow, T Hooper, B Sunderland, J.S Robertshaw, E Emmott, J Chester, T Brooksbank, A Carter, D E Brown, G Davies, E Thornton, C Wilman, D West, I Bacon, S Gibson, D Cochrane, T Moody, D Wilkinson, S Dalt, C Howell – Jones, D Rogers, J Spain,

**3. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022**

1. R Batty noted that there was a typo where two G Bentley's had been recorded. One of those should have read G Mitchell.
2. With that correction the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

**4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda**

1. Non given.

**5. Address by the President - Ann Cryer**

1. Unfortunately due to an issue with a taxi A Cryer was not able to attend the meeting in person.

**6. Address on behalf of the Society by the Chairman - Matthew Stroh**

1. 2022 started with a great deal of uncertainty however by the end of the year, turned out to be a very successful year thanks to the hard work of everyone involved with the Railway.
2. Elf Explorer and Beer and Music festival were two very successful events from the year with much more adding to the success throughout the year.
3. The highlight of 2023 was the return visit of 'Flying Scotsman' which worked along the KWVR during the month of May – again another very successful event thanks to the hard work of the many people involved.
4. There are some challenges ahead of the Railway such as engine overhauls and infrastructure replacements, which will no doubt challenge the Railway, and the Railway is also aware that every time it puts on an extra event, it is asking more and more of our Volunteers, who already give so much of their time. The people power behind the Flying Scotsman event is a fine example of this, where people come and give more of their time, which then benefits the Railway – allowing it to do more with its money.
5. D Pearson added that there is a great relationship with Bradford Council who are working with the Railway to help it achieve its targets with financial support.

6. Keighley Station is due to see some repairs which for a time will see it closed to KWVR services, but will in turn allow vital repair work to be carried out.
7. The Railway would like to show a great deal of support to the work carried out by Network Rail and to the growing working relationship we have with them.
8. Artistic impression images were shared with the meeting which are available on the KWVR website.
9. Thanks were given to the Railways paid team who do what they do to keep the Railway growing in the way it has, and to all the Volunteers, who without, we would not have such a successful outfit.
10. We mark the passing of a number of the Railway's Volunteers – who over the years have been part of the Family, the Railway would like to mention B Black, S Barratt, J Adams, J Woodhead and B Glyn. There are of course many more names who the Railway has lost over the year.
11. We would also like to pass a wish of support to C Smyth who at this time is unwell and unable to attend the AGM in person.
12. M Stroh added that one of the Railways Directors received a Young Persons Award for his volunteering activities in the Heritage Railway sector – something which the Railway should be proud of.
13. Thanks also go to our family organisations who continue to work closely with the Railway, who are the Vintage Carriage Trust, Bahamas Locomotive Society, Standard 4 Society, the 957 Trust and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Trust.
14. It was added that the Standard 4 Society plan to donate their engines to the KWVR as they start to wind down their activities – something that the Society would like to thank them for – allowing the two engines to remain on the KWVR for future use.

## **7. Financial report - J Hinchcliffe**

### **1. 2022 Results**

1. The headlines from 2022 are that it was a successful year with the success based on trade which left the Railway with a strong cash balance.
2. The Railway left 2022 in a strong position, however it's key to not be complacent.
3. By the end of the year the Railway finished the year with an income of £2.5m which compares to a figure of £1.9m at the end of 2019 – which is being used during this meeting as a comparison – with that being the last normal running year.
4. The surplus for 2022 was £127k which compares to £89k at the end of 2019.
5. A difference in the management accounts and statutory accounts was noted – that being that the management accounts are based on cash whereas the statutory accounts are based on the cost of a project split over a number of years.
6. It's also important to highlight that trade is up by 55% - which is fantastic to see.

### **2. 2023 Plans**

1. Thanks to the Towns Fund the Railway was able to start planning some of the projects that have been on the 'wish list' such as developing Keighley Water Tower into a visitor space and transforming some of the Volunteer facilities at Haworth.
2. The Railway also took the decision to clear some of the backlog of maintenance along the Railway.
3. The Railway planned the budget knowing that the price of coal would be

uncertain, and understands that costs are rising.

4. The Railway also hoped that the visit of Flying Scotsman would be financially successful and that other events along the Railway such as the Beer and Music event and Elf Explorer would also build on previous successes.
5. The plan was to work to a small deficit.

### **3. 2023 Performance**

1. Fares are up by 7% and there are clear signs of the Railway's secondary trade such as catering and shops increasing.
2. Even more remarkable to report is that the Railway was profitable in the first 6 months.
3. This is largely due to the Flying Scotsman event which brought in £400k income and a surplus of around £200k and 12k visitors throughout the month of May. It's important to echo the hard work that many people put in to make the event happen.

### **4. Designated Funds**

1. The Railway has designated £1.8m towards some of the upcoming projects such as loco overhauls and bridge replacements. As highlighted many times before, the figures noted here will not cover the full costs of the project, but will act as a contribution, meaning that the remainder of the projects will have to be paid for by future income.

## **8. Presentation to the membership by the Keighley & Worth Valley Light Railway Limited – N Bennett**

1. Thanks to the Railway's fantastic financial position the Railway is planning on carrying out a great deal of maintenance such as some of the much needed work around Keighley Station including improvements to the signal box.
2. The relationship with Network Rail is great and the Railway is working closely alongside assisting their work where ever possible.
3. Thanks to Bradford Met for their ongoing financial support through the Towns Fund and thanks must also go to the Railway Heritage Trust.
4. Bridge 27 is well within the planning stages now which will see many challenges over come thanks to the dedicated hard work within the Civil maintenance department.
5. The overhauls of 90733, 5775 and 25059 are all progressing noting that some of the work on the Pannier Tank is being done by some of the Railway's younger members – which is important to see.
6. Health and safety remains one of the Operating Companies key priorities. A recent OSS inspection congratulated the Railway on it's operating policies and practices however there is still plenty of work to be done in this area.
7. N Bennett plans to stand down as Operating Company Chair at the 2024 AGM, and work is being done to make the role manageable for individuals in the future.

## **9. Questions of the Board for the reports of the year ended 31st December 2022.**

### **1. Keighley Station works**

1. A question was raised on the extent of the work being carried out at Keighley.
2. As the work is being carried out by Network Rail it is not the Societies place to comment, however if and when details can be released, they will be.

### **2. Bradford Met Relationship**

1. D Pearson added that the Society has a very strong relationship with Bradford Met, who are being proactive and directing the Railway towards funds that are available.

2. The Railway also receives health donations from individuals who have visited the Railway and been impressed after seeing the work it does.

## **10. Adoption of the 2022 Annual Report**

1. The Annual Report was adopted by the meeting.

## **11. Formal resolutions:**

### **1. To adopt the Accounts for the Year Ending 31st December 2022.**

1. Votes for 56 votes
2. Votes against 1 vote
3. Votes abstained 5 votes

**1. Motion carried.**

### **2. To appoint Spenser Wilson as Auditors and to authorise the Directors to set their remunerations.**

1. Votes for 57 votes
2. Votes against 2 vote
3. Votes abstained 3 votes

**1. Motion carried.**

### **3. To appoint Directors and Officers to the Board.**

#### **1. Current Board members: (re-election, 3 year term):**

##### **1. Mike Tarran Society Director / Vice Chairmen**

1. Votes for 58 votes
2. Votes against 3 votes
3. Votes abstained 1 vote

**1. Motion carried.**

##### **2. Robert Hustwick Society Director**

1. Votes for 58 votes
2. Votes against 3 votes
3. Votes abstained 1 vote

**1. Motion carried.**

##### **3. John Duijusters Society Director**

1. Votes for 55 votes
2. Votes against 4 votes
3. Votes abstained 3 votes

**1. Motion carried.**

##### **4. Andrew Brown Society Director**

1. Votes for 51 votes
2. Votes against 8 votes
3. Votes abstained 3 votes

**1. Motion carried.**

## **12. Honorary President – Ann Cryer**

1. Votes for 56 votes
2. Votes against 6 votes
3. Votes abstained 0 votes

**1. Motion carried.**

**13. Honorary Vice-Presidents:** Brian Baker, Michael Cope, Tony Cox, Ken Dobson, Robert Glen, Richard Greenwood, Graham Mitchell, Ian Mitchell, Ken Roberts, Michael Curtis, Peter Eastham, Nick Bennett, Robin Higgins and Trevor England.

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| 1. Votes for       | 51 votes |
| 2. Votes against   | 4 votes  |
| 3. Votes abstained | 7 votes  |

**1. Motion carried.**

**2. Chris Smyth – Honorary Vice President**

1. M Stroh proposed C Smyth as a Honorary Vice President, which was seconded by M Tarran.

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| 1. Votes for       | 34 votes |
| 2. Votes against   | 0 votes  |
| 3. Votes abstained | 1 vote   |

**1. Motion carried**

**14. Any other competent business**

1. D Pearson asked the question about the voting system of the KWVR PSL AGM.
2. M Stroh explained that the current method of voting was an inheritance from the AGM's during the Covid Pandemic where postal voting became the order of the day.
3. This offer has since been offered and encouraged as it helps make the voting on the night become a swifter operation.

**Meeting closed at 9pm**

**R Batty – Society Secretary**