



ROAD LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1159394

Annual Report of Officers & Section Officers 2020 / 2021

Chairman**Andrew Smith**

My report this year is once again rather short as COVID has yet again played a major role in all our lives on so many levels. Pretty much all early events were cancelled up and down the country and we had to cancel both our winter meeting and the spring visit due to the lockdown restrictions put in place by the government. All the major shows have been cancelled as well despite the reduction in restrictions as these came too late to allow them to go ahead.

A few smaller events have gone ahead and some shows are now taking place thanks to the success of the vaccination program. I am sure we will be living with COVID for the foreseeable future so we have decided to go ahead with our AGM. Our incoming President Robert Pumfrey BEM has kindly offered to host a steam up at his farm in Lt Chesterford prior to the AGM meeting in the afternoon which is to be held in Ickleton Village Hall on Saturday 23rd October.

Michael Thexton's book "The Story of Ruston Traction Engines 1877 to 1937" was published in August and is selling well. Congratulations to Michael on completing this major work and recording the important history of traction engine development by Ruston.

We have not been able to physically meet as a Trustee board since Feb 2020 but we have found new ways of getting the majority of us to meet via ZOOM, a video conferencing program over the internet that we can use from the safety of our own homes. This has worked well but certainly there is nothing like meeting face to face. We have improved our skills in this area which brought us Richard Sandercock's "Winter meeting" on R. Dingle & Sons, Stoke Climsland and Alan Rundle's talk on the dredging activities of Mournement & Ray. Both of these talks were recorded and can be viewed at your leisure on our website. Special thanks go to Andrew Robertson for his support of the Zoom presentations, as without his help this simply would not have been successful.

I would like to thank my fellow trustees, section officers and other members providing important support especially through the difficult couple of years we have just had, they all put in a tremendous amount of work to ensure our Society runs smoothly, managing life's daily strains and the demands on our time from work, family, other commitments, and interests.

We are fortunate to be on solid foundations and both our membership and

finances remain strong despite the COVID impact, and we are more fortunate than many who rely on events/summer season for their revenue to keep going. We realise that with no events we are totally reliant on our Journal so we must thank both Steve Parrott who has edited the journal for the last 17 years and our new editor, Paul Abbott who took over from our May issue for continuing to produce "bumper" issues in May and August. We will attempt the same for November as long as we have sufficient material. It's nice to see new contributors coming forward with fantastic articles and I am very proud of both the standard and content of our class leading publication. We can accept articles in any format from a photo to a full blown series of articles, so please send in any contributions to Paul Abbott.

We have sadly lost a number of long standing members and stalwarts of our Society over the last year, as listed in Matt Healey's report.

Entries for our Major Ind photographic competition close at the end of the year so please send in your entries. Work continues apace with the Major Ind book but much work remains to be done over the winter, and I am very grateful to Jeff Shackell for his extensive research and assistance with this project.

The Society continues its work in the conservation and cataloguing of our extensive archive. Contributions to the archive and all most welcome, either photographs, literature, catalogues etc. We have had donations of book collections, which has added to our library section and those which are copies will go on sale at Dorset sales stand next year.

Finally, we look forward to being able to push the "reset button" and get going again with our regular activities in 2022. Our Winter meeting in mid March maybe an opportunity to incorporate Mark Loaders talk and hopefully we will be "third time lucky" with our Spring visit to Cheshire at which we will celebrate our 85th anniversary.

Membership Secretary**Matt Healey**

Many thanks to all those who have renewed their membership on time, it does make life easier for us all. Can I encourage any members who don't pay by standing order to take up this method, again it is much simpler for myself and Simon to process. It was good to see an increase in the number of gift aid forms, this has brought in an extra £1500 to the society. If you are a UK tax

payer it is of great benefit to fill a form in, if you haven't already done so. The gift aid forms are available on the website, www.roadlocosociety.org, then click on the link to membership. I can also send one via email or post to any member who wishes one. This also applies to standing order mandates, please note these are not available on the website.

The following members have unfortunately passed away in the last 12 months:

Robert Crawford	Keith Finton	Michael Goakes
Martin Fagg	John Coleman	John Nayler
Michael Davies	Sally Edmonds	Peter Richardson.

Section Officers Reports

Engine Liveries Officer

Richard Willcox

Very little to report this year, the quietest I even remember. No major enquiries received, just a few minor odds and ends. However the service is still here as and when required.

Burrell Information Officer

Simon Caudwell

This year has brought a steady stream of enquiries from model makers, engine owners and researchers for articles. Burrell produced a few four shaft engines and a photo has surfaced recently of a splendid 10hp SCC road loco of which it seems only one was built (and two 8nhp), so that narrowed the search down a bit.

Please email any enquiries to me at the Treasurer email in the front of the journal. As I have most of the information scanned on discs I can furnish replies digitally.

Engine Records Officer

Andy Wells

I had (perhaps rather naively) hoped that I could write this year's annual report without mentioning the dreaded word 'Covid', but as we all know the existing pandemic situation continued into 2021 much as it had been for the majority of 2020. So instead of things easing off with the predicted withdrawal of the various public health measures, this has turned out to be another difficult year with the same problems brought about by the national state of lockdown. Regrettably it has been more or less impossible for me to offer the kind of service to members which I would normally aim to provide, given the Government's restrictions and the overriding need to keep safe from

the Covid virus.

On the written enquiry front, the same pattern has emerged in that I have experienced a higher number of requests than I would usually expect as members presumably turned to their hobbies and pet projects to occupy themselves during the enforced time at home. The sheer variety of the enquiries and the information being sought remains a great source of interest and has kept me fully occupied throughout the year with no reduction with the onset of the summer months. If anything, the nature of the enquiries I receive has become more complicated, and typically I am asked a number of questions on multiple engines or owner subjects. Quite often the engine or engines being sought are only identified by a rough geographical area or a connected person's name rather than the actual owner. Naturally such requests take some time to research properly, and this together with the overall workload and reduced access to the engine records has inevitably meant that my response time has increased somewhat. However, I have ensured that everyone received the information which they were requesting, and members have generally been both patient and understanding in terms of the difficulties that I have necessarily been operating under.

The main aspect of my work which has unavoidably suffered again is the loan of engine records, as I was clearly unable to accommodate visitors who must of course collect files and return them in person in accordance with Society policy. However, the good news is that with effect from the middle of July I have been able to resume loan out activity once again, and I am working my way through the list of members who have been waiting to borrow material.

This has been another bumper year for requests in relation to lost engine registrations, as I act as an authorised signatory for applications to the DVLA under the V765 procedure. There are two types of applications, namely reclaiming the original engine registration or the allocation of an age-related registration, and I receive both and provide the required supporting documentation to enable the DVLA to consider the case. I am happy to report a 100% success rate with the applications which I have supported, and the positive feedback from all of the delighted engine owners is very rewarding. I believe that this is one of the key areas where the Society delivers a real benefit to the wider steam road movement and improves our profile and reputation as the holder of a unique and valuable archive which is without any equal.

In order to ensure that our unrivalled historical archive (that the engine records undoubtedly represent) does not become out of date, I would be grateful to receive details of any engine movements of which members become aware.

As I have said before, today's ownership changes are the history of tomorrow, and it is important that the engine records are updated to capture the latest owners for the benefit of future historians..

Modern Photographic Officer

Ian McKey

Another quiet year when few enquiries for images were received mostly from members of the Committee!

Covid-19 continues to be a major factor in our lives, but with the lowering of risk I hope it will help us all return to the previous level of activity.

The collection contains photographs taken in the years of preservation and go back in some cases to the 50s and 60s. The photographs are naturally of interest to those studying steam engines but also to those interested in social history as they show the different attitude that existed then to the health and safety of movement for both entrants and the public. Additionally the changes in dress code are also worth noting!

I continue to update and complete the indexing work.

Photographic Archive Officer

Trevor Smallbone

The past year has seen a busy steady request for photographs from the collection, the majority being used to illustrate articles for the journal and a lot of requests are from engine owners. The majority of requests are via email, which speeds up the response that I can give members, very few requests are by letter, but these are dealt with reasonably quickly.

Photographic images from the collection are being used on the forthcoming Major R.J.W. Ind book, much research is going into this publication with the many photographs that he took, the glass plates have all been digitised with some fantastic images. Photographs have also supported the many articles in the journal over the past year, photographs have been used to illustrate the Keeling's of Billericay articles, Sally Beach's Burrell showmans 2894 article and Burrell showmans 3295 articles plus many others.

Also a good many engine owners have contacted me, asking for photographs of their engine in its working days, sometimes I am able to provide a picture, but sometimes the engine may have escaped the lens of a camera!

We have been very fortunate to have been bequeathed the photograph

collections of the late Les Burberry, our Archive Photographic Officer for more than forty years, and also the late Geoff Hodges of Herefordshire, with many previously unseen photographs of engines that worked in the Herefordshire area, all are a welcome addition to the society's collection. We have also been fortunate to have information and some photographs donated from the late Esmond Kimbell collection, by his son Stephen Kimbell. of which we are most grateful to the families for this fantastic donation to the Society's Archive. And also Les Freathy who has been gradually sorting his photographs and negative collection and donating them to the Society in batches, which we are also most grateful.

Work continues to preserve our photographic archive, with plans being put in place to purchase more acid free storage boxes and sleeves when time permits to help preserve the collection for the future. We have also purchased three new four drawer filing cabinets to help store the collection this year, this has helped with storage and helping to contain the collection by makers. Much work has been done over the last few months on the larger photographs and mounted photographs in the collection, these have all now been put in acid free sleeves and large acid free storage boxes by maker, so they can be conserved properly for the future.

Work to scan and digitalise the huge collection continues, but there is still a vast amount of work still to do on this project.

Progress has been made on identifying the several hundreds of unknown photographs in the collection, but this is a very difficult task sometimes with very little to help identify them, sometimes having to use build sheets and County engine records, but there is still more work to do on this front as time permits.

I am always on the lookout for new previously unseen photographs to add to the Society's Photographic archives, either originals or copies. So if you think you have anything interesting that you think the Society has not got a copy of, then please do get in contact, either via email or letter, my contact details are inside the journal front cover. If you are contacting by letter, please ensure you include a stamped addressed envelope, so I can reply quickly and promptly.

Portable Engine Officer

Tony Thomas

I was hoping this year to report a better year than 2020 but for the second year running Covid restrictions have prevented all meetings where loans and/or

returns might have taken place. So there have been no loans and the one Portfolio out on loan could not be returned and has now been out for more than two years. Hopefully there will be an opportunity for things to return to normal in the coming year.

In the meantime members can always contact me on tonythomas.sentinel@tiscali.co.uk and I will do my best to answer any questions with extracts from the Portfolio.

Traction Engine Portfolio Section.

Neil Smith.

Unfortunately I have to report that between mid-August last year, and mid-August this year that I did not loan out even one single Portfolio. However, I am currently preparing a pack of ten Portfolios which will be collected from me in the next few days; and will be returned to me in person at the AGM in October. This of course gives the opportunity for other members to return to me other Portfolios which have been out on loan since before the lockdowns. Just as importantly, the AGM will allow me to loan-out new Portfolio requests. So, if you wish to borrow a certain Portfolio and intend being at the AGM, please get in touch.

Librarian

Tim Smith

The Society library contains over 700 individual items including catalogues of all the major builders and some of the obscure ones, manuals and rare out of print books, as well as many recent publications. A complete list of items is available by return of post or by email. Original material may only be loaned if it is collected and returned in person. Arrangements can be made to bring items to meetings or other events by prior arrangement. Some items have been scanned and can either be sent out as paper or electronic copies.

The past year has seen items borrowed on a variety of subjects in support of a varied selection of research and restoration projects. The amount of inquiries has also been up on previous years, perhaps due to the lockdown. During the year, material was supplied to aid research into a number of subjects including Chris Lambert, and W Lambert's axle box. James Graven of Ely and George Thurlow of Stowmarket. C Phillips of Newport, Fowler cultivating machinery, and Francis Grover. As always the digitized IRLS journals, RLS journals, and W P Riley notes as a source of information for research. Library material has also assisted with the production of articles for the journal, and other publications.

Registered Number
1159394

Road Locomotive Society

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trustees' Report and Accounts

31 July 2021

Road Locomotive Society CIO

Board of Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their report, together with the accounts, which have been subjected to an Independent Examination for the year ended 31 July 2021.

Governing Document and Organisational Structure

The Society is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation as defined by the Charities Commission and subject to the Charities Acts. The Society was incorporated on the 27th November 2014 and the net assets of the Road Locomotive Society registered number 1102574 were transferred as at 1st August 2015.

The administration is carried out by the Board of Trustees on behalf of the Society. All members of the Board are Trustees for the purpose of the Charities Acts. Training for new Trustees is provided by existing Trustees. The Trustees meet on a regular basis to consider all matters relevant to the Society. The following were Trustees during the year:

S Caudwell	B Johnson
A Rundle	A L Smith
A N Wells	G P Wragg
Mrs M Goddard	S J Parrott
T R Smallbone	J Wakeham
R C J Willcox	
C Bullen	

Objectives and Aims

The objectives of the Society are the advancement of education and research into the past history of self-propelled steam engines (other than those running on rails) and types of stationary steam engines known as portable engines. Results of this research are published in the Society's Journal and other publications. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the C I O's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Financial Review

The organisation generated a surplus for the year of £12,850 and had reserves at the end of the year of £116,768. The society derives the majority of its income from subscriptions and related gift aid and the sale of publications. Revenue continued to be generated from the publication of a specialist book.

The Society's policy on reserves is to hold an amount sufficient to fund expenses for a year and also to purchase any major collections which may come on the market. The investment policy of the Society is reviewed annually by the Trustees. The funds not required for day to day activities are held in a unit trust investment and bank deposit account. The Trustees have identified the major risks to which they believe the Society is exposed. They have reviewed these and established systems to mitigate them.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for the following duties:

- To prepare financial statements which show a true and fair view
- To make judgement and estimates that are prudent and reasonable
- To apply the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to do so
- To keep proper accounting records
- To safeguard the assets of the charity and take reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities

A L Smith

S J Caudwell

18 September 2021

Road Locomotive Society CIO

Accountants' report on the unaudited accounts to Road Locomotive Society CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Road Locomotive Society

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 July 2021, which are set out on pages 3 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met or

2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

S L Quick

6 Orpington Court
Halberton
Devon. EX16 7DD

Road Locomotive Society CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 July 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Income	36,708	27,536
Cost of sales	6,383	848
Gross profit	<u>30,325</u>	<u>26,688</u>
Expenses		
Other business expenses	17,475	14,868
	<u>17,475</u>	<u>14,868</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>12,850</u>	<u>11,820</u>
Total unrestricted funds carried forward	<u>12,850</u>	<u>11,820</u>

Road Locomotive Society CIO
Balance Sheet
as at 31 July 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Library and Equipment	3	9	9
Current assets			
Stock and work in progress	9,317	10,785	
Other debtors	1,583	-	
Bank/building society balances	91,868	79,133	
Other current assets and prepayments	13,991	13,991	
	<u>116,759</u>	<u>103,909</u>	
Current liabilities			
Other liabilities and accruals	-	-	
Net current assets		116,759	103,909
Net assets		<u>116,768</u>	<u>103,918</u>
Represented by			
Balance at start of year		103,918	92,098
Surplus for the year		12,850	11,820
		<u>116,768</u>	<u>103,918</u>

Road Locomotive Society CIO
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2021

1 Accounting Policies

Accounting Convention

The accounts have been compiled on a basis that enables profits to be calculated in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Fixed Assets - Equipment

These are shown at cost, less provision for depreciation calculated to write off the assets over the estimated useful life.

Stock

Stock is valued at cost.

Income recognition

Subscription income and donations and grants are included in the accounts in the year received. Sales are recognised when the item has been dispatched to the customer and gift aid is recognised on an estimated basis to match the year of claim.

Library, Photograph Library, Burrell Records, Portfolios and Engine Records etc

These are valued by the Board at a nominal total sum of £1 for accounts purposes and are not depreciated. Additions are written off in the Statements of Financial Activities account in the year of acquisition.

Road Locomotive Society CIO
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2021

2 Statement of Financial Activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Income		
Subscriptions	16,082	18,749
Sales of publications and badges	2,608	4,308
Sales of copies of Burrell Records	157	125
Sales of Photographs	-	100
Investments Income	628	596
Gift Aid	1,583	1,606
Donations and Grants	15,650	2,052
	<u>36,708</u>	<u>27,536</u>
Cost of sales		
Archive acquisitions	831	-
Stock movement	1,468	180
New publications	3,032	-
Archive and conservation	732	188
Stock items for resale	320	480
	<u>6,383</u>	<u>848</u>
Expenditure		
Journal	15,339	12,435
Meeting and Visits	153	350
Postage	466	345
Administration	1,416	1,633
Paypal Fees	101	105
	<u>17,475</u>	<u>14,868</u>

**Road Locomotive Society CIO
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2021**

3 Library and Equipment

	Library	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2020	1	908	909
At 31 July 2021	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>908</u>	<u>909</u>
Depreciation			
Charge for the year	-	900	900
On disposals	-	-	-
At 31 July 2021	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>900</u>
Net book value			
At 31 July 2021	1	8	9
At 31 July 2020	1	8	9

ROAD LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Road Locomotive Society held on Monday 30th November 2020 at 7.00pm conducted over a Zoom Conference System, following due notification to members of the arrangements and the procedures to be used by the Trustee Board

Present: Andy Smith, Michele Goddard, Steve Parrott,
On-line: Simon Caudwell, Brian Johnson, John Wakeham, Gary Wragg,
 Alan Rundle, Clare Bullen, Andy Wells, Trevor Smallbone
 Matt Healey was present as membership secretary.
 Mark A Loader was present on line as President elect.

1. Apologies for absence and proxies appointing the Chairman as their representative were received from:
 Thomas Baines, Alan Holmes, Norbert Hinder, Terry Morris, Clive Hearsey, Brian Knight, Garth Holman, Dan Jones, Sam Goddard, James Loader, Andrew Hawkswell, Jeffrey Shackell, Keith Brothwell, Pete Parrish, Dan Brothwell, Steve Hayes, George Balsdon, Steve Milns, Rob Wing, Stephen Cotton, Peter Smart, Richard Morris, Joseph Mitchell, Andrew Bradbury, Gordon Bruce, Willem Middlemiss, Charles Bush, Paul Norrington, Richard Jackson, James Davis, Brian Kiddy, P.J. Coulls, Anthony Coulls, Keith Brooking, Norman Smedley, Barnaby Newton, Barry Thirlwall, Mark Abbott, Paul Abbott, Michael Walters, Charlie Daniels, Kevin Bragg, Richard Francis, David Shelmerdine, Bob Moorman, M.S. Fletcher, Malcolm Frost, John Harraway, Mike Deering, Paul Gilbey, Roger Mills, Allan Marchington, Tony Thomas, Mike Lewendon, Robert Bullen, Michael Dawson, John Dickinson, Duncan Pittock, James Nutty, Edward George, Robin Daniel, Barry Wood, Colin Hatch.

Apologies for absence received from Richard Willcox and Mike Thexton.

The Secretary reported the current Society membership is 729. 63 proxy votes had been received.

Chairman's Introduction:

I know that some members were disappointed not to be able to join us via Zoom but we really felt it was not practical to allow meaningful participation. I must also apologise for the late delivery of the AGM packs which had been carefully planned to go out with the Journal. The last-minute closure of our printers and finding a replacement did not help this situation.

It is therefore important to record that the Board took the decision to hold an AGM via Zoom with Trustees present only, plus our membership secretary and incoming President. This is to meet our statutory obligations and in accordance with the government guidelines...and I quote *'In the specific cases of members' meetings of Charitable Incorporated Organisations held between 26 March 2020 and 30 December 2020:*

- *they may be held by phone / video or other electronic means, even if the governing document requires them to be held physically face-to-face*
- *members still have the right to vote, but the charity can require this to be done electronically, or by other means (such as by post)*
- *members will not have the right to attend a meeting in person or participate in meetings other than to vote*

The Secretary has ensured that the members were notified of this decision in the August Journal and requested motions and any questions to be sent to herself. The Secretary apologises if the information both in the Journal and in the Notice of the AGM was unclear in any way.

No motions have been received and any general questions will be dealt with under Any Other Business. Any questions relating to specific agenda items will be dealt with as we go through. Many members have shown their support for the Society and the Trustees by returning their proxy forms. The Secretary has assumed by returning these they also offer their apologies, and their names are listed under apologies.

I would normally be thanking hosts for visits and reporting on the years activities but let's hope 2021 will allow us to get out and about a bit more as the signs of an effective vaccine look very encouraging. We have had another very busy and successful year despite the restrictions and the Trustees have still met regularly throughout the year via Zoom.

The 2021 Winter meeting (if COVID allows) is still scheduled to be on Saturday 13th March at Milestones Museum, Basingstoke. We will of course have to monitor the situation and if we are still unable to meet then we will consider holding virtually by Zoom so that members can attend from the safety of your own homes. We plan the following

- Richard Sandercock – Dingles, Stoke Climsland.
- Mark Loader – Presidential Address.

The 2021 Visit (if COVID allows) is targeted for the 22nd May at Chesnut Farm, Middlewich, Cheshire, but will have to be confirmed nearer the date. It is being organised by Andrew Bradbury and Matt Healy with resident engines plus several visiting engines and models are being planned.

The Story of Ruston Traction Engines (Including steam rollers and steam tractors) 1877 -1937 by Michael Thexton is progressing well. It's with the printers for final layout and will be printed next year.

The Journal continues to maintain the highest of standards. We must thank our editor and all those who assist him for their continuous efforts. Those who contribute articles and also proof read. We have delivered bumper editions throughout the year covering a wide and varied selection of topics

It is important that we have funds to purchase such collections to add to our archive both now and in the future. We also of course need funds to help conserve them for the future. We have had several substantial bequests and donations this year which are very much appreciated, Llew Bedder and Roy Green to name but two. We have continued the work of putting the historic archive photos in acid free sleeves.

I would like to thank our outgoing President Michael Thexton for his support of the Society through this exceedingly difficult year for everybody.

Thanks to committee & section officers for all the hard work over the last year.

We have lost a number of members over the year so can I ask you to pause for a minute's silence in memory of the members who have sadly passed away in the last year. They are

Ron Dawe, Roy Green, Michael Hynd, John Meredith, Les Burberry, Alf Howick, Godfrey Sturgeon, Gerry Doherty, John Richardson, Keith Flinton, and Colin Brothwell. Mr R G Hodges and Dr Jeremy S Metters

2. Minutes of The Road Locomotive Society held on 19th October 2019.

A correction with apologies from the Secretary that Michael James had been recorded as Smith. Alan Rundle noted he was proposed by Brian Knight.

There were a few minutes for those present to review the minutes. Trevor Smallbone proposed and Alan Rundle seconded that they, as amended, be accepted.

All proxy votes and those present voted in favour of their adoption. They were then signed and dated by Michele Goddard on behalf of the Chairman.

3. Adoption of Annual Reports of The Road Locomotive Society

There were a few minutes for those present to review the annual reports. Clare Bullen proposed and John Wakeham seconded that they be adopted. All proxy votes and those present voted in favour of their adoption.

4. Presentation of Accounts.

The Chairman asked the Treasurer, Simon Caudwell, to introduce the accounts and answer any question sent in. Simon said '2019 / 2020 has been a solid year for the RLS financially. Our total income was down compared to the previous year, mainly because of not having a new book to sell, plus a slightly reduced subscription income. However, our cost of sales were correspondingly lower, so consequently the surplus to the society was higher this year. The journal costs are very slightly up as we have printed more pages this year, to make up in part for such a reduced programme of events.

The Gift aid figure is still lower than it has been in the past, so could I please jog a few memories to fill out gift aid forms.

We are poised to spend a considerable sum on commercial digitisation of parts of our collection and continue to spend on improving the storage conditions of what we own. Since the closing of this set of accounts we have had two sizeable bequests and several welcome donations to bolster our conservation fund. All in all a fiscally

satisfactory year in what has been trying times for us all, let us hope for a better year to come.

There was one question received from Michael Walters. He queried why the postage was so low this year. Simon stated that there had been considerably less postage out of books sold.

There were a few minutes for those present to review the accounts. Andy Wells proposed and Gary Wragg seconded that they be adopted. All proxy votes and those present voted in favour of their adoption.

5. Appointment of Auditor / Independent Examiner.

The Treasurer stated that it had been another very speedy and efficient performance this year from Sharron Quick, who managed to complete her independent examination report of the account for us and get all the paperwork in order for the AGM. I have no hesitation in recommending her services to the Society for next year again.

Steve Parrot proposed Sharron Quick of SMV Associates to be appointed as Independent Examiner, It was seconded by Matt Healey. All the proxy votes and those present were in favour.

6. Election of Officers & Trustees

Board members will serve for periods of three years, with these serving until October 2023.

Brian Johnson was proposed by Andy Wells, seconded by John Harraway

Andy Wells was proposed by Andy Smith and seconded by Mark Loader

All the proxy votes and those present were in favour.

7. To elect the Principal Officers

Treasurer. Andy Smith proposed Simon Caudwell serve as Treasurer until 2023, seconded by Michele Goddard. All the proxy votes and those present were in favour.

The trustees resolved to thank Ro Caudwell for her assistance in helping the treasurer with the books and accounts.

8. Formal Approval of Mr Mark A Loader as President.

Andy Smith then used the following introduction of Mark as our new President. He said 'Mark has been a member since 1975 but the Loader name and association with road steam goes back much further with the commercial operation of many engines through the family business started in 1875 and operating around the Bournemouth area and surrounding districts. The family have a strong association with Wallis & Stevens which formed the bulk of the fleet with the odd Aveling, McLaren, Burrell, Garrett and Fowler thrown in. I have been familiar with the Loader name from my early interest in steam but didn't really get to know Mark until I joined the committee in 2012, with Mark serving on the committee from 2006 until 2015. The next generation of Loader's, Marks sons James and Stephen have continued the steam vein in the family with them both owning a Wallis & Stevens oil bath tractor each and James has recently become a Society member.

I was always impressed by Mark's calm, thoughtful and measured responses from the outset, never one to say very much but always worth listening too when he has something to say. It is always an honour to invite somebody to be President for the coming year so I was delighted when Mark finally accepted our invitation, but we will have to wait until things have improved to hear his address.

All those present and all proxy votes were in favour of Mark A Loader's appointment as President. Marks son James presented the Badge of Office on behalf of the Society.

Mark Loader addressed those present with the following few words.

"Mr Chairman and fellow Trustees and members of the Road Locomotive Society, may I take this opportunity of thanking you for inviting me to become your President for the coming year. I will endeavour to do my best for

the Society and look forward to working with you as we progress through these difficult times. May I take this opportunity to thank of our committee and section officers for all their hard work and dedication in furthering and compounding the aims of this, our Society. Having served on the committee a few years ago, for several years I have experienced the dedication of these volunteers first-hand, and I urge the membership to acknowledge their thanks from time to time, since a kindly word or written comment never fails to encourage and shows one's appreciation.

Coming from what I might call a privileged background, a family of business that worked steam road engines, and then saw, and activity participated in the transition to preservation times, I can feel very, very, fortunate. If I may, I would like to dedicate this presidential year to my late Grandfather and Grandmother and of course, by late father who were instrumental in encouraging my interest.

This was developed and enhanced further when I joined the Society, and that was down to Les Burberry in the 1970's when we were rallying on the Isle of White, he made me aware of the Society and it was Keith Brothwell who proposed and supported my application. That was some forty-five years ago, which is a little to believe! During this time, I would like to say how much I have valued the members both past and present who have made my membership such a pleasurable experience. It would be impossible to name them all, and the fear that I might miss someone out unintentionally, allows me to say thank you to all of you. However, there is always an exception to every rule, and there are two people I would like to highlight, and I am sure you will understand my reasoning.

A good secretary is vitally important to any organisation or business, and the Society has been blessed with both Sandra Marder, and of course, our present secretary Michele Goddard. Both these ladies were and are outstanding beyond excellent, in their work for the Society, and having worked with both of them, I wanted to thank them both, on all our behalf's.

Before I bring my comments to a close, I would also wish to thank my own immediate family – Julie, James, and Stephen for their support over the years and I am delighted that both these young men are keen to continue the family interest, their interest has been encouraged by members of the Society who have made them feel most welcome from an early age at gatherings we have attended, and that has been most appreciated. Similarly, Julie has always commented how people have also made her feel welcome and sure she was not left out in the cold! Well done to you all and my best wishes to you all as we shortly move into 2021 and all that lies ahead."

9. Any other business.

Some members, including but not exclusive to, Stephen Cotton, Peter Smart, Steve Milns, Keith Brothwell, Robert Bullen and Michael Walters raised with the Secretary and other trustees concerns that the Trustees had decided to hold an AGM with only Trustees present. The Chairman noted in response that the trustees would have wished otherwise. This was a pragmatic approach in the current circumstances. He had earlier noted the government guidelines which the Society has clearly met. The trustee board resolved that the members comments should be recorded in the meetings minutes.

Keith Brothwell had requested that his views be recorded thus 'For the record, I am not very happy that the decision to hold the AGM this way is entirely right.'

Michael Walters made a suggestion that those attending the AGMs should have their names noted on the minutes. The Secretary noted that the names of those attending had for many years been recorded on the members 'signing in' sheet to record their presence and to ensure the AGM meetings are quorum. Historically these names have not been in the minutes, but the attendance records are held in the Society records It was agreed that in the future the Secretary will record the current membership total and the number of members attending the meeting.

The Secretary wished it to be recorded that every member who had sent a proxy or a query by email relating to the AGM has had a personal response either by herself or the Chairman. Also, she wished to thank all those who returned proxies by post.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed. 7.43pm