**SOUTH COAST MODEL RAILWAY CLUB LIMITED**

**DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Date: 16th October 2024**

**Executive Summary**

**Charity Status:** The Application form to the Charity Commission has now been completed except for the financial information required. This is being progressed.

The Charity Commission requires a “Statement of Financial Activities”, (SoFA), in a specific format. This must include Club assets, income and expenditure.

Once these details have been completed, a full final scrutiny of the completed application will be held prior to its submission.

Following submission, it is anticipated that an answer should be forthcoming within 5 – 8 weeks.

**Treasurers Report:** The Club’s finances are in a good position to meet all future commitments.

The Club currently has £8000.00 in the bank, plus £46.00 in petty cash.

**Secretaries Update:** **Membership update:-** There are now 73 members of SCMRC.

A new Junior member has applied to join the Club.

**Tesco Store in New Milton**:- The Club will have an “Awareness Stand” in the Store’s foyer on the 11th December.

The Club are looking to set up the Children’s layout, plus the tiered display stands with various loco’s on. Plus, the Club roller banners. (Subject to this being suitable. Check with Rob & Richard).

SCMRC have contacted “The Friends of New Milton Railway Station” to ask if they want to attend throughout the day to raise funds for their local project.

Transport of the layout will need to be arranged, both in the morning and the evening.

**Club volunteers are needed** to ensure the success of this venture. With enough volunteers it should be that no one is at the venue for more than 2 hours. (Unless they wish to stay longer !).

**The date is the 11th December, from 0930 – 1730 / 1800.**

Please speak to the Club Secretary to add your name to the list of volunteers.

Please see the information on the Club website.

S**kills Sessions:** The first of the Skills Sessions took place in the Club Room on Sunday 29th September.

Eight Members had taken up the offer, and Chalkie ran the session covering “Loco Servicing and Maintenance”.

Comments from those who attended were very positive and they would thoroughly recommended these kind of sessions to other Club Members.

The next Skills Session is to be held on around the 3rd November. This will cover simple soldering techniques for wires and small jobs. Again please speak to the Club Secretary if you wish to be included. Numbers are limited.

Other Skills Sessions are to be arranged in the future. If you have a suggested subject let the Club Directors know !

Check the Club website for the current list of suggested subjects.

**Club Extension Area:** A discussion took place regarding the far end of the extension area.

It is felt that this area is under-utilised, therefore ideas are requested from all Members as to how this could become better used for the benefit of the Club and its Members.

Suggestions included:- A partition be erected to create a safer workshop area for the power tools with better work benches to mount the power tools on., plus additional storage racks.

If Members have any other suggestions then please speak to any of the Club Directors.

**A.O.B: O Gauge Test Track:**

Following a discussion regarding the future of the Test Track it was felt that because of its size, relative difficulty in maintaining it a decision needs to be made as to whether the Club can justify keeping it.

If other gauge track is added to the Test Track this will be at a very high cost.

One suggestion was to sell it as it is, whilst another was to strip off the O Gauge track and reuse this on another O Gauge layout or sell the track off.

Comments can be made to any Club Director.

**Club Power Tools:** The provision of the power tools within the Club may need to be formalised to protect Members. To this end formal Safety Training may be investigated, and then provided, for those Members who would be interested.

Further discussions will be needed to understand exactly what would be required.

**Security Cameras:** No progress thus far as it will be necessary to investigate the installation of suitable WiFi first.

**Christmas Meal:** The **18th December, at 1900**, has been booked for the annual Club Members Christmas Meal at the Toby Carvery at Hinton.

A list has been placed on the table adjacent to the entrance to the Club for names to be added.

**A reminder that no payment cards can be accepted, Members must pay by cash.**

**There being no other business the meeting closed at 1345hrs.**

**Date of next meeting is proposed on or around the 14th November 2024.**