

MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

10 February 2020

Present:

G Walker	J Gwalter	M Davies	A Ellis
P Rapsey	C Reed	Ms A Hudson	G Thomas
Mrs G Thomas	Mrs V Fuller	J Davies	A Williams

1. Apologies: L Willicome, S Ellis, J Donovan, A Tremlett, M Fuller

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with the following amendment: Patronage, CRT to ask Gareth Edwards, GW to discuss with David Morgan

3. Treasurers Report

- No further progress on the Coed Gwilym slipway or partnership agreement with CRT for restoring the buried lock.
- Our contribution towards the dredging has been paid also the annual insurance premium. Please inform JG of any laminated copies of the public liability certificate for display.
- Profit and loss, operating at a £20,000 deficit, £18,000 is for the book.
- Ongoing fundraising scheme to cover running costs is still needed. We really need the extra income.
- JAD has 2, 1st class GWR tickets to the value of £250.00. It was suggested they should be raffled amongst ourselves; members sell 10 tickets = £10 to family and friends only. The proceeds to go to the Society. AW asked if there are restrictions on them, JAD to phone the contact number, to confirm.

4. Education Officers Report

- Visited the school at Ystradgynlais on 16th January.

5. Grants and Funding

- The RCDF Schemes – the dredging is nearing completion, though bagging etc will continue until completed. Match funding £25,000 paid by SCS. Trebanos wall slip, asked if they can look at the collapsed wall. GW said Rhodri, CRT, is getting a machine to do this. On the 17th February, Alex Hampton and Hannah Booth, will inspect 50 metres of the wall. At the golf course, stone dust has been supplied, so we can continue and still comply with the grants.
- Dredging of the Mond, the fish rescue has been completed, over the last two days. It has been noted, the wall is leaning by a foot, just past Pont John bridge. Paul fox could bring down the wall for the machines to gain access. Replace the wall once the work has been carried out. Latest information is that CRT/LAWS will only be carrying out spot dredging at the VALE intake.
- The Landfill Tax Disposal Community Fund grant ends in July 2020 or sooner (possibly when RCDF schemes end in March), as sending final monitoring report to WCVA which will release the remaining 20% of grant. All money now spent. JAD asks for any stories, photos, good news, so we can apply for further funding at the end of February.
- Phase two of Clydach Lock, JAD will work with key agencies as for previous schemes. Secure funding and co-ordinate delivery of Phase 2, with support from SC's members. Will invite CRT to work in partnership, as defrayment likely to be needed, plus access to technical expertise across a range of disciplines. Brian Moss is looking at the drawings and painting, in water colours, the by-wash and slipway, as they will look when finished. JAD has asked Patrick Moss for site plans, costings, planning permissions etc so he can promote the scheme with the decision makers (AM's and Councillors).

All trustees have agreed with the update supplied by JAD

- The culvert from Capel Road to the Mond is silted. Spoil could go four-foot-deep, by the church wall, both ways.

5.1 The book. AE stated the cost stands at £22,700.96. £10,000 bequest, £2,000 Gower society Short fall of £10,460. The Co-op has declined. Milli Jenner fund £5,000. Foil Foundation to JG to read through the list on the email. Ann Harriet of the Welsh book fund asked for a copy of the manuscript – after discussion this was declined.

6. Planning Meeting Reports.

- On the 17th February, Alex Hampton will see the slipway. CRT will also benefit from the slipway as they will have an access to the waterway. They will use the drawing supplied by JG.
- Clydach Lock – Mark Evans shown an interest and has asked for a work plan.
- WW2 helmet was found at Trebanos by GW.

7. Publicity Sub Committee.

- GT and VF attended the Clydach Community Council with great success, A drop in shop to get feedback to improve and promote services, with the local business links. A flag given for us to fly from the store.

- 16 bags of rubbish were picked up from the park, this total is now written on the side of the

canoe store.

- c. Ronnie is liaising with Mark and Lisa as they wish to continue to be involved
- d. Gower Walkers, have shown interest in a canoe session on the 6th June.
- e. Article about the Can-Do-Canoe project, has been posted. MD, thank you.
- f. Next meeting; 3rd March 12.00 GT house

8. WRG Summer Camp 2020.

- a. Martin Danks is happy with the arrangements for the visit. To do the faced stone at two sites, reinforce the banks at Trebanos, when we find the wall. Rhodri to clear silt out of the lock before the end of the dredging.

9. Canoe Hire

- a. Training Day on Sunday 29th March at 10.00 with Hywel Lewis, everyone is welcome.
- b. Fran Bateman – Gold medallist, demonstrated technics we can use getting in and out of a canoe. She is also looking into training for us.
- c. Groups - Skewen cubs, beavers, Scouts wish to book 3rd and 10th June 5.30-9.00, Festival walk, 6th June, request canoe hire, trustees agreed minimum of 8 at £5.00 per person.
- d. Welsh Baccalaureate - 10 hours volunteering, Harry Philips has requested to complete it with us. Waiting to hear from his teacher.
- e. Website opening hours and phone number to be changed to VF. PMN - Completed
- f. Mr Burns (Gower Activity Centre) now has the key and has seen the facilities. He has requested storage; I've told him we haven't got anywhere. I'll talk to the friends of Coed, David Rouke.
- g. Funding, we haven't been successful. We will need some of the revenue from the hire for replacements and repairs during the year.

10. Work Parties.

- a. Tony Pugh (IWA) volunteered to arrange a work party for the overgrown towpath at the Mond.

10.1 25 February Tai Tarian will visit to see what can be achieved, with a view to undertake the work in June. The society is to provide Hi-Viz Jackets, Health and Safety briefings, Risk Assessments, First Aid Box, Emergency contact details as required.

10.2. All Wales Conservation Taskforce. GW to go with them, Supervisors will be with the team at all times.

11. Web site and Social Media

- a. AE to discuss with Yun Yun and AH at a planning meeting, to set up the society's Can-Do-Canoe group pages.

12. Green Flag Community Award. A copy of the Insurance and maps of the canal have been requested.

13. Canal History.

- a. The wheel from the sluice should to go into the museum. GW has expressed interest in incorporating it into the wall and move the information board to the centre display.
- b. Hundreds of Waterways magazines have been deposited in Pontardawe Heritage. They belong to the society. They will be moved to the depot in due course.
- c. CR has a bag of files, more to be collected, these items would be useful for future funding/information/archiving.
- d. CR has brought bottles found in the canal, to put on display or sell.

14. AOB

- a. MD and GW to meet with Rebecca Philips 17th February at 11.00 to discuss the benches at Trebanos and where they would be best placed.
- b. AW asked if the match funding covered the money, £13,000 Mike Youen. JAD has documentation stating cover was for the £13,000
- c. AW asked if we can move to another area, as they are being neglected especially around Pontardawe.
- d. The Mond social club closing, GT asked is there another fund?
- e. A letter reference the Foundry Housing in Pontardawe has been sent off.
- f. The insurance claim is to be left with the insurers, GW to talk to them
- g. Karl Nichol at the Heritage, his mother's pass away, GT and MD to visit him

15. DONM.

Monday 9th March 2020, 1900 at the Vardre Rugby Club.

Signed on Original

M FULLER