

THE WHITCHURCH WATERWAY TRUST

www.whitchurchwaterway.uk

Company No : 02280683 Charity Commission No : 701050



MINUTES of a Committee Meeting held on 9 July 2019 at The Wheatsheaf, 19 Green End, Whitchurch SY13 1AD

Present:	David Torrens	(WWT Trustee / Director and Webmaster)
	Paul Radcliffe	(WWT Trustee / Director and Canal Festival Organiser)
	Bob Sumner	(WWT Trustee / Director and Grounds Maintenance)
	Ray Hatton	(WWT Trustee / Director)
	David Smith	(WWT Trustee / Director and Membership Secretary)
	Andy Hall	(Whitchurch Town Council)

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for absence
David Aylwin
Helen Brockman
Chris Chambers
- 2) Matters Arising / Minutes of previous meeting (To sign as a true record)
There was an omission in the minutes of the meeting of 11Jun2019 - it should have been noted that the real stop planks for the Whitchurch Arm are kept at Grindley Brook. - those in the stop plank shelter on the Arm are not intended for use and are not the correct width for the gap. The intention is to replace them with the real ones in due course. With this proviso, the minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a true record.
- 3) Any Other Business: no items were raised.
- 4) Chair's Report
 - a) The Towpath Upgrade has revealed itself to be a fairly major piece of work. The idea of "skimming off" the top layer of grass between the tow path and the sheet piling to improve surface drainage (by replacing grass with gravel) is a good one but a "proper job" would involve incorporating a sub-base of up to 150mm and a perforated pipe set on gravel below this to act as a French Drain. The decision was taken to suspend the work, pending discussions with contractors. It was noted that the donation by the Town Council for towpath improvements would still be used but for maintenance of existing towpath, rather than its extension.
 - b) Maintenance Boat
CC is awaiting a quote from Border Trailers for re-bottoming the flat that was offered.
 - c) Country Park Land Transfer from Shropshire Council to Whitchurch Town Council
CC will write to the Chief Executive of Shropshire Council to chase. Andy Hall commented that the proposal is being discussed by the Town Council and enjoys the Town Council's support. Andy also commented that the Grounds Maintenance contract for Jubilee Park was currently being renegotiated and, given that the contract is currently with Nobridge Ltd. who have carried out work in the Country Park on behalf of WWT, it might be possible for the Town Council to incorporate the maintenance of the Country Park into a future contract with Nobridge. **DT** to write to Nicola Young of Whitchurch Town Council apprising her of the situation and opportunity.
- 5) Arm Maintenance
 - a) Boundary Fence. **BS** and **DS** to mark out desired route of path on w/c 15 July 2019.
 - b) Broken litter bin. Ongoing: may need a replacement lock.
- 6) The Facebook Page is still locked with password unknown. **DS** has contacted Facebook in an attempt to have the page released but has had no sensible response as yet.

- 7) Canal Festival 31Aug and 1Sep 2019
- a) The levelling between the 2 bridges took place as planned and has worked really well. Some further work is required to smooth out the area and plant wild flower seed and Committee members are encouraged to turn up on forthcoming Sundays at 11:00a.m. to help with this. **PR** has agreed with local tree surgeon to use surplus wood chippings to provide a temporary surface for the Canal Festival. **PR** will arrange for the wood chippings to be deposited over Chemistry Bridge for easy movement to the destination surface: this was considered a much more convenient/ less labour intensive option than use of the car park.
 - b) **PR** has taken a note of the Committee Members wish to come to the Saturday Supper.
 - c) **PR** has taken a note of the Committee Members willing to act as volunteers to help at the WWT stall
 - d) Invitations
CC to send PR contact details for the new CRT Manager for our area
PR to invite the new CRT Manager for our area to the Festival
- 8) Bric-a-Brac Sale 1000 - 1600 Sat 20Jul
 Committee members were encouraged to act as volunteers and have been asked to contact Lindsay Green to arrange. Anyone with spare bric-a-brac should take directly to Lindsay.
- 9) Treasurer's Report
CC is to get set up as a signatory for TSB
- 10) Path Users / Boat Traffic / Moorings Surveys
 The Committee was unanimous in wishing for the survey to take place again this year and all present were willing to participate with the exception of **DT**, who will be away for the period. **DS** will not be available for the Moorings Survey (but will cover sessions for Path Users and/or Boat Traffic). It was rather assumed that **HB** would arrange a schedule, not that we would like to be thought of as taking this for granted.
- 11) Conversion to CIO
 Our application has been submitted to the Charity Commission on 29 Jun 2019. In view of recent changes to the requirements for Charities registered as Limited Companies and with the Charity Commission (which have become more onerous) this has proved to be a sensible step.
- 12) Bringing the Canal into Town
 Reminder that the 13Aug meeting will be dedicated to dealing with only this subject and any urgent issues.
- 13) Outstanding Actions. None other than those captured above.
- 14) Date(s) of next meeting(s)
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| Tue 13Aug | 1930 | The Wheatsheaf |
| Tue 10Sep | 1930 | The Wheatsheaf |
| Tue 8Oct | 1930 | The Wheatsheaf |

Please send an apology if you cannot attend with any comments you wish to make to Helen Brockman <mailto:secretary@whitchurchwaterway.uk> or phone her on 0759 7005 312 / 01948 661040

For comments specifically relating to these minutes, please contact Dave Smith bikecrank@gmail.com/ 07850 336007.