

THE WHITCHURCH WATERWAY TRUST

www.whitchurchwaterway.uk

Company No : 02280683 Charity Commission No : 701050



MINUTES of a Committee Meeting held on 13Aug2019 at The Wheatsheaf, 19 Green End, Whitchurch SY13 1AD

Present:

Alan Allman	(WWT Member)
David Aylwin	(Canal Festival Harbourmaster)
Helen Brockman	(WWT Secretary)
Andy Hall	(Whitchurch Town Council Representative)
Ray Hatton	(WWT Trustee / Director and Treasurer)
Bob Sumner	(WWT Trustee / Director and Grounds Maintenance)
David Torrens	(WWT Trustee / Director and Webmaster)

David Torrens chaired the meeting, which was not quorate, so no decisions could be made.

- 1) Apologies for Absence
Paul Radcliffe, Peggy Mullock, Dave Smith
- 2) Matters Arising / Minutes of the Previous Meeting
The minutes of the 9Jul2019 meeting need to be agreed and signed at the next meeting..
- 3) Any Other Business
 - a) Offside Boundary Fence
The Waterfront View Property Management Company had been approached to ask if they would be happy with the proposed pegged out line of a new fence which would give a bit of land and lose a bit of land to / from each of WWT and WVPMC, however no reply had been received. The reason for this is that it would allow WWT to walk along the offside on WWT land, which is currently not possible as the land is too narrow at one point.
AA to notify HB of the WVPMC's Secretary's contact details
HB to write to the WVPMC Chair and Secretary to request their timely response so that we can move forward with getting the fence erected.
 - b) Number for the Boaters' Supper at the Canal Festival
Paul Radcliffe thought there were 34 (24 from the Broken Cross club, and 10 others), and had requested confirmation of numbers from DA.
DA said there were 33, including 15 who have paid through DA and 17 who haven't yet paid.
The maximum number is thought to have been reached, so no more bookings should be taken without checking with PR
DA will send his list to PR.
 - c) AH has brought up the matter of the Nobridge grass cutting contract at full Council
- 4) Conversion to CIO
The Charity Commission have rejected our application for 4 reasons, 3 of which are easy to fix. The 4th is more difficult, as the Charity Commission have objected to Clause 6 of the proposed CIO Constitution, saying it represents a widening of Trustee benefits from those in our current constitution (although it is their standard wording). Thus the members have approved a constitution the CC won't accept, and if we remove the bit the CC object to, we will have to approve the amended proposed constitution again at a General Meeting. HB has submitted a request to the CC for a Regulated Amendment (for them to agree to the widening) and it remains to be seen what will result from that.
 - a) Trustee Eligibility Form (all Trustees to sign)
Those Trustees present signed this.

- HB** to get signatures from Trustees who were not present.
- b) Special Resolutions passed at AGM in approved format (CC to sign)
The Special Resolutions should have been submitted to Companies House within 15 days of the AGM. (HB was unaware that was supposed to be done). The Charity Commission also require the signed approved format for conversion to a CIO.
HB to get Chris Chambers' signature on this.
- 5) WWT Stall at Canal Festival
- DT** will provide a display board and poster.
 - Rota - DT offered to be around all day on both days, as long as he can have a break.
 - Budget of up to £30 to buy prizes for the Tombola (if necessary). This was not dealt with, as the meeting was inquorate.
 - Any donations of items suitable as prizes (could be bottles of wines, spirits) in the WWT Tombola should be given to HB
- 6) Spending £252 for hire of digger and dumper to level the area between the 2 bridges.
This was not dealt with, as the meeting was inquorate.
- 7) Bringing the canal into town
It was felt that this subject could not be properly dealt with in an inquorate meeting, so a further meeting for this subject may need to be arranged, however those present engaged in a discussion.

Among the views expressed were :

- at a General Meeting in 2010, 4 options had been voted on by members and the option to build an extension and basin had been chosen. No option to bring the canal nearer to town had been offered because it had been felt to be infeasible. The option to build a water park involved capital and maintenance costs which were thought to be too high.
 - that it would be impossible to bring the canal past Greenfields Way without extreme expense and building what might be a very ugly bridge / underpass : the existing bridge at Greenfields Way is too low for a canal to pass under it and provides the only access to a housing estate
 - that some canal restorations have succeeded by working from both ends at once, which generates interest and support, and then connecting the 2 ends
 - the old gas works site could possibly be a site for a basin
 - that bringing the canal nearer to town would be new build rather than resoration, and thus different (and harder)
 - to bring the canal through the valley would involve changing levels (since the only level route has had housing built on it), necessitating locks or some other structure(s) and back-pumping or similar to return the water to the main line level. Apart from the cost of building such facilities, they would need ongoing maintenance and an income to pay for maintenance. No way of generating such income had yet been thought of.
 - any plan to bring the canal nearer to town than the planned extension and basin would not be credible without a feasibility study, which would cost money. AH advised that there may be CIL money available from Whitchurch Town Council, and that investigatory work such as feasibility studies can be funded by CIL money. WWT could approach Nikki Young to discuss the possibility of getting CIL money.
 - before 2010, the plan for the inclined plane failed because the capital and maintenance costs were thought to be too high
 - sometimes if you just go for something, you find out it was possible after all
 - there could be options involving non-boating use such as a Canoe Centre, which would require much less engineering, and might be able to generate an income for their maintenance
 - WWT would welcome having a representative from the Whitchurch Chamber of Trade and Commerce at WWT meetings, if they would appoint someone.
- 8) Date(s) of next meeting(s)
Tue 10Sep 1930 The Wheatsheaf
Tue 8Oct 1930 The Wheatsheaf