

THE CAMBRIDGE BRANCH OF THE RAILWAY CORRESPONDENCE AND TRAVEL SOCIETY

Minutes of the sixteenth Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 10 December 2024 at 19.30 at The Swifts, Haggis Gap, Fulbourn, Cambridge, CB21 5HD

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the sixteenth Annual General Meeting of the Branch.

1. Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received.

2. Minutes of the fifteenth Annual General Meeting held on 12 December 2023

The minutes that had been posted on the Branch web pages were approved.

3. Matters arising from the above minutes

None.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman read his report to the meeting which covered his thanks to the officers and committee members, that the Branch has had a very good year and that sales cover the full running costs of the branch. But also we should not be complacent and would welcome new blood on to the Committee.

5. Branch Secretary's Report

The Branch Secretary reported that there are 36 RCTS members nominally allocated to the branch (based on postcodes) by the RCTS national organisation, down about 10% from the previous year – losing 6 existing and gaining 3 new members. The average meeting attendance is about 28 people (60-70% RCTS members, the rest visitors).

6. Fixtures Secretary's Report

The Fixtures Secretary reported that a full programme of presentations for the remainder of the 2024-2025 season was in place, and all of the 2025-2026 presentations were also arranged. He thanked the Secretary and the Web Manager for their assistance with the technology and the meeting reports. He also offered to assist interested members with suitable material to put together a presentation. He was thanked for his efforts.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that this year was fairly similar to last year, with a very good level of book sales (£877.50), unchanged room hire costs and over £4200 in the bank at the end of the year. The Treasurer was thanked for his work for the Branch.

8. Sales Officer's Report

The Sales Officer read his report to the meeting which detailed the sources of donated books, the mail order sales that he had been able to effect and the disposal of unsaleable items. He thanked all those who had purchased books. Total sales revenue for the year was £904.00. He thanked his two "apprentices" for their help. The Sales Officer was thanked for his efforts.

9. Web Manager's Report

The Web Manager thanked everyone who has contributed material for our web pages and said that the website had a good year. He said that the unique selling point of the RCTS, in his opinion, is in some of the artefacts that it holds and the knowledge that is in people's heads, and he was trying to reflect and demonstrate that in the content which is on our web pages. The Web Manager was thanked for his efforts. The Web Manager provided a brief presentation of some of the new content on the website after the AGM closed.

10. Election of Officers and Committee

The Chairman made an appeal for other members to consider joining the committee. There being no other candidates for election, the existing holders of the positions of Chairman, Treasurer, Branch Secretary, Sales Officer, Web Manager, Fixtures Secretary, and general committee member were declared re-elected.

11. Any other business

There was one item of business raised by the Sales Officer. As it is the 200th anniversary year of railways in 2025, he appealed for members who have information on events and visits etc. taking place during the year to let the membership know at our meetings (or via other means).

The meeting closed at 19.52