



## CDSME OGM Meeting Minutes 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022

The meeting opened at 19:30pm. Ian Simpson in the chair.

### Those also Present:

D. Smith; C. Smart; P. Stedman; R. Stenning; G. Rowe; J. Mills; J. Pitts; C. Bryan; C. Weatherley; O. Kyte; J. Wallen; B. Lilley; B. Gill; P. Marshall; J. Bunnage; P. Bunnage; J. Harding; D. Rice; D. Spencer.

**Apologies:** G. Lockwood; P. Pritchard; J. Cockburn; D. Galaway.

**Adoption of the Minutes** from 22<sup>nd</sup> April was agreed

Proposed: Peter Stedman, Seconded: Brendan Gill.

### Matters arising:

Two typographical errors were corrected in AOB item 7.

“Axle stands for lock....” should have been “Axle stands for Loco.....”

“...this has been in inhabited by Covid.” should have been “...this has been inhibited by Covid.”.

### Treasurers Report:

The Acting Hon. Treasurer reported that Club funds stand at £11250 of which £350 is cash.

He went on to explain that the club faces a significant shortfall of funds in the coming years unless significant actions are taken.

The club currently has 42 paying members which provide an income of £1764. Public Running Days this year generated £2638.

Projections for 2023 suggest a total expenditure of £7200, which creates an overall deficit of £2352. *[See the attached Bar Charts]*. These already assume we can increase funds provided by Running Days to £3000 in 2023, but does not include a potential Rent rise, which is almost certain, after the council review due in March. Our current membership income will not even cover our expected cost of Public Liability Insurance in 2023, which is an unavoidable cost that enables us to open to the public.

At this point the membership present were invited to offer suggestions that could help plug this gap. The following ideas were discussed and will be considered by the Management Committee before year end:

- Increase of subscription fees? A subscription equivalent to £1 per week was suggested?  
*[The secretary explained that Club Rules preclude any benefit from an increase in the short term, because implementation could not be before Jan 2024.]*
- Invite all members to make a donation in addition to their normal renewal in Jan 2023?
- Need to attract and keep more members?
- Possibly we could attract members from other disciplines. Eg 16mm modelers, etc?
- An article in Model Engineer could make potential members aware of us?
- Need a minimum of 14 members for safe Running Day operation. So to enable more Running Days will require more members to get involved. Creation of an Events schedule for 2023 by year end and circulated to the membership could better enable members to plan their support?
- Need to avoid scheduling Running Days that coincide with Festival of Speed, Revival, etc.?
- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event is planned for June/July in 2023. Publicising the Club through local media/TV could significantly increase numbers coming through the gate?



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- Increase all Ride Charges from £1 to £1.50?
- Special Ride Tickets £2 for Directors Coach travel?
- Push Kiddies Parties?
- We have various ways to cut the grass, should we sell the tractor that occupies a lot of space and could generate useful funds?

### **Need for an Honorary Treasurer:**

David Rice has agreed to be a candidate for election at the AGM in April.

### **Project Status:**

- Winnie's boiler fusible plug has been drilled out and after thread tidying the boiler will be ready for formal inspection. Craig has been engaged in bearing replacement, axle box / smoke box / tender refurbishment. Bogie wheels have been machined, but driving wheels will need tyres fitted.  
There is much still to do and members are needed to help if she's to be ready in time for next season.
- Red Engine 'Peter' was found seized when got out for safety testing. It has now been freed but demonstrates the importance of preparation before just 'packing away' after use.
- Warrior is in need of complete rebuild. Currently in pieces in the workshop. After 40 years of use it needs new wheels and gear sprockets, etc., and work to the hydraulic tank.
- Electric Locos have had minor repairs during the year and have been working well.
- Director's Carriage works well and is very popular with the kids. There is a plan to build a second example.

### **AOB**

- Do we have a use for the Portable Track or should it be sold?  
The meeting agreed that it has potential as a revenue earner and should therefore be retained. Its trailer is in very poor condition and needs various welding repairs. Ian has offered loan of a suitable trailer if the need arises, so repair of the existing trailer is a low priority work item.
- Could we be using 'Midge' on Running Days?  
There is serious doubt about its pulling power and should be considered for selling?
- Will the club qualify for the Government's Small Business energy grant?  
We must wait and see, but not thought likely.
- Will there be a club auction this year? Thinking is that this should be delayed until summer so that it could be held outdoors to avoid possible Covid issues.
- There is a need for a Club Loco / Machinery Defect log. Craig has created a prototype for use.
- We need more drivers to support Running Days and Ian now has the necessary paperwork to run sessions, probably on Saturdays, in preparation for next season.

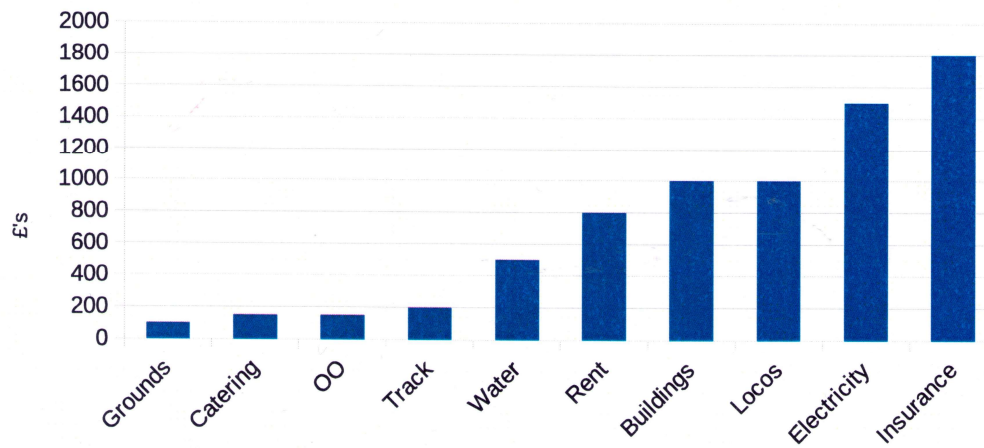
The Meeting Closed at 21:10



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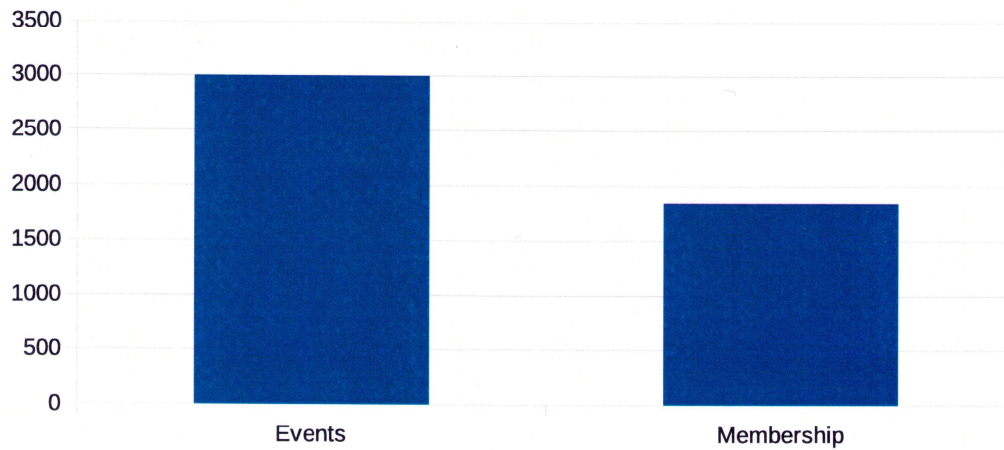
### Spend Budget 2023

Total £7200



### Income Budget 2023

Total £4848



Deficit

£2,352