

# MINUTES OF SWANSEA CANAL SOCIETY MEETING

## 4 July 2023

Present:

|              |                 |           |              |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|
| J Gwalter    | M Fuller        | G Walker  | Mrs G Thomas |
| A Tremlett   | Mrs S Blackford | JA Davies | P Rapsey     |
| Mrs V Fuller |                 |           |              |

1. Apologies: L Willicome, J Donovan, A Williams, G Thomas, A Ellis, Mrs S Ellis, C Morris, M Davies, J Gravelle

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

### 3. Treasurers Report

a. The biggest task this month was supporting JA Davies in collecting the data needed to satisfy Swansea's requirements for full defrayment evidence for the initial 2021 grant for surveying and securing the Canal Centre site and building, and for the match funding needed for Swansea to pay us the agreed PEDG2 grant for the other preliminary work on the site. The need for this was caused by complications in past year's accounts associated with my use of job sheets on the project. Steps will be taken to ensure this problem does not get repeated in the future. Invoices for funding for projects will be done by JAD and the invoices to be passed to JG for payment.

b. As a result of comments at last month's meeting JGr created a set of headings for the entire financial system, which have been filled in with thoughts on the current situation. There has not been an opportunity to fully discuss this and formalise a document to be added to the society's procedures.

### 4. Education Officers Report

a. In June there were two sessions at St Joseph's School in Clydach, walking the children along the canal.

b. Taught classes from three schools in the National Waterfront Museum in connection with the 225 exhibition and the CRT launch event during the week 19 – 23 June. Thanks, should be noted to Sharon Blackford, Sally Hodnett (CRT) and Leia Williams (NWM) for great teamwork during the week.

### 5. Grants and Funding

a. The Society has put in a bid for canoeing, for Pirates Day through COAST funding.

b. The society has received the £5K from the Canoe Foundation for portage ramps.

c. An opportunity for sponsorship has arisen with Vale. Darron Poland will be contacted to see if they could assist with the Canal Centre match funding.

d. After discussion it was agreed by the Trustees that James Daley should project manage the contractors for the proposed re-instatement of the canal with JAD liaising with JG over the paperwork.

### 6. Canoe Hire

a. All going well.

b. We have had ten group bookings so far, including the Vardre Rugby Club Junior sections. All enjoyed their experience.

c. It was suggested that we have a themed day on the water on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August – the theme being Pirates. A request for funding has been submitted to Swansea Council COAST Scheme, a request to hold the event has also been submitted, with a possible admin fee of £42.00 to be paid to Swansea Council. It was agreed that this should be advertised and opened up to include one or two stalls (Bridge Magic, Craft, Circus Skills) – MF to lead.

### 7. Clydach Lock.

a. Work is progressing well, with the wall of the by-wash.

b. JAD has a number of trees – Oak and Rowan, with another 105 expected from the Woodland Trust later in the year. Discussions followed on where these could be planted, with further discussion to be held later in the year.

c. The HSBC team had a very enjoyable period with us and completed 14 yards of walling in the by-wash.

### 8. Coed Gwilym Slipway.

a. The GWR bid for funding has been submitted but a response is not expected until August.

### 9. Hebron Road.

a. The roof is on, and the glass for doors and windows is expected to be completed in the next weeks.

b. GW will see B&Q and other companies to see if they would sponsor us to a kitchen and bathroom suite, and tiling.

10. SC225

- a. Waterfront Museum exhibition has been very well received.
- b. Ospreys event – unfortunately cancelled just prior to the event, however the planned free canoeing went well on the day.
- c. A meeting is planned for Monday 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss what else is to be undertaken this year.
- d. CRT are putting further events on their website.

11. Work Parties.

- a. Tuesday work parties working well. Next week in Hidden Lock site, to continue on the by-wash, and at CGP to clear weed.
- b. Wash holes within the banks are to be discussed with CRT.
- c. Rings and Bollards are to be installed along the canal from CGP towards the Golf Course after the slipway has been completed.

12. WRG Sumer Camp.

- a. Nothing planned for this year

13. Web site and social media

- a. Nothing further to be reported

14. Historical Brief

- a. CRT are looking at having a public re-point at Bridge 8, possibly in September

15. AOB

- a. Friends of Coed Gwilym Park. There was a proposal submitted at their recent AGM for a larger area for the football teams, with a new building being built for Girls Changing Area, and a footpath around the park.
- b. It was suggested the society produce another calendar this year. This was agreed – SB to action.
- c. Brilliant Basics (Welsh Government) wish to visit to see the work progressing on the Hidden Lock site – this to be arranged.
- d. Mural. After discussion with the artist and all concerned, it was decided that the size would be 8ft X 12ft with the sides fading into the background paintwork. The picture was agreed as the basic bridge with a Kayak instead of a boat. The trustees approved the design and agreed to the mural.
- e. SB attended a work Placement Showcase at Swansea University and gave a talk on the Swansea canal and the 225 events.

16. DONM.

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2023, 1900 at New Inn, Clydach.

*Signed on Original*

M FULLER  
Secretary