

RAIL ACTION GROUP, EAST OF SCOTLAND (RAGES)

RAGES Committee Meeting

20th. October 2022, 1pm East Linton Community Hall

1. Welcome and Apologies.

Barrie opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

Attended: Barrie Forrest BEM, Harald Vox, Tom Dickson, Ian Bowman.

Apologies: Stewart Leslie, Tom Thorburn, Glenn Moulding, Allison Cosgrove.

2. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 24th. August 2022

Minutes of previous meeting were approved subject to changing the last meeting date from 24th. July 2022 to 24th. August 2022.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes.

Revised constitution has been circulated to committee members and approved.

4. Station Reports

- Berwick

Barrie reported that there are still people travelling from the Reston area choosing to travel from Berwick due to the continued uncertainty with TPE trains being cancelled.

- Dunbar

Tom reported that based on observation when travelling to/from Dunbar that the station seems to be busy and also the ticket office is busy. The car park is busy most days. Dunbar Community Council and East Lothian Rail Steering Group are challenging the reasons behind the cancellation of the car park extension.

- East Linton & Markle

The lift towers and bridge have now been erected and work continues on the site.

The official opening arrangements were discussed, and the feeling of the group is that we should starting to think about venue, guest list etc. Based on feedback from Reston it was suggested that a request for a village public notice board be erected at the station.

Markle – No visible progress. No planning application submitted yet to ELC.

Action: Allison to contact Allan Brooking network Rail for update on Markle.

- Haddington

RAGES attended Haddington Farmers Market on Saturday 27th. August and 24th. September. Good engagement and interest from the public.

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Farmers Market on 29th. October – Ian, Tom D, Barrie, Stewart, and Harald available for the stall.

We intend to apply for a stall license for 2023, Cllr John MacMillan has indicated that our fee for the license may be waived. Awaiting his reply for this.

Barrie raised the issue regarding our public liability insurance. Barrie is to check that we are covered by BAVS and/or Reston community Council.

- North Berwick & Drem

Harald reported that the a few weeks ago the North Berwick service was hugely unreliable but in recent weeks the service has returned to normal. The station is busy with both passengers and vehicles using the car park.

- Reston

One of our members contacted Transport Scotland regarding the use of a notice board at the station. Click on the link below to read the response.

Barrie contacted John Lamont MP regarding a LNER late night service to stop at Reston. Click on the link below to read John's response.



Transport Minister RESPONSE FROM
response - 230922.pTRANSPORT SCOTLA

Tom T, Barrie & Tom D gave a presentation to the Duns Probus group on Wednesday 19th. October.

5. Membership Report.

Tom D reported that RAGES has 174 members, however this figure does not take into account members who have renewed by BACS transfer in October. This should bring our membership up to about 187. In round numbers there has been about 55 members who have not renewed this year. I suspect the opening of Reston and the start of construction of East Linton has made some members think that they have done their bit.

Membership software. The cloud based software licence is due for renewal this month. There is still 'bugs' with the software and the emailing part is very unreliable. Tom D is proposing that we don't pay to renew the licence and stick with the PC based membership database and revisit the software issue if and when the PC based software stops working. This decision was agreed by those present.

6. Treasurers Report.

Ian provided the following treasurers update –

Balance on 24/08/2022	1840.77
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Income:-

East Linton Community Fare	97.50
54 Ordinary Members	216.00
2 Corporate Members	20.00
Donations	8.00

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Expenditure:-

East Linton Hall Hire	7.00
50 AGM Agendas	4.80
50 Constitutions and AGM Agendas	28.00
250 Envelopes	27.00
50 Second Class Stamps	34.00
Updated Banners	288.00
10 Membership Secretary's Reports	12.00
Railfuture Membership	25.00
Balance on 20/10/2022	1756.47

7. AGM and Constitution Update

This year's AGM was held at Knox Academy School, Haddington on 29/09/2022. Including the committee members present there were another 11 members present. Cllr John McMillan gave a presentation on ELC's transport vision for East Lothian.

The RAGES constitution was presented for approval. Subject to a few minor 'word' changes the constitution was approved. It was agreed that because of the nature of the changes there wouldn't be requirement to resubmit the constitution to the members for approval.

8. Correspondence and Meetings attended

Meetings attended and correspondence received

27/08/2022 Haddington Farmers Market

28/08/2022 Dunpender Community Fair, Allison & Tom attended

30/08/2022 East Lothian Rail Steering Group Meeting

02/09/2022 Barrie, Tom T & Tom D met with G. Meiklejohn TPE at St. Abbs.

03 & 04/09/2022 Aln Valley Model railway Exhibition, Barrie, Allison & Tom D attended.

06/09/2022 LNER Forum, Barrie attended

21 & 22/09/2022 Pre-AGM Zoom meetings

24/09/2022 Haddington Farmers Market

29/09/2022 RAGES AGM

19/10/2022 Duns Probus Group – Presentation on the construction of Reston Railway Station.

Member Max Eaves reply from Transport Scotland

John Lamont's MP letter to RAGES

Future Meetings

25/10/2022 East Lothian Rail Steering Group Meeting.

26/10/2022 RAGES presentation for Reston Women's Guild.

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29th. July 2023 Berwick Probus Group – RAGES presentation

9. Next RAG

Discussion took place about a winter issue of the RAG newsletter. It was agreed that this should be published and a nominal date of 10th. November 2002 was agreed to get all material for the RAG to Glenn (if Glenn prefers another cut-off date for material, he can let us know and I'll update minutes accordingly).

10. AOCB.

Christmas Lunch, the 20th. December was agreed.

Post Meeting update – Barrie, Ian and Tom D visited the Linton Hotel and Steakhouse. This venue has since been proposed for our Christmas Lunch. The menu has been sent out to all the committee and Russell.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 11th. January, 1pm. East Linton Village Hall.