

## **Present**

Mayor Mary Knowles OAM (NMC), Councillor Dick Adams (NMC), Mr John Stebbings, Mr Bob Pitt, Mr Len Langan, Mr Gilbert Ness (TasRail), Ms Gayle McLucas, Miss Lucie Copas (NMC)

## **Apologies**

Mr Des Jennings (NMC), Mr Rod Cuthbert

### **1. Welcome/ Introductions**

Cr Adams welcomed everyone to the second meeting

### **2. Confirmation of historical dates**

The official date was resolved as the 10 February 1871. The bridge was built in 1970. Discussion was held regarding the proposed dates for celebration. The weekend of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of February is looking most promising.

### **3. Ideas for celebration**

Further Discussion was held regarding potential ideas for celebration, they included the following:

- Exhibition (Longford Town Hall)
- Series of articles in local newspapers (Northern Midlands Courier/ Examiner)
- Media releases
- Get the local schools involved (art competition)
- Re-enactment
- Steam train the cross the bridge on date of anniversary
- Light the bridge up
- Contact railway enthusiasts for exposure
- Contact Evandale Light Railway group
- Family weekend
- Children's activities including Thomas the Tank Engine

It was also discussed that a potential exhibition the week prior to the official celebration weekend was possible.

### **4. Promotion**

Discussion was held regarding the committee hosting a stall at the Longford Show later this year to promote the group and the celebration. It was resolved that representatives from the committee would progress.

**5. Location of historical documents**

Discussion was held regarding the current location of various historical drawings and documents relating to the bridge. It is believed that some of these documents may be stored at Clarendon.

**Action:**

*Committee to confirm location.*

**6. Logo**

Discussion was held regarding the logo. Committee resolved to endorse.

**7. Reconstruction of pillars**

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of reconstructing the pillars that originally accompanied the bridge. It was discussed that alternate materials could be used to reduce cost and weight of the pillars. It was suggested fibreglass could potentially be the most appropriate and cost-effective resource.

Mr Burch advised that he had previously investigated and had spoken to Penguin Composites about reconstruction. The approximate cost of the project is \$40,000.

It is believed here are designs and drawings reflecting new pillars that were done 10-15 years ago. The location of these is also unknown.

**8. Next meeting to be held Wednesday 12 June 2019 at 3:00pm at Council Chambers.**

Meeting closed 4:59pm.