

THE WHITCHURCH WATERWAY TRUST

www.whitchurchwaterway.uk

Company No : 02280683 Charity Commission No : 701050



MINUTES of a Committee meeting held on **12 July 2017** at the Dodington Lodge Hotel

Present: Joan Crump

Ray Hatton
Paul Radcliffe
Dave Smith
Bob Sumner
David Torrens

Also in attendance: David Aylwin (IWA), Chris Chambers (CRT) and Mr & Mrs Allman (new WWT members)

1. Appointment of a Chairman for the meeting.

In the absence of Bill Young it was proposed, seconded and agreed that Ray Hatton chair the meeting. He welcomed new members Mr & Mrs Allman and the representatives from IWA (David Aylwyn) and CRT (Chris Chambers).

2. Apologies for Absence were received from Bill Young, Wendy Capelle, Peggy Mullock. Ray Hatton informed the meeting that Bill Young had been diagnosed with cancer of the throat and would be undergoing an operation and treatment. Best wishes will be conveyed to Bill for a successful outcome.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 24 May 2017 were taken as read and signed as a correct record by the Acting Chairman.

4. Matters Arising from that Meeting

None.

5. Paths/Picnic Area and RDPE (Rural Development Programme England)

5.1 Grant claims. RH gave an update of the programme of grant claims to the RPA and reported that an inspection meeting by Jo Townsend (RPA) will be made next week.

5.2 Surface of the paths. It was noted that email confirmation had been received from Dave Lamb (Platt White Partnership) that the contractor had agreed to re-visit the site to bring the surface of the paths to the specification set out in the approved plans. Mr Allman had submitted a paper (by email) setting out what he felt should have been the specification for the construction of the paths. Following discussion it was **agreed** that the WWT must allow the contractor to carry out the remedial work under instruction from D Lamb as per the contract.

Mr Allman was thanked for his input to the discussion.

5.3 Grassed areas. It was reported that the area that had shown signs of being waterlogged had been improved following the connection of a land drain: evidenced by the fact that the recent prolonged heavy rain had not adversely affected the area. It was noted that BY had obtained prices for appropriate grass seed mix for the picnic area and a mix including wild flowers for the wild area. It was **agreed** that a suitable time would be found to sow both areas.

5.4 Field formerly used as a Boat Rally car park. It was noted that there would not be time before this year's Rally to complete any work to make the area available for car parking. Investigations would continue to find a suitable method of making it available for future Rallies.

5.5 Litter and Dog Waste bins. It was **agreed** that priority should be given to seeking help from either the Town Council or Shropshire Council to ensure regular emptying of the bins. RH agreed to approach the Town Clerk and Shropshire Cllr Peggy Mullock to find the best way to include the bin emptying in the existing schedule in the Country Park and Canal Arm.

6. Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer presented, and the meeting accepted, a statement of Receipts and Payments to 10 July 2017.

6.1 CRT Moorings Levy. In answer to a question it was noted that the CRT had not yet been paid the outstanding Moorings Levy. The Treasurer indicated that he would seek an up to date invoice for the CRT levy when all the grant had been received from RPA and a decision made on how much WWT funds should be re-invested with COIF.

6.2 Companies House Return. The Treasurer agreed to supply copies of the year end accounts for 2014, 2015 and 2016 to DT for submission to Companies House.

7. Town Council grant. JC reported that the grant of £319 - to be used for litter bins along the Canal Arm and shrub planting on the embankment behind the winding hole - had been received. It was **agreed** that the bins should be of a "post box" type to avoid large capacity rubbish bags being dumped. During discussion of the planting on the embankment it was suggested (by Mr Allman) that the housing developers of the adjacent land (Hawk) and their ecology advisors, should be approached for help in the planting. It was noted that the area would be planted and left wild – with no attempt to mow the grass.

8. Letter from Mr Allman. This was dealt with during discussion of items 5.2, 5.5 and 7 above.

9. Other urgent business.

9.1 Congratulations to Paul Radcliffe on his work with the organisation of the World Wide Whitchurch weekend were sincerely made.

9.2 Ellesmere Festival. Chris Chambers reminded the meeting that the Ellesmere Festival, on 11th, 12th and 13th of August and could be an opportunity to publicise the WWT and to raise some money by taking a stall. It was **agreed** to investigate who could be available to man a stall.

9.3 Retirement of Howard Griffiths from CRT. It was **agreed** to send a letter/card wishing Howard a long and happy retirement.

9.4 Mural painting under the concrete bridge. JC reported that the Sir John Talbot's School has again offered to paint a mural to improve the appearance of the path under the bridge. Members were asked to publicise an appeal to donate unwanted tins (or part-tins) of emulsion paint. It is planned for students to carry out the work during the autumn term.

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 19.30 on **Wed 09^h August 2017** at The Dodington Lodge Hotel.