



LONGFORD RAILWAY SESQUICENTARY COMMITTEE

Meeting of the Longford Railway Sesquicentary
Committee held 28 June 2023 at Council Chambers, Smith
St, Longford Commencing at 3.35pm

1. Attendance

Councillor Dick Adams OAM (Chair), Nigel Burch, Gilbert Ness, Roy Tan, John Stebbings, Rod Cuthbert, Gayle Lucas.

In attendance

Lorraine Wyatt, Executive & Communications Officer (Minute taker)
Rhys Prestige General Manager for Asset Management

2. Apologies

Nil

3. Minutes of the last meeting 10 May 2023 to be confirmed.

Moved Nigel Burch, seconded Gayle Lucas

That the minutes of the meeting held 10 May 2023 be confirmed, subject to it being noted that Members held a minute silence in memory of Len Langan, who died last year. Len (originally from England) who commenced the historical research of the Longford Railway.

CARRIED

4. Business arising:

4.1 Report from Gilbert Ness TasRail on bridge columns manufacture by Penguin composites.

Gilbert introduced Rhys Prestige General Manager for Asset Management from TasRail, who will be Gilberts replacement.

An updated quote for \$121,751.30 was provided to the committee which commenced further discussion about whether to install all four pillars or if it should be reduced to two with a view to completing the installation of the other two later.

It was suggested that alternative (colourbond type) construction material should be used, which was rejected by the members. TasRail also advised that alternative material would not be suitable. It was then suggested that Hebel (an autoclaved aerated concrete) could be used, however this was also rejected, and the committee was advised that TasRail requires quality assurance around building materials used.

It was also suggested that maybe the design could be changed to reduce the costs. This was also rejected by the committee as this would not accurately reflect history.

It was agreed that an alternative quote should be sought, reflecting sound financial management and to test the market.

It was resolved that the Chairman Cr Dick Adams and Rhys Prestige would visit the supplier and discuss options.

4.2 Community Arts

Committee members expressed an interest in developing a community arts program around the project, particularly in relation to the interpretation panels as this could attract Arts grant funding.

4.3 Fencing

Fencing has not been priced at this time however it is believed it will be in the order of \$25,000.

4.4 Viewing Platform

Members discussed possibilities for the installation of a viewing platform, however no agreement was reached. This is an item for further discussion.

4.5 Model Railway Exhibition

Moved John Stebbings, seconded Gilbert Ness that the committee resolve to hold the Model Railway Exhibition on the 22 and 23 July 2023.

Carried

Planning is ongoing and Gilbert is working with Council to progress this. Volunteers are still needed for the door and Gilbert will also approach Rotary for assistance. As the Longford Railway Sesquicentary Committee is a committee of Council, it was believed that Council covers the liability insurance for this event however this will be confirmed by Lorraine.

Food and drinks will not be available at the Exhibition as it was agreed this would detract from visitors spending money at businesses in Longford. Exhibitors will be able to utilise the kitchen for tea/coffee etc.

Lorraine to place the flyer on Facebook.

5. **Financial report**

There were no changes to the financial statement to report.

6. Close of meeting, decision on next meeting.

The Chairman thanked Gilbert for everything that he has contributed to the committee and this project and wished him all the best.

The meeting was declared closed at 4.25pm.

Next meeting: To be determined.