

# *The Potting Shed*

The Newsletter of Poppleton Community Railway Nursery

Issue Number 1 - July 2008

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Welcome to the first issue of the Poppleton Community Railway Nursery Newsletter.

It is hoped that the newsletter will be published bi-monthly in the initial stages, and I have been requested to write this issue to let everyone know the latest on the nursery negotiations and organisation.

A lot of problems have beset the Nursery project since our last meeting, Paul Bisson resigning to take on the Managers job at Gayle Mill (Hawes), Phil Buckley being promoted within Jarvis and moving to Rugby and Paul Salveson who is resigning the Chairmanship due to personal and work reasons plus Northern decided that they would require some of the nursery land to extend the car park. Northern then took over the negotiations with Network Rail with the idea of leasing back to the nursery project the land that they did not want, twelve months later Northern decided that as there was no money in their budget they no longer required any of the nursery land.

With all the above going on and with heavy work commitments with the remaining members of the board Bob Brook, Paul Botting and Tony Nunn were invited onto the board of the company at their AGM.

This newsletter has been sent to you because your name is on the original database and we are trying to find out those people that are still interested in the nursery project including the rebuilding of the internal railway.

Please find enclosed with this newsletter a form that will require to be returned either electronically to Tony Nunn (email address below) or by post (Tony Nunn, "Pennrose", Harmby, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 5PE) to enable the board to ascertain information required to further the work at the nursery when we have negotiated the lease.

## **The Organisation**

This is now a registered as a company (Poppleton Community Railway Nursery Limited), limited by guarantee, with the initial directors as discussed at the October 2006 meeting held at the NRM. Another item to be decided is whether to become a community interest company or a charitable trust. This is still being looked into as both have their advantages and disadvantages.

## **Finance**

A business bank account has now been set up and we are just awaiting confirmation of the account number.

It is noted that once this account is open the £5000 donated to us by Northern Rail can be deposited – I think a great thank you to Northern Rail is in order for this very generous donation.

## **The Lease**

Progress has been slow initially but negotiations by the Company are going well and hopefully we should know about the lease shortly, as soon as we know something we will tell you.

## **Site**

Access is still a problem as the fencing has not yet been erected due to the very high quote given to us by Jarvis, but discussions are ongoing.

Due to the above, the fencing being erected and, until there is proper access to the site, unfortunately no work can be carried out.

Insurance details are in the process of being worked out.

It was agreed at the meeting at the NRM in October 2006 that Graham Warner who was the Nursery Manager under Jarvis, should conduct a complete survey of the site. Unfortunately this has not been done due to Graham finding full time employment. Hopefully another person will undertake this site survey shortly.

A quick survey has now been carried out by Bob Brook and Tony Nunn and costings given to Network Rail for their assessment, but a larger survey will require to be carried out when we can gain access to the site.

## **Outside Parties**

Expressions of interest have been received from various organisations to use the site, the local NHS Trust for patient therapy is just one. These interested parties will be written to shortly to ascertain their exact requirements at the nursery.

I hope that this will help to keep your interest in the nursery project and to let you know that the project is not dead and that we are still negotiating for the nursery.

If you have any thoughts or comments please e-mail me at:  
[tony.nunn11@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:tony.nunn11@tiscali.co.uk)

## **The Future**

Once we have agreement with Network Rail then there will be plenty to do but in the mean time the Directors are preparing to hold an open meeting during September at a date, venue and time to be arranged and will advise you as soon as this has been organised.