

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LYMINGTON TO BROCKENHURST LINE



NUMBER 41: JANUARY 2019

Dear Friends,

Your committee hopes that you all had a Happy Christmas, and would like to wish you a
Happy new year .

Now for the future. Our first event will be the **AGM on 11th February at 7.30 pm** at the Community Centre. Like the last meeting (but unlike previous meetings) it will be in the Robert Hole Room in the main building. Andrew Harrowell (who replaced Richard Kempton at SWR) has kindly said that he will be able to give an update on SWR's plans and answer questions. You will find the formal Notice and Agenda on page 3.

The normal AGM will be preceded by a short **Special General Meeting**. References to South West Trains in the Constitution are no longer correct, so we hope to future-proof it. The current Constitution (with proposed changes in red) is appended; to save me printing it out for the Meeting, could you please study it and if desired print it out?

The formal part of the meeting will be followed (after the usual break for tea, coffee and a raffle) by one of John Canavan's enjoyable Film Shows, this time on:

Scenic rail wayS of the weSt high landS of Scotl and



The Glenfinnan viaduct

Looking to the future, please save the date for **31st August**, our excursion to:
pecorama gardens and the beer heights rail way, near Seaton



Yours sincerely,

Georgina Craufurd, Hon. Secretary
For the Committee, Friends of the Lymington to Brockenhurst Line
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FRIENDS OF THE LYMINGTON TO BROCKENHURST LINE
NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of a Special General Meeting of the Friends of the Lymington to Brockenhurst Line at 7.30 pm on 11th February 2019 at the Community Centre, Cannon Street, Lymington, to consider and vote on various changes to the Constitution, listed below.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the ninth Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Lymington to Brockenhurst Line will be held on Monday 11th February 2019 to follow the Special General Meeting at Lymington Community Centre, Cannon Street, Lymington. The meeting will be followed by a break for coffee & tea, and a Film Show compiled by one of our members.

Nominations for posts of officers and committee must be received by 24th January, to include names of the proposer and seconder and signed by the candidate (who must show his/her willingness to stand), by G. Craufurd, East Grove, Grove Road, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 3RF.

AGENDA OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WELCOME by Nicholas Filbee, Chair of Friends' committee

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. REPORT FROM A REPRESENTATIVE OF SWR, Mr Andrew Harrowell

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM (12.2.2018)
4. MATTERS ARISING
5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, including forthcoming events and thanks to members
6. HON. TREASURER'S REPORT
7. CONFIRMATION OF LLOYD'S BANK AS BANKERS.
8. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT
9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Chair, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Membership Secretary) and committee
10. APPOINTMENT OF AN EXAMINER OF THE ACCOUNTS
11. CLOSURE OF MEETING by the Chairman, followed by a chance for members to put comments or questions.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

(to be voted on at the Special General Meeting which is timed at 7.30 pm before the AGM on 11th February 2019)

Any changes to the Constitution must be voted on at a Special General Meeting.

The Constitution is working perfectly as it is, but with the change in franchisee from SWT to SWR, we realised that we had to update the references to our railway company. To avoid doing this again in the future, in case of a further change of franchisee, we have changed the references to a neutral 'Rail franchisee' rather than naming the company. The Department OF Transport is now the Department FOR Transport, and the name may change again. This produces the following changes:

- 1) An additional sub-paragraph to para. 2, now to be named 2 g), as follows:
"The expression 'Rail franchisee' means whichever company holds the franchise for the Line from the Government Department responsible for Transport."
- 2) Paragraph 3, lines 1-2: Objects: For "SWT" substitute "Rail franchisee".
- 3) Paragraph 4 d) last line: For "SWT", substitute "Rail franchisee".
- 4) Paragraph 5 last line: For "SWT", substitute "Rail franchisee".
- 5) A small change is proposed to paragraph 9 b), to add the words "and examine".
[This is because the process of auditing (necessary only for much larger institutions) is very costly, and merely an Examiner is now required by law for organisations like ours.]

FRIENDS OF THE LYMINGTON TO BROCKENHURST LINE CONSTITUTION: suggested alterations (in red)

1. NAME

The name of the organisation is the Friends of the Lymington to Brockenhurst Line.

2. DEFINITIONS

In these Rules:

- a) The expression “the Line” means The Lymington to Brockenhurst Railway Line (which terminates at Lymington Pier ferry terminal) and its stations.
- b) The expression “the Friends” means the organisation constituted by these Rules.
- c) The expression “the Committee” means the Committee for the time being of the Friends as hereinafter constituted.
- d) The expression “the Hon. Secretary” means the Hon. Secretary for the time being of the Friends; the same applies to the expression “Hon. Treasurer”.
- e) The expression “the Officers of the Committee” means the Chairman and Vice Chairman (if any) and Hon. Secretary of the Committee and the Hon. Treasurer for the time being of the Friends.
- f) The expression “the Rules” includes any amendment or alteration thereof for the time being in force.
- g) The expression ‘the Rail franchisee’ means whichever company holds the franchise for the Line from the Government Department responsible for Transport.

3. OBJECTS

The objects of the Friends are to assist the Community Rail Partnership and **theRail franchisee** in providing to users and potential users an effective, safe and pleasant service on the Railway Line and to further the use and future of the Railway Line; also to maximise the Line’s potential as part of an integrated transport network for the district, including the ferry service to Yarmouth Isle of Wight.

4. POWERS

For the purposes of carrying out the above objects, the Friends shall have the following powers:

- a) To encourage and promote the wider use of the Railway Line, and to mobilise, foster and maintain the interest and support of the Public in the Railway Line, and to put forward ideas and proposals for improvement of the Railway Line’s facilities.
- b) To raise funds and to invite and receive contributions from any person or persons or organisations whatsoever by way of subscription, donation or otherwise, provided that the Friends shall not undertake permanent trading activities in raising funds for the said objects.
- c) To provide, or assist in the provision of, amenities in the Stations for clients and staff.
- d) To do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the above objects, subject to the Memorandum of Understanding agreed from time to time with **the Rail franchisee** and the Community Rail Partnership.

5. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Friends shall comprise the following categories: Individual, Group and Corporate. Group membership shall be open to any Society or Association who wishes to join the Friends; Corporate membership shall be open to any business or commercial organisation. Any member, whether Individual, Group or Corporate, shall be entitled to one vote.

Any member who wishes to be actively involved in the upkeep and appearance of the stations as a Volunteer shall first sign an agreement in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between **the Rail franchisee** and the Friends.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription shall be £3.00 p.a., or such sum or sums as may be fixed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Subscriptions shall be due on the 1st January each year. Members whose subscriptions are 3 months in arrears shall be automatically excluded from membership until payment has been made.

7. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The Officers of the Friends shall comprise Chairperson, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer; all Officers shall be elected at the AGM to hold office for one year, at the end of which they shall be eligible for immediate re-election.

The Committee shall comprise these three Officers and up to eight elected Members, one of whom shall be a representative of the Community Rail Partnership. Additional members may be co-opted to the Committee at its discretion. The Station Masters of both the Lymington and Brockenhurst stations shall be ex officio members of the Committee. All Committee members shall be members of the Friends.

8. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee shall conduct the general management and direction of the funds and affairs of the Friends, and in particular:

- a) may nominate any of its members to serve on another body;
- b) may pay the whole or any part of the expenses of any member in or about the execution of his/her functions or duties on behalf of the Friends;
- c) may make and from time to time vary rules not inconsistent with this Constitution; and
- d) may fill, until the next AGM, casual vacancies from time to time in its membership.

9. MEETINGS

a) **General Meetings.** The Committee shall have the power to call a Special General Meeting, and shall be bound to do so within twenty-one days of the receipt by the Hon. Secretary of a written request from any ten members, who are to state the business to be transacted and any resolution to be put. Not less than fourteen days' notice of a Special General Meeting shall be given by the Hon. Secretary to each member in writing, specifying the business to be transacted and any resolutions to be put. No other business can be considered, but amendments can be made to those given in the notice convening the meeting. A quorum shall be formed by all those members present at a Meeting, and all references to a quorum in the Constitution shall be construed accordingly.

b) **Annual General Meetings.** The AGM of the Friends (for which at least twenty – eight days' notice shall be given by the Hon. Secretary to each member in writing) shall be held at the beginning of each calendar year. The standing business of the AGM shall be to receive and vote upon acceptance of the Committee's Annual Report and the Friends' Annual Accounts; to appoint an Auditor; and to elect the Officers and a

proportion of the Committee members. The AGM is also to consider any additional proposals given in writing by a member at least twenty-one days in advance of the AGM to the Hon. Secretary, who in turn shall give at least fourteen days' notice of these additional proposals to each member. All those present entitled to vote shall form a quorum.

c) Committee meetings. These shall be held at least twice a year; the Hon. Secretary must give at least fourteen days' notice to each member of the Committee. All those present and entitled to vote shall form a quorum. In the absence of the Chairperson, those present may elect a Chairperson from amongst their number.

d) Voting. (i) At all Special General Meetings, Annual General Meetings and Committee Meetings, resolutions shall be carried by a majority vote.

(ii) The Chairperson may exercise a casting vote when equal votes are cast.

(iii) No proxy voting shall be allowed.

(iv) Nominations for the election of Officers and Committee Members shall be made to the Hon. Secretary at least fourteen days before the AGM, signed by the proposer, seconder and candidate, who should indicate their willingness to stand. The names of those standing for election together with the names of the proposer and seconder shall be posted at the AGM by the Hon. Secretary. Voting for contested positions shall be by ballot paper and box at the beginning of the AGM, with the names of all those elected announced after the count at the AGM. The Chairperson shall immediately take office, while the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer shall take office after the AGM.

(v) Notices to Members shall be deemed sufficiently served if sent by ordinary pre-paid post or email to the address of the member on the subscription form.

10. ACCOUNTS

The Financial Year shall run from 1st January to 31st December the same year. All funds and assets in the possession shall be held, paid out and applied as the Committee may direct according to the Objects of the Friends; pending such direction, all funds shall be held in a Bank Account in the name of the Friends, with such Bankers as the Committee shall from time to time direct. All cheques drawn on the account shall be signed by the Hon. Treasurer and either the Chairperson or the Hon. Secretary. All documents must be endorsed by any two of them.

11. REVIEW OF THE ACCOUNTS

A suitably qualified person, who shall be independent of the Friends, shall be nominated to review **and examine** the annual Receipts and Payments Account each year and confirm that it is in accordance with the accounting records maintained by the Hon. Treasurer.

12. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

No amendments may be made to this Constitution except by and with the authority of a proposal submitted in writing either as in clause 9(b) or not less than twenty-one days before a Special General Meeting.

13. WINDING UP

The Committee shall on the winding up of the Friends call a General Meeting. After discharge of all debts and liabilities, the remaining funds shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation with objects similar to those of the Friends.

9th November 2009; revised 21st February 2011, 27th February 2012, 11th February 2014, and January 2019 (for ratification at the forthcoming SGM)

FRIENDS OF THE LYMINGTON TO BROCKENHURST LINE
MINUTES OF THE 9th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 12TH FEBRUARY 2018

WELCOME by Nicholas Filbee, Chair of Friends' committee; 50 people were present. The meeting opened at 7.38 PM. The Chairman sent the meeting's good wishes to Mrs Lewis, who had just come out of hospital.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE had been received from J. Cutmore, Bobby Lock, R. James, P. Jackson, J. Lydon, L. Mondry-Flesch, J. England, E. Lewis, and A. Hull.
2. REPORT FROM A REPRESENTATIVE OF SWR, Mr Richard Kempton, Community Rail Manager, gave a report and answered questions; see Appendix. He was thanked by the Chairman.
3. THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM on 13.2.2017 were circulated and agreed. (Prop. I. Mackay, sec. D. Mead)
4. MATTERS ARISING: P. Stone asked for figures of current use of the line, to be circulated in a future Newsletter. R. Kempton agreed to supply them.
5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, which included forthcoming events and thanks to members, especially John Canavan for his organisation of the Excursions. He reported that the Wareham excursion had had to be postponed, as the diesels were still being worked on, so there would not be 90 days of working this coming year. One to Brighton was planned for June (date tba).
6. HON. TREASURER'S REPORT: The figures for the last financial year, duly examined, were circulated, and R. Craufurd drew the meeting's attention to salient points in his report. The current balance in hand was £1886.74, thanks to grants from SWR and HCC, with the result that the current subscription could stay at £3.00. The Report was accepted (prop. I. MacKay, sec. P. Stone)
7. CONFIRMATION OF LLOYD'S BANK AS BANKERS. The Treasurer pointed out that the Bank would not accept different signatories for the account so the current ones would have to remain.
8. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: N. Mussett reported that 150 members had paid their subscriptions, of which 21 still pay by cash. There were 29 ex-officio members (at no cost to the Friends) to keep officials in touch with Friends' events.
9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The Chair (N. Filbee), Hon. Secretary (G. Craufurd), Hon. Treasurer R. Craufurd), Hon. Membership Secretary (N. Mussett) and committee (A. Hull, S. Jones, J. Canavan (Excursions Officer), D. Mead, and J. England) were re-elected en bloc. (Prop. M. Humber, sec. R. Kempton.)
10. APPOINTMENT OF AN EXAMINER OF THE ACCOUNTS: Mr Ronald Curtis was appointed as examiner for 2018, and he was thanked by the Chairman for his work on the previous year's accounts.
11. CLOSURE OF MEETING: The Chairman thanked everyone for coming, and closed the meeting at 8.31 pm; this was followed by a chance for members to put comments or questions.

There was then a break for tea or coffee, and a raffle. This was followed by an enjoyable film show on *Scenic Railways of Europe*, with thanks to John Canavan.

APPENDIX: REPORT BY MR RICHARD KEMPTON OF South Western Railway

Richard Kempton's job title was now Community Rail Manager. Phil Dominey's was Regional Development Manager for Hants, the IOW and the Solent area. South Western Railways now turned over £1.2 billion pounds annually, and provided 1700 services per day. £90 million was earmarked (?) for station improvements, including Short-term season tickets for flexible workers, ticket machines and information in real time on trains and in stations, including train loading (i.e. where seats were available on crowded trains). Southampton and Wimbledon have been promised a makeover; 1500 more parking spaces would be available, as would 50 charging points for electric cars. Canopies for protection on platforms would be considered.

Improvements on trains would include better Wifi plus charging points, toilets on all trains, smart cards with which to pay fares. Seat arrangement would be 2+2 in a line rather than the 2+3 on Desiro trains. The 442 trains were to be re-engineered and re-furbished.

A plan to offer 100+ apprenticeships had been approved. There would be a social development fund, e.g for waiting rooms?

Changes to the timetable: there would be a 6-month consultation period for these. Waterloo International was planned to re-open in December 2018, to provide extra platforms while 1-6 were being improved. If trains were delayed by more than 15 minutes, repayment would be in order.

Lymington Town Station: In reply to a question from M. Humber, RK replied that plans for the Redrow footbridge still had to be produced. RJC asked RK to put pressure on Hampshire CC to help over relocating car spaces etc.

Brockenhurst station toilets were now working on the 'Up' platform, though the Gents' on the 'Down' platform had been vandalised and were closed at the moment.

He apologised for recent problems; the line-side fire at Waterloo (Lambeth) had not been their responsibility, and SWR had tried to minimise the effects.

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