

MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY ZOOM MEETING

15 June 2021

Present:

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| G Walker | J Gwalter | M & V Fuller | A Tremlett |
| A Williams | J Donovan | M Davis | A Ellis |
| T Morris | | | |

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| <p>1. Apologies: L Willicome, Mike Clarke, Sue Ellis, Gareth and Gill Thomas, Alan Williams, John Andrew Davies</p> <p>2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. Club 100 – Need to enquire about setting up a separate bank account. A vote is to be taken in AOB.</p> <p>3. Treasurers Report</p> <p>a. The overall financial position of the society has not changed significantly since the last month.</p> <p>b. I have submitted the draft statutory financial statement for 2020-2021 to the auditors together with the usual supporting printouts from the accounting system.</p> <p>c. I have also posted the depreciation for the year which has, together with this month's expenditure has brought last month's surplus down to an operating deficit of £34.41. However, taking the depreciation for the remainder of the year out indicates that we are operating at an annual surplus of just over £1,000 if our income and expenditure remain at their present levels. If we can keep our income and expenditure at the same level this will start to repay the depreciation fund from which we had borrowed to meet current expenses in previous years.</p> <p>d. Gift aid for membership and donations is being investigated.</p> <p>e. There is a false picture of the canoe operations as the treasurer has not received all the receipts/invoices for various items purchased for the repair of the vessels. Even if items are being donated, as the donations can have gift aid placed upon them.</p> <p>f. Depreciation of the canoes has been completed. The canoes are making a small profit.</p> <p>4. Education Officers Report</p> <p>a. Nellie has been returned.</p> <p>b. Visiting St Joseph's School for three Thursday to teach about water safety and the canal.</p> <p>c. Graig Felon school is attending Coed Gwilym Park on 7th July to utilise the canoeing facilities.</p> <p>5. Grants and Funding</p> <p>a. National Heritage Lottery Fund has been contacted with plans for the Hidden Lock site and repairing the Mond Lock. This would give running water from Trebanos Lock to the Clydach Canal Centre in Hebron Road. To achieve this we would need another partnership with a larger organisation such as CRT. Paul Relf from Swansea Council said they may be interested in partnering as well. It was suggested that we engage with a cabinet minister (Robert Francis Davies) for support – Gordon to write to him. It was also suggested that a small sub-committee be set up to see what could be achieved – small steps prior to submitting the full application, with CRT/Council onboard as they would have to be the lead applicants.</p> <p>6. Canoe Hire</p> <p>a. A good start to the season with both private and public hiring.</p> <p>b. Gellionen Primary School, Craig Felon primary School both wish to use the canoes. Volunteers will be needed to assist with these and John Gravells will be there to provide assistance and expertise.</p> <p>c. We have run another She Paddles and U Girls event for Canoe Wales and Swansea Council. All went well, with seven adults in the morning and nineteen girls in the afternoon.</p> <p>d. On 21st June we have a visit from Paul Marshall – Coaching Manager Canoe Wales, to look at our paperwork and facilities prior to becoming a delivery partner with Canoe Wales. Joining Canoe Wales will open up various funding routes so that equipment can be replaced/ training for the staff and possibly more volunteers to assist with the canoe hire.</p> <p>e. The canoe hire during the school holidays needs to be discussed as the Sunday volunteers are all at work and therefore not available to run the canoeing operation on a Tuesday. Prior to a final decision being made this is to be discussed over coffee on the Tuesdays prior to schools closing.</p> <p>f. July 4th Ronnie and Mike are unavailable therefore someone else needs to run the canoe store operation.</p> <p>7. Clydach Lock.</p> <p>a. Nothing further to add.</p> <p>8. Coed Gwilym Slipway.</p> <p>a. The IWA Engineer is undertaking the drawing for the slipway, and will need to visit the site to complete them. Gordon the discuss with Mark Evans the way ahead.</p> | |
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9. Hebron Road.

- a. The doors have been repaired.
- b. Will mark out the proposed internal layout of the building then the architect can submit the drawings to the council.
- c. A flag pole has been raised with the Welsh flag upon it. The Green Flag Award flag is also to be raised on the flag pole.

10. SC225

- a. The SC225 team have agreed the way ahead with the CRT team. CRT Team keen to do something similar to that which was done for the Mon and Brec celebrations. The teams are meeting again in a months' time. They discussed what could be done – will meet with local clubs to run their own events, and are looking at the various lists of events. Alan to give a sitrep (situation report) at our monthly meetings.

11. Work Parties.

- a. Two Happy to Chat benches have been put in, with lots of good feedback from the public. It is hoped to get some for the Swansea area of the canal.
- b. It was suggested that we may be able to get the coping stones made of the same material that the benches are made from. This too be investigated.
- c. Work parties Coed Gwilym Park next week and Pontardawe the week after.

12. WRG Sumer Camp.

- a. Alternative dates of 21 – 28 August have been proposed. Subject to covid restrictions being lifted and the accommodation being covid secure. After discussion it was decided to go with these proposed dates.

13. Web site and social media

- a. Not all items are bilingual. It was suggested that not all items need to be bilingual as there are plenty of translation software's available that can be used if people wish to read these articles.

14. AOB

- a. Swansea City Council have informed Gordan that he should not be using his Swansea Council email for the canal or private emails. His new email address is gordon-walker@hotmail.com
 - b. Club100 – Owain to be asked to proceed with this club, but payment needs to be via electronic means, PayPal or standing order.
 - c. Sou'wester. The magazine has asked for a small piece on the canals of west Wales. Martin has agreed to contact Sou'wester to find out what is required and write the article.
 - d. Happy to Chat Benches. Rebecca Philips, the councillor who organised the benches, knows that two of the benches are in position. An opening ceremony is to be organised one the third bench is in position. An article on the benches has been written.
 - e. SumUp. A way of taking card payments. There have been numerous occasions this year that the public have asked if they can pay for canoe hire by card. This machine costs £118, uses a satellite to transfer data and pays straight to the bank account. The company would take a 2% fee for using it. It was agreed that we should purchase one. Information to be passed to John Gwalter for arranging purchase.
- Rf. The AGM will take place at the Vardre Rugby Club on Tuesday 3rd August 2021.

15. DONM.

Tuesday 6th July at 1900 via Zoom. Zoom meeting details to be issued via email.

Signed on Original

M FULLER
Secretary