



## **Railway Inn Steering Group** **Minutes of Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025, 7.00pm**

Present: Sue W; David W; Ian W; Rachael D; Fran D; Neil B; Marg A-H; Andy B; Sylvia B

Apologies: Kris D; Holly D

### **Matters Discussed**

#### **Minutes – 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025**

Minutes agreed by Committee and can now be shared on website.

#### **Review of Actions List**

1. Survey is completed.
2. Model Rules will be approved within 2 to 4 weeks.
3. Funds have been transferred to pay for the memberships.
4. The Parish Council have approved making the payment for the red book valuation on behalf of the Steering Committee. We will transfer the funds to them in advance of the payment being made.
5. Minimum donation on Go Fund Me is £5 – so we cannot lower this amount as discussed.
6. RD to check with Kris to confirm all minutes have been added to the website
7. RD to check with Kris that the mailshot is going out to the email group tomorrow afternoon.
8. The Pop up banner has been made and has been used successfully at the Christmas Afternoon Tea.
9. Sidney Phillips is on hold until the full invoice cost has been accrued in donations.
10. Volunteer it Yourself – have been contacted by David – he will update us on their response.
11. Stone & Eccleshall Gazette will accept amendments on articles up until 24<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

#### **Pledges**

1. A public meeting is needed to discuss and explain pledges. We will document the minimum amount we need to achieve to buy the pub. This amount is £250,000. The meeting will be advertised as an Information update & Pledge discussion meeting. We will book St Luke's - it is £30 for 5 hrs plus heating costs.
2. Sue will write a meeting format & will share it with the Committee for their comments.
3. The Pledge form & FAQs need to be completed asap. David will design the Pledge form & Sue will design the FAQs. The pledge form will also be able to be completed online.
4. Our FAQs will state that a family can group together to buy one or more shares between them. In this scenario, the family group would have 1 vote between them at the AGM. We will also need a section in the FAQs on Legacy naming who share/s would be passed to.
5. Sue suggested that the Committee look at the 'Shipton needs a Pub.co.uk' campaign. They have good FAQ's and went out to Pledges in May 2025. Sue will follow up with them to see how successful their pledge campaign was.
6. Pledges were discussed and it was decided to be good practice and good GDPR for possibly only a few members of the Committee to know the names of pledgers.



7. The ideal Pledge meeting date will be Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7pm. This will enable us to talk to Nick at Plunkett for advice beforehand. Unfortunately, Nick is on leave for an extended period so Sue will speak to Alison in his absence.
8. We will set an initial pledge deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026
9. It was agreed that the Muker Q & A form was much more user friendly than the Plunkett form.
10. Some of the Committee will need to meet over Christmas to start the work ready for the Pledge meeting.
11. Once we have a pledge total, we will advise Louis Taylor so that they can advise the current pub owner. This will reflect our commitment to the purchase.

### **Newsletter**

1. There will be a mail drop of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Newsletter to the community email list, Facebook pages, noticeboards, Stone & Eccleshall Gazette, the website, shops in Eccleshall & Stone. Ian will design the this.
2. Holly to be asked if we can link our Facebook page and the website to Instagram.

### **Survey Costs**

We have started to receive donations to the red book valuation survey appeal. In order to speed up the completion of the valuation, several Committee members have kindly agreed to cover the shortfall. Their contribution will be converted to shares if the purchase takes place.

### **Red Book Valuation**

Rachael to book Sidney Phillips to complete the valuation ASAP.

### **Stone & Eccleshall Gazette Article**

Sue has completed the article and will share it with the Committee in the 1<sup>st</sup> instance - for feedback.

### **Committee Composition & Membership Forms**

Sue has clarified with Plunkett that for Steering Committee purposes, it is acceptable to have more than one household member on the same Committee. Usually one person per household would sign membership documentation.

### **Dilapidation & Condition Survey**

Neil will feedback to the Committee in his professional capacity and in layman's terms, on the contents of the Survey.

### **Fundraising Event**

Some local residents have offered to hold a fundraising event to raise money. Sue to follow up.

### **Go Fund Me Page Amendment**

Rachael to email David with wording to add to the Go Fund Me page, advising donators how to avoid paying the Go Fund Me 'tip'.



**Actions:**

No.	Action	By
1	Check with Kris that all of the minutes have been posted on the website.	RD
2	Check with Kris that the mailshot is going out to the email group tomorrow afternoon.	RD
3	Feedback on 'the Volunteer it Yourself' reply	DW
4	Write a Pledge meeting format and share with the Committee	SW
5	Design the Pledge form	DW
6	Write the Pledge FAQs	SW
7	Liaise with the 'Shipton Needs a Pub' Pledge Campaign	SW
8	Liaise with Alison at Plunkett in Nicks absence re Pledge meeting	SW
9	Design the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Newsletter	IW
10	Can we link our Facebook page & Website with Instagram	HD
11	Book Red Book Valuation with Sidney Phillips	RD
12	Share Eccleshall & Stone Gazette article with Committee	SW
13	Study the Dilapidation & Condition Survey and feedback to the Committee	NB
14	Liaise re fundraising event	SW
15	Liaise with David to add extra wording to Go Fund Me page, to advise donators how to avoid paying the 'tip'	RD