

THE WHITCHURCH WATERWAY TRUST

www.whitchurchwaterway.uk

Company No: 02280683 Charity Commission No: 701050



MINUTES of a Committee Meeting held on 27 March 2018 at The Wheatsheaf, 19 Green End, Whitchurch SY13 1AD

Present:

David Aylwin (Inland Waterways Association Representative)
Roger Birch (Canal and River Trust Representative)
Joan Crump (WWT Trustee / Director and Membership Secretary/ Meeting Chairperson)
Ray Hatton (WWT Trustee / Director and Treasurer)
Paul Radcliffe (WWT Trustee / Director)
Dave Smith (WWT Trustee / Director)
Bob Sumner (WWT Trustee / Director and Grounds Maintenance)

1) Apologies for Absence

Helen Brockman (WWT Secretary)
Chris Chambers (WWT Trustee / Director and Chairman)
David Torrens (WWT Trustee / Director and Webmaster)

2) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were approved and signed by the acting Chairperson.

3) Items to be dealt with under Any Other Business

- a) **PR** suggested a discussion of his proposed "Superintendent of Works" for canal maintenance projects.
- b) **JC** suggested a discussion of the recent event at the Library to publicise local societies and organisations.

4) Outstanding Actions (where not covered under a separate item)

- a) It was assumed that **HB** had confirmed that WWT will attend Daniel Adamson Restoration Showcase Liverpool 13/14Oct 2018, but not do a presentation.
- b) **RB** stated that he was not aware of any further work CRT will be carrying out to the surrounds of the lift bridge. His attention was drawn to some necessary tidying up from recent CRT activities e.g. coping stones which could present an obstruction and protruding bolt and angle iron (the latter below water level).

5) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was presented. It was noted that **RH & HB** recently held a meeting with John Dewar of CRT (see point 6 below)

a) New Treasurer

RH has had discussions with a WWT member- Sandra Stone- with a view to her taking over **RH's** position as treasurer.

6) Review of CRT's Percentage of Mooring Fees Received by WWT

a) and (b) The meeting between John Dewar of CRT and **RH, HB** took place on 12 March 2018 to discuss WWT's obtaining more favourable terms for its commercial agreement as a "charity to charity" arrangement rather than one of "business to business". WWT's arguments were well received and it is anticipated that alternative charging mechanisms will be available for presentation at May's committee meeting. The setting up of winter moorings on the tow path side of the canal was discussed as a future possibility.

7) Boat Rally meeting at 11:00 Wed 14 March at Chemistry Farm

A very positive meeting took place of the Rally Committee and interest levels from potential attendees this year appear to be high. The International Guild of Knot Tiers has agreed to stage a demonstration of rope making.

PR has agreed to arrange for a shuttle bus to be made available to take people from the Town Centre to the Rally in the hope that this will alleviate parking issues on Chemistry during the event.

8) Basin Project

- a) Further Meeting with Howard Worth - Milestones and Objectives for Future Stages of Basin Project. To be progressed by **DT**.
- b) Land Transfer of Basin Site - **HB** was to ask our SC councillors if there is a contact we can talk to in SC about this, although this is not considered to be an urgent priority by the committee at the moment. **HB** to update at or before May committee meeting.
- c) Work Parties / Superintendent of Works. It was accepted by the committee that the appointment of a "Superintendent of Works" (as proposed by **PR**) would be a good thing, although it was acknowledged it may take some time to identify and recruit a suitable individual. The Superintendent of Works would be responsible for the planning and organising of one off work activities supported by volunteers. It is not anticipated that the Superintendent of Works would interfere with day to day maintenance of The Arm, which is well organised and brilliantly executed by **BS** with the support of Arthur and occasional committee members. However, it is hoped that volunteers attracted to help for a specific event could be induced to assist **BS** with day to day activities.
- d) Gateway Project to be discussed at next meeting, given CC's absence.
- e) **PR** has talked to Springwood Nurseries about an alternative to the Nobridge quotation for landscaping improvements but, given the anticipated imminent arrival of spring, it was decided to go with the previous Nobridge proposal for improvements (addition of bark chippings) to the picnic area. **HL** to progress.
- f) **DS** will sort out the picnic table levels, as far as is readily possible, as soon as there is some decent weather.

9) Arm Maintenance

- a) Dredging / Piling - Land&Water estimate has been received. The estimate is considered to be too high to progress and alternatives need to be discussed. **PR** to discuss dredging options with the owners of Park Farm Marina.
- b) **DS** was to arrange a skip for disposal of matter removed from the canal and publicise the filling activity on Facebook with a view to attracting volunteers.
- c) **CC** was to submit a Funding Application to Whitchurch Town Council for Towpath Improvements
- d) **JC** has commence planting native plants on the bank of the winding hole.
- e) Progress with Stop Plank Shelter. **DT** to update at next meeting.
- f) Trees planted beyond gate of new housing estate by local resident on Chemistry will potentially impede access. **BS** to discuss their possible relocation with residents. This will need to proceed as a matter of urgency as replanting will become difficult when Spring arrives.
- g) There are cracked Perspex panels in noticeboard at winding hole. **DT** to investigate their replacement.
- h) Repairs to Chemistry Bridge. **JC** to secure services of a bricklayer.

10) Whitchurch Museum Joint Exhibition - exhibits from Waterways Museum at Ellesmere Port

CC to coordinate provision of WWT collateral to complement any future canal related temporary exhibitions taking place at the Heritage Centre.

11) Any Other Business

- a) **PR's** suggestion of a proposed "Superintendent of Works" for canal maintenance projects was discussed and minuted above under "Basin Project" (point 8b).
- b) **JC** suggested spending £5 on a small WWT display at the library and this was agreed by all. It was noted that the recent attendance at the library's open day had not been a success, but it was important to carry on supporting such initiatives.

12) Date(s) of next meeting(s)

AGM 1930 Wed11Apr2018 Private room at The Dodington Lodge, Dodington, Whitchurch SY13 1EN

1100 Tue 24 April 2018 Private room at The Wheatsheaf, 19 Green End, Whitchurch SY13 1AD

1100 Tue 22 May 2018 Private room at The Wheatsheaf, 19 Green End, Whitchurch SY13 1AD

1100 Tue 26 June 2018 Private room at The Wheatsheaf, 19 Green End, Whitchurch SY13 1AD